MUI Lecture Series

Novel technologies to study lipid metabolism and physiological functions

Professor Howard Riezman University of Geneva

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Howard Riezman was trained in the United States and Switzerland as a biochemist working with bacteria, plants and yeast driven by a keen interest in membrane biogenesis. In 1983, he started an independent laboratory at the ISREC in Lausanne undertaking pioneering studies on the endocytic pathway in yeast. He received a call as full professor at the Biozentrum of the University of Basel in 1987 where he continued his work on endocytosis and began studying GPI-anchored protein biosynthesis and traffic. He is well known for the discovery of roles of actin, receptor ubiquitination, and sphingolipids in membrane trafficking. In 2002 he moved to the Biochemistry department of the University of Geneva. He continues working on membranes, but the emphasis of his research is to understand the metabolism and function of lipids in yeast, worm and animal models using a wide variety of techniques including biochemistry, genetics, metabolic engineering, synthetic biology, mass spectrometry, modeling, and chemical biology.

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