BDR Diversity WG

presents

INSPIRING WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Date & Time : 17 April 2025, 10:30 to 13:30

Venue : Auditorium, 1F Building C, RIKEN BDR Kobe & Hybrid

Speakers:

Elisabeth Tournier-Lasserve, MD

Professor in Human Genetics
INSERM, France

Luisa Iruela-Arispe, PhD

Chair of Cell and Developmental Biology
Stephen Walter Ranson Professor of Cell Biology
Northwestern University, USA

Ondine Cleaver, PhD

Lee Fikes Chair in Biomedical Sciences
UT Southwestern, USA

Listen to their scientific journeys

Panel discussion

Career guidance

Meet-the-Speaker lunch

Register here for Zoom link & Meet-the-Speaker lunch!

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Programme

Auditorium / Zoom	**Session 1 : Career Talks**
10:30 - 10:55	Dr. Elisabeth Tournier-Lasserve “ From neurology to genomics, a journey in science wonderland”
10:55 - 11:20	Dr. Luisa Iruela-Arispe “"Reacting to Challenges: The Chemistry of a Scientific Career"
11:20 - 11:45	Dr. Ondine Cleaver "From Surviving to Thriving: Women Navigating Academic Science"
Auditorium / Zoom	**Session 2 : Panel Discussion with Speakers**
11:45 - 12:30	Moderated by Dr. Bipasha Dey (BDR) and Dr. Yan Chen (BDR)
Lounge	**Session 3 : Meet-the-Speaker Lunch**
12:30 - 13:30	Table 1: Dr. Elisabeth Tournier-Lasserve Table 2: Dr. Luisa Iruela-Arispe Table 3: Dr. Ondine Cleaver

Biography

Elisabeth Tournier-Lasserve, MD

Elisabeth Tournier-Lasserve is a Professor of Medical Genetics at Paris University and the Director of the GenMedStroke INSERM team at Paris University. In the last 25 years, she has directed the French National Reference for molecular diagnostic of inherited cerebrovascular diseases.
Her main research focus is to decipher the molecular players involved in hereditary cerebrovascular diseases with the goal of developing diagnostic tools for these conditions to improve clinical care and genetic counselling for patients and to set the stage for understanding their mechanisms. After the identification of NOTCH3, the gene involved in CADASIL, her team identified several other genes involved in cerebral small vessel diseases, cerebral cavernous (CCM) malformations and moyamoya angiopathy. Her team has developed highly relevant CCM mouse models used to underpin CCM pathophysiological mechanisms, models which are currently used for preclinical trials.
In 2016 she received, with Prof. Elisabetta Dejana from Milan, the International Grand Prize Lefoulon Delalande. She was also a co-recipient of the 2019 Brain Prize of the Lundbeck Foundation for her groundbreaking research on the clinical, genetic, and molecular basis of a brain syndrome, known as CADASIL

Luisa Iruela-Arispe, PhD

Dr. Iruela-Arispe is the Chair of Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, and the Stephen Walter Ranson Professor of Cell Biology at Northwestern University, USA.
Her research focuses on the signaling pathways that regulate vascular morphogenesis and vascular dysfunction during disease, an effort that has resulted in more than 200 peer-review publications. A major component of this work has been centered on the multiple effects of VEGF and Notch signaling in blood vessels, including their key contributions to human diseases such as Alagille, CADASIL and endothelial barrier function. In 2009, she received the inaugural Judah Folkman Award by the North American Vascular Biology Organization for excellence in research and service to the vascular biology community. The scientific training of Ph.D. students has been an important focus of her career; 21 PhDs have received their doctoral degrees from her laboratory since 1994 and she has trained 24 postdoctoral fellows. Her dedication to mentorship and training is demonstrated by being the recipient of multiple mentorship awards (UCLA, AAMC-MOSAIC, Stephen Schwartz Award).

Ondine Cleaver, PhD

Dr. Cleaver holds the Lee Fikes Chair in Biomedical Sciences and is a Professor at the Department of Molecular Biology at UT Southwestern Medical Center, USA. Her lab studies cell fate and how cells assemble into tissues. Her group is particularly interested in intracellular signaling events that drive cytoskeletal or adhesion changes within progenitor cells, allowing them to assemble into functional tissues. She focuses on blood vessels and on developing organs, such as the pancreas, the kidney, and the lung. She is also interested in how cues in the microenvironment drive vascular assembly or growth, and how blood vessels in turn communicate paracrine, non-nutritional signals to stem cell niches.
She is an active member of the Society for Developmental Biology and is the Editor-in-Chief of Developmental Biology.