

Speaker:

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Title:

"Life or death decisions: the genetic network regulating programmed cell death in *C. elegans*"

| Date: | Wednesday, November 10 |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Time: | 16:00 P.M 17:00 P.M. |
| Place: | 7F Conference Room of Building A |

Summary:

The genetically programmed death of cells (or apoptosis) is a normal, highlychoreographed process that is essential for our survival. Programmed cell death is used to sculpt our organs during development and is used continuously through our lives to eliminate unneeded or harmful cells, including cancer cells and those infected with pathogens. Our understanding of the molecular control systems used to activate the cell death program in the appropriate cells and to protect surviving cells from this program has advanced dramatically in the last decade, notably with studies on model animals, including the nematode *C. elegans*. Genetic, functional genomic, and molecular studies into the mechanisms of programmed cell death and computational methods to understand the network of genes through which this regulation is achieved will be described.