

Recent News

Academia Sinica Lecture Series Nobel Laureate Dr. Bruce Beutler to Lecture in Taipei

Dr. Bruce Beutler, one of the three 2011 Nobel Laureates in Physiology or Medicine, will deliver two keynote speeches at Academia Sinica and National Taiwan University on February 6 and 9, respectively. The lectures are entitled “Real time identification of induced point mutations that cause phenotype” and “How endogenous retroviruses have become an integral component of the host immune response”.

Dr. Beutler is currently a Regental Professor and Director of the Center for Genetics of Host Defense, Southwestern Medical Center, University of Texas. In 2011, he received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine along with Jules A. Hoffmann and Dr. Ralph M. Steinman for “their discoveries concerning the activation of innate immunity”.

Dr. Beutler received his MD degree from the University of Chicago in 1981. After two years of residency at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, he became a Postdoctoral Fellow and then an Assistant Professor at the Rockefeller University (1983–1986), where he isolated mouse tumor necrosis factor (TNF), and was the first to recognize TNF as a key executor of the inflammatory response. Moving to the Scripps Research Institute in 2000, Dr. Beutler developed the largest mouse mutagenesis program in the world, and applied a forward genetic approach to decipher the signaling pathways activated by TLRs. Dr. Beutler also identified many other molecules with non-redundant functions in immune response.

Professor Beutler’s father, late Dr. Ernest Beutler, was an outstanding blood and biomedical specialist and also a member of US National Academy of Sciences. Early childhood education led him to study toxins and simple herpes virus, and with the knowledge of lipopolysaccharides, Dr. Brutler discovered the functions of TLR4.

Besides the Nobel Prize, Dr. Beutler’s work has been recognized by many other awards including the Korsmeyer Award (2013) from American Society for Clinical Investigation, the Shaw Prize in Physiology or Medicine (2011), the Albany Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research (2009), the Will Rogers Institute Annual Prize for Scientific Research (2009), and the Balzan Prize (2007). Dr. Beutler has authored or co-authored more than 300 papers, which have been cited more than 46,000 times, and he was recognized as a “Citation Laureate” by Thomson Reuters in 2008.

The Academia Sinica Lecture series, lunched in 2009, is organized by President Chi-Huey Wong and sponsored by the Foundation for the Advancement of Outstanding Scholarship in an effort to build on the spirit of research and free exchange of scholarly knowledge. Invitation to

speak as an Academia Sinica Lecturer is extended by Academia Sinica President Chi-Huey Wong to top scholars from around the world and represents the highest lecture in Academia Sinica.

Website for Registration:

http://www.sinica.edu.tw/manage/gatenews/showsingle.php?_op=?rid:7207