Institute of Medical Biology
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Seminar Announcement
***- All Are Welcome -***

**Speaker:** **Prof Cheng-Ming Chiang**
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

**Title :** **Epigenetic Control of HPV Chromatin-Dependent Transcription**

**Date :** **15 Nov 2011 (Tuesday)**
**Time :** **11am – 12pm**
**Venue:** **Seminar Room, Neuros Level 6, Biopolis**
**Host :** **Dr Francoise Thierry**
(Tel: 64070158, Email: francoise.thierry@imb.a-star.edu.sg )

***Abstract of the Seminar:***

Transcription in higher eukaryotes is controlled by an array of transcription factors, including the general transcription machinery, general cofactors, and gene-specific activators and repressors. The complexity of gene regulation is further conferred by the existence of multiple protein family members recognizing consensus or non-canonical DNA-binding sequences. The chromatin structure in the human genome and posttranslational modification on protein molecules provide an additional level of control in modulating gene activity. In this lecture, I will review these control mechanisms using human papillomavirus (HPV) E6 and E2 proteins as examples to illustrate how DNA tumor virus-encoded transcriptional regulators are able to reprogram cellular activities by targeting p53 tumor suppressor protein and activator protein-1 (AP-1), respectively, via recruitment of distinct coregulators, such as p300 histone acetyltransferase and the chromatin adaptor bromodomain-containing protein 4 (Brd4). The interplay among these viral and cellular proteins and the crosstalk between different posttranslational modifications regulate gene activity in response to various environmental stresses.

***About the Speaker:***

Dr Cheng-Ming Chiang is a Professor, Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center and Departments of Pharmacology and Biochemistry, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas (USA). He graduated in Biochemistry & Virology from the University of Rochester (Rochester, NY) in 1991 and then was a post doc at the same university until 1992. From 1992 to 1995, Dr Chiang was a post doc at the Rockefeller University (New York, NY) in Dr Robert Roeder's lab. From 1995 to 2000 he was Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and then Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Case Western Reserve University, until 2007. Dr Chiang is trained as a biochemist and molecular virologist specialized in mechanistic studies of transcription, chromatin, gene regulation, and post-translational modification using viral and cellular systems.