Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology
A*STAR

SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

We would like to invite you to attend this seminar hosted by A/Prof. Xiaomeng Wang:

Date: 13 August 2018, Monday
Time: 11:00AM – 12:00PM
Venue: Level 3, IMCB Seminar Room 3-46, Proteos, Biopolis

Speaker: Prof. Heping Xu, Queen's University Belfast, United Kingdom
Title: The role of inflammation in microvascular dysfunction: a view from the retina

The blood vessels of the retina and other organs such as brain and kidney share similar anatomical features and physiological properties. The retinal vasculature can be visualised directly and noninvasively. Therefore, it offers tremendous advantages to study the mechanisms of microvascular dysfunction, a common feature of modern diseases such as diabetes. Inflammation is the protective response of the defence system to eliminate pathogenic insults, remove debris and promote repair. Uncontrolled inflammation is known to play an important role in microvascular degeneration, vascular repair and remodelling. This presentation will discuss the role of inflammation in retinal microvascular degeneration in diabetes, retinal angiogenesis and fibrosis.

Biography:
Dr. Xu is a Professor of Ocular Immunology, Head of the Ocular Immunology Laboratory and the Director of the Biological Resource Unit at Queen's University Belfast, UK. Dr. Xu's research centers on the role of inflammation in retinal degenerative and angiogenic diseases, including age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and uveoretinitis. His research is funded by the European Commission (Horizon 2020), Research Council UK (RCUK), the Wellcome Trust, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), Diabetes UK, and Fight for Sight (UK), etc. Dr. Xu has authored over 80 peer-reviewed papers in top journals of the field such as *Circulation, Blood, Nature Protocol, Aging Cell, J Immunol, Prog Ret Eye Res*, and *Invest Ophthalmol & Vis Sci*.