



Forscherguppe 1075

Vortragsankündigung

To eat or not to eat: Control of daily retinal phagocytosis and its importance for vision

Silvia C. Finnemann, PhD

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Am Donnerstag, 20. Mai 2010, um 18.00 Uhr
im Klinikum der Universität Regensburg, Seminarraum A2



Prof. Dr. Silvia Finnemann leads the laboratory of Cellular Biology at the Department of Biological Sciences at Fordham University in New York. Starting with research about cell surface proteins she became interested in mechanisms of phagocytosis. Now, she is the leading scientist in research on the regulatory mechanisms of the diurnal phagocytosis of photoreceptor outer segments by the retinal pigment epithelium. Her work has been published in leading journals and represents milestones in the understanding of phagocytosis regulation. Silvia Finnemann's data do not only shed light on new basic mechanisms, but do also help to understand early events leading to the pathology of age-related macular degeneration and other forms of retinal degenerations. Her current research project focuses on the role of integrins and focal adhesion kinase during photoreceptor phagocytosis, and on the question how disturbed diurnal regulation and an impaired phagocytosis/disc shedding relation leads to lipofuscin accumulation in the RPE.