



## **Forscherguppe 1075**

Regulation und Pathologie von  
homöostatischen Prozessen  
der visuellen Funktion

### **Vortragsankündigung**

**"Social phagocytes: both resident microglia and  
hematogenous macrophages cooperate in removing dead  
photoreceptor cells in the retina."**

## **Professor Dr. Charlotte Remé**

Laboratory for Retinal Cell Biology, Dept. Ophthalmology, University of Zurich

am Donnerstag, den 19. Februar 2009 um 18.00 Uhr  
im Klinikum der Universität, Seminarraum A2



For decades, Prof. Dr. Remé led the Laboratory of Cell Biology of the Retina at the University Eye Hospital of the University of Zürich. Since 1974, she works on the non-visual effects of light on the retina. Coming from investigations on the circadian nature of the regulation of autophagy as mechanism of photoreceptor renewal, she started to work on the damaging effects of light in the late 1980s. In her work, the damaging effects of light on the retina were investigated for the first time systematically – a basis for the success of this model for investigations on the mechanisms that lead to loss of vision. She identified apoptosis as the major mechanism: The "silent death of vision" as she entitled her Proctor Medal Lecture (one of the highest honors in eye research). Although apoptosis seems to be at first glance a more general mechanism, Prof. Remé could show that the apoptotic death of photoreceptors has its own rules. This knowledge became of fundamental importance to guide research in this area into studies with the aim to identify possible therapeutic approaches. As someone who has begun its career as a Pathologist and Ophthalmologist, she never forgot the clinical implications of her work. She initiated clinical studies showing increased retinal sensitivities of patients treated with lithium and formulated safety guidelines for treating patients with seasonal affective disorder with bright-light therapy. Her work has been published in the highest ranked journals.



Universität Regensburg  
Sprecher der FOR 1075: Prof. Dr. Ernst Tamm,  
Lehrstuhl für Humananatomie und Embryologie