

## NovAliX Conference 2013

# BIOPHYSICS IN DRUG DISCOVERY

Developing the Synergy between Biophysics and Medicinal Chemistry to Deliver Better Drugs

*Palais Universitaire* | STRASBOURG, FRANCE | 15-18 OCTOBER 2013

### SCOPE OF THE NOVALIX CONFERENCE 2013

The use of biophysical techniques in drug discovery is rapidly increasing, and many pharmaceutical companies have set up in-house biophysical platforms to speed up the target-to-candidate process and improve the quality of small-molecule therapeutics through a better understanding of their interactions with their targets.

In pharmaceutical companies, the **close communication between biophysicists and medicinal chemists** is key to increase the efficiency of the drug discovery process and thus deliver higher-quality lead molecules.

However, **biophysics for drug discovery has not yet been the subject of a dedicated conference**: most of the time, it is the topic of a specialised session within drug discovery conferences, and on the other hand biophysical meetings are often very academy-oriented and rarely extend their scope to drug discovery aspects. **The NovAliX Conference 2013 'Biophysics in Drug Discovery' aims at filling this gap by gathering scientists from both the biophysics and the medicinal chemistry communities.**

### CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

- **Prof. Tom BLUNDELL** (University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK)  
**Biophysical Methods and Fragment Based Drug Discovery: Targeting Protein-Protein Interactions in Cell Regulatory Systems**
- **Dr Darryl BORNHOP** (Vanderbilt University, Nashville, USA)  
**Backscattering Interferometry Facilitates Quantification of Drug-Target Binding Affinity Across a Range of Matrix and Sample Complexity**
- **Prof. Jamie CATE** (University of California, Berkeley, USA)  
**Combining X-Ray Crystallography and Single-Molecule Methods to Probe Antibiotic Inhibition of Translation**
- **Dr Rob COOKE** (Heptares, Welwyn Garden City, UK)  
**Enabling GPCR Drug Discovery Through Structural and Biophysical Insights**
- **Dr Robert COPELAND** (Epizyme, Cambridge, USA)  
**Protein Methyltransferase Inhibitors as Personalised Cancer Therapeutics**
- **Prof. Helena DANIELSON** (Uppsala University, Uppsala, SE)  
**Application of SPR Biosensors Throughout the Drug Discovery Process**
- **Dr Stefan DUHR** (Nanotemper, Munich, DE)  
**Label-Free, Immobilisation-Free Interaction Studies Using Microscale Thermophoresis**
- **Dr Matthias FRECH** (Merck, Darmstadt, DE)  
**Biophysics to Drive Lead Discovery**
- **Dr Michael HENNIG** (F. Hoffmann-La Roche, Basel, CH)  
**Biophysical Methods to Escort Drug Discovery**
- **Dr Geoff HOLDGATE** (AstraZeneca, Macclesfield, UK)  
**Can we Use Kinetics and Thermodynamics to Guide Drug Discovery?**
- **Dr Chris MARSHALL** (University of Toronto, Toronto, CA)  
**Towards Personalised Cancer Medicine with New NMR Tools to Probe Small GTPase Proteins**
- **Dr Till MAURER** (Genentech, San Francisco, USA)  
**From Fragment Hit to Mode of Action: a Tractable Path for RAS Inhibition**
- **Dr Johannes OTTL** (Novartis Institute of Biomedical Research, Basel, CH)  
**Biophysics in Pharmaceutical Lead Discovery**
- **Dr David SWINNEY** (IRND3, Belmont, USA)  
**Molecular Mechanism of Action (MMOA) in Drug Discovery**
- **Dr Glyn WILLIAMS** (Astex Therapeutics, Cambridge, UK)  
**Investing in Knowledge: Combining Biophysical Data in Fragment-Based Drug Discovery**

[www.novalix-conferences.org](http://www.novalix-conferences.org)

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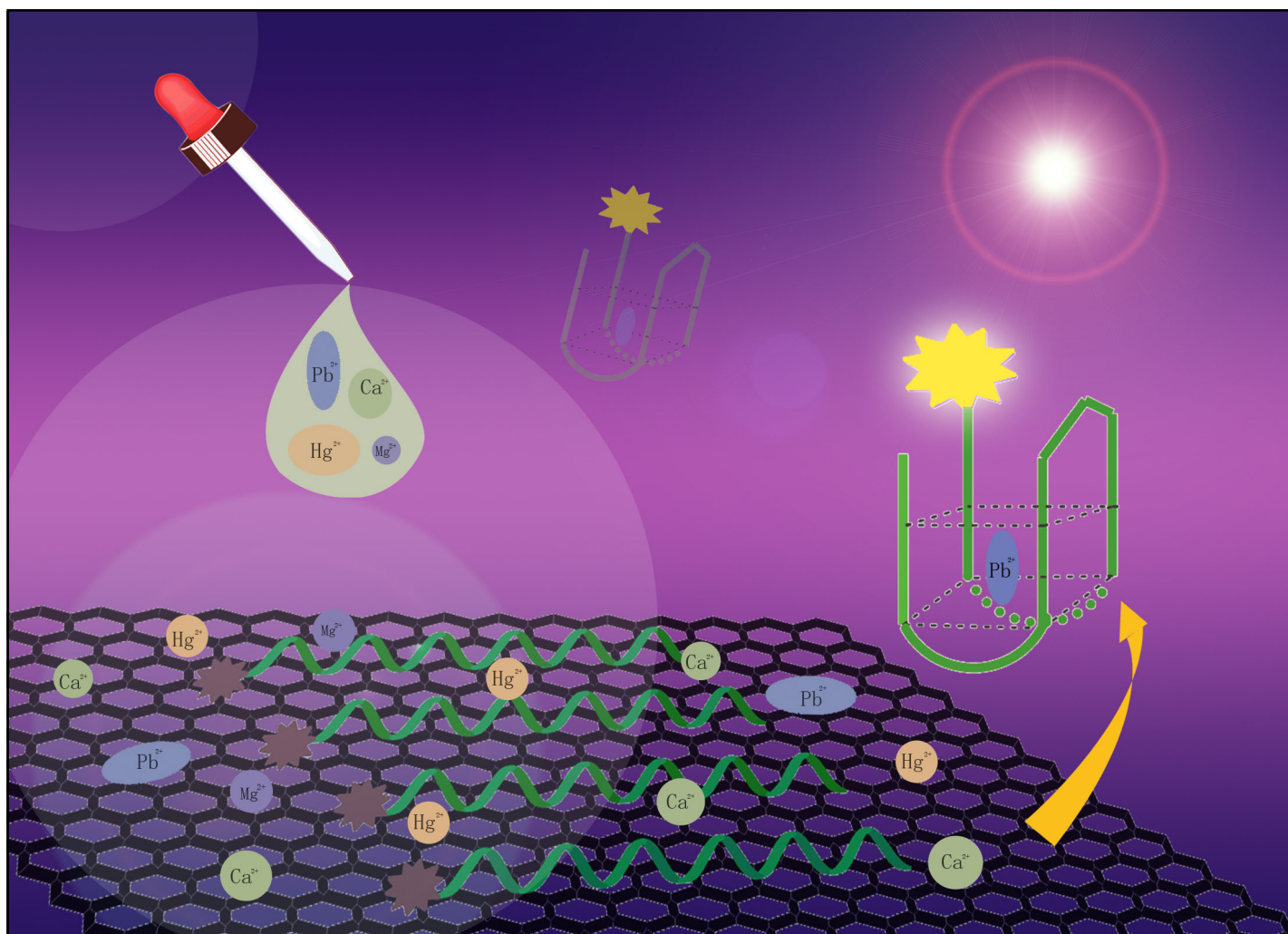


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### SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- **Dr Michael HENNIG** (F. Hoffmann-La Roche, Basel, CH)
- **Dr Geoff HOLDGATE** (AstraZeneca, Macclesfield, UK)
- **Prof. Gerhard KLEBE** (Philipps-University Marburg, Marburg, DE)
- **Dr Lawrence KUO** (Johnson & Johnson, Spring House, USA)
- **Dr Jean-Paul RENAUD** (NovAliX, Illkirch, FR)



**Showcasing the work of the Key Laboratory of  
Green Chemical Media and Reactions,  
Henan Normal University, PR China**

**Title: A "turn-on" fluorescent sensor for detection of  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  based  
on graphene oxide and G-quadruplex DNA**

In this work, we designed a highly selective and sensitive sensor for  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  detection by using graphene oxide and G-quadruplex DNA. The sensing system provided a promising alternative to  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  detection with high efficiency.

**As featured in:**



See Lu *et al.*,  
*Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*,  
2013, **15**, 12800.

**[www.rsc.org/pccp](http://www.rsc.org/pccp)**

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