

The logo for ULB (Université libre de Bruxelles) is displayed in white text on a blue rectangular background.The logo for Brussels South Charleroi Biopark, featuring the text "BRUSSELS SOUTH CHARLEROI BIOPARK" in white on a red background.

**06/03/2023 at 11H00**

***IBMM, Auditoire BRACHET***

Rue Jeener et Brachet 12, 6041 GOSSELIES

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**Speaker : Lionel **POULIN, PhD****

**Function : CNRS, CRCN Senior Researcher**

Laboratory of Cell Physiology

Pasteur Institute of Lille

**Title : « Myeloid cells get the nods from the microbiota »**

Invited by : V. Flamand et S. Goriely

**15/03/2023 à 11.00**

**IBMM, Auditoire BRACHET**  
Rue Jeener et Brachet 12, 6041 GOSSELIES

*Or Teams*

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**Speaker:**

## **Alexandre Chenal**

Unité Biochimie des Interactions Macromoléculaires  
Département Biologie Structurale et Chimie  
UMR CNRS 3528, INSTITUT PASTEUR PARIS

**Title :**

« Integrative structural biology to decipher the mechanism of host cell intoxication by the CyaA toxin »

**Abstract :**

*Bordetella pertussis*, the causative agent of whooping cough, secretes an adenylate cyclase toxin (CyaA, of 1706 residues) that plays an essential role in the early stages of respiratory tract colonization. The cell entry process of CyaA is still poorly understood. After its secretion through a type 1 secretion system, CyaA enters human cells via a direct translocation of its catalytic domain (ACD) across the plasma membrane. Once in the cytoplasm, ACD catalyses high amounts of cAMP, leading to cell death. Our results, based on a combination of biophysical approaches, illustrate how the structural flexibility of CyaA is essential for its secretion, its folding, its translocation across plasma membrane and cell intoxication. All of these steps involve disorder-to-order structural transitions that are finely tuned to the environmental conditions that CyaA successively experiences along its journey from the bacterium to the eukaryotic cell cytoplasm. These data open new avenues for both basic sciences, as well as for biotechnological applications of recombinant CyaA as an antigen delivery vehicle, and as a potential adjuvant antigen in the next generation of pertussis vaccines.

Invited by Laurence Van Melderren

## Réunion Microsoft Teams

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**17/03/2023 à 11.00**

**IBMM, Auditoire BRACHET**  
Rue Jeener et Brachet 12, 6041 GOSSELIES

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**Speaker:**

**Dr. Thomas THEIL**

Reader  
Centre for Discovery Brain Sciences  
University of Edinburgh  
Hugh Robson Building  
George Square  
Edinburgh EH8 9XD  
UK

**Title :** " Studying the role of primary cilia in human corticogenesis using organoids"

**Abstract :**

Defects in primary cilia, cellular antennas that control multiple intracellular signalling pathways, underlie neurodevelopmental disorders, but how cilia control essential steps in human brain formation remains unclear. We are investigating ciliary roles using human cortical organoids that provide unprecedented opportunities to study brain development and disease. We determined that cilia are regulating critical steps in forebrain development including dorsal/ventral patterning and neuronal differentiation. Our findings also have implications for our understanding of the pathogenesis of neurodevelopmental disorders including autism spectrum disorders.

Invited by E. Bellefroid

**24/03/2023 at 11H00**

**IBMM, Auditoire BRACHET**  
Rue Jeener et Brachet 12, 6041 GOSSELIES

Speaker : **Olivier ROHR**

Function : Professeur à l'Université de Strasbourg

Directeur du laboratoire de Dynamique des Interactions Hôte-Pathogènes

Title : « **Enjoy the Silence... How CTIP2/BCL11b controls HIV-1 expression** »

Abstract :

Latently-infected reservoirs constitute major hurdles to HIV cure. The cellular repressor CTIP2 contributes to HIV-1 gene silencing in microglial cells, the main HIV-1 targets in the central nervous system. CTIP2 expression favors the establishment and the persistence of the viral reservoirs by recruitments of regulatory complexes to the latent HIV-1 promoter. These epigenetic and transcriptional blocs are overcome in productively-infected cells by specific viral counteractions. Interestingly, CTIP2-mediated antiviral functions are not limited to direct impacts on the integrated provirus. Our results suggest that CTIP2 expression is induced by viral infections to silence the cellular response. These recent results further highlight how this silencing factor is a central player in the control of HIV-1 expression.

Invited by : Carine Van Lint



*Les séminaires du Département de Biologie Moléculaire sont organisés avec le soutien financier de l'Internationale Brachet Stiftung et les Fonds Jean Brachet.*