

Special UniCat Colloquium

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Lecturer: **Prof. Richard Cogdell**, FRS, Director of the Institute of Molecular, Cell and Systems Biology, University of Glasgow, UK:

Title: ***Studies on purple light harvesting complexes***

Abstract: The proto-typical LH2 complex from *Rps. acidophila* is a circular nonameric complex (1). It is made up of nine $\alpha\beta$ -apoprotein pairs that each non-covalently bind three bacteriochlorophylls and one carotenoid. Recently we have been investigating the structure and function of LH2 complexes that have different types of $\alpha\beta$ -apoproteins in the same LH2 ream. This talk will describe these studies and illustrate how this level of heterogeneity is exploited by some purple bacteria in order to modify the absorption spectrum of the resulting heterogeneous LH2 complexes. These changes seem to be associated with allowing the bacteria to be better able to compete under low light conditions.

1. McDermott, et al. (1995), Nature, **374**, 517-521

Find out more on Prof. Cogdell on his site:

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/researchinstitutes/biology/staff/richardcogdell/>

Date: **Monday, May 6th, 2013**

Time: **2:15 pm until about 3:45 pm**

Location: **TU Berlin, Gerhard Ertl Center
Marchstr. 6, 10587 Berlin
Building BEL, Meeting Room BEL 301**

Organizer: **Prof. Robert Bittl (FUB)**

Coffee and tea will be served thirty minutes prior to the lecture start.
Guests are cordially invited to attend!

Prof. Dr. Matthias Driess, Chair of the Cluster of Excellence UniCat