



Introducing our key note speakers

Dr Siobhan Brady, UC Davis. Dr Brady is a faculty member at UC Davis, reviewing editor at *The Plant Cell*, and a 'Young Investigators to Watch For' in Systems Biology as voted by *Genome Technology Magazine*. The Brady laboratory has identified a rich set of transcriptional patterns underlying the spatiotemporal development of roots. Using these data in conjunction with high throughput technology, Dr. Brady has identified interactions between transcription factors and their targets. She is currently employing genetic, genomic, and systems biology approaches to further elucidate how general and cell type-specific transcriptional regulators help specify root cell and tissue types and how these regulators contribute to the functioning of root tissues.

Professor Aleksandra Filipovska, University of Western Australia. Professor Filipovska was an Australian Research Council Future Fellow from 2009 to 2014 and is currently a NHMRC Senior Research Fellow and Research Professor at the Harry Perkins Institute of the University of Western Australia. Her research interests are in the regulation of mitochondrial gene expression by RNA-binding proteins in health and disease. In addition her research group uses next generation technologies to identify pathogenic mutations in mitochondrial genes that cause mitochondrial disease in genetically isolated populations.

Dr Thomas Dever, National Institutes of Health. Dr Dever is Section Chief for Protein Biosynthesis at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute for Child Health and Human Development. Research in the section is focused on understanding translational regulatory mechanisms and the molecular details of the initiation of protein synthesis in eukaryotic cells. His lab uses molecular genetic, biochemical and structural analyses to more fully elucidate the roles and structure/function properties of the translation initiation factors and a family of stress-responsive protein kinases that phosphorylate the factor eIF2.



Dr Maren Wellenreuther, Lund University/Plant and Food. Dr Wellenreuther is an faculty member of the Department of Biology at Lund University, and a senior scientist at Plant and Food Research. Dr Wellenreuther is interested in the ecological forces responsible for the origin and persistence of species and the evolution of differences between them. For her research, she uses a variety of approaches including field and laboratory experiments, NGS methods, molecular population genetics, and GIS modelling.

Professor Thomas Preiss, Australian National University. Dr Preiss is Professor of RNA Biology at the College of Medicine, Biology and Environment. He is a molecular biologist determining the mechanisms and transcriptome-wide patterns of eukaryotic mRNA translation as one of life's core processes and its regulation by RNA-binding proteins and non-coding RNA as a means of controlling gene activity. He also studies global patterns of post-transcriptional control using microarray and next gen sequencing-based methods.

Professor Ari Melnick, Weill Cornell Medical School. Prof Melnick is a physician-scientist, director of the Sackler Center for Biomedical and Physical Sciences at Weill Cornell, and co-leader of the New York Leukemia Working Group. He has been Scientific Chair of the American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting, and has organized several meetings in the areas of epigenetics and hematologic malignancies. His research interests include the biology and molecular targeting of B-cell lymphomas, targeting transcriptional and epigenetic repressors for cancer therapy, and identifying the epigenetic basis of hematologic malignancies

Professor Andrew Hill, La Trobe University. Dr Hill is the Head, Department of Biochemistry and Genetics, La Trobe Institute of Molecular Sciences (LIMS) at La Trobe University. Andy is currently an National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Senior Research Fellow, and previous holder of an Australian Research Council Future Fellowship. His research looks at extracellular vesicles and their role Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and prion diseases.