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## **American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology honors outstanding Scientists**

*Ivan Dikic will receive the William C. Rose Award 2013*

**FRANKFURT.** Prof. Ivan Dikic, Head of the Institute of Biochemistry II and Director of the Buchmann Institute of Molecular Life Sciences at the Goethe University Frankfurt, was awarded with the William C. Rose Award 2013, as announced today by the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

With this Award, the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology recognizes outstanding contributions of Ivan Dikic to biochemical and molecular biological research and in particular his pioneering work in understanding the Ubiquitin Code that regulates multiple biological processes. The Award consists of a plaque and 3.000 US\$ and will be awarded at the Annual Meeting in Spring, 2013, where Prof. Dikic will be invited to present his research.

Ivan Dikic has been working at the Medical Faculty of the Goethe University in Frankfurt since 2002. More than 10 years ago, he started to concentrate his work on the Ubiquitin Research. Prof. Dikic showed that Ubiquitin acts as a multivalent cellular signal recognized by an expanding number of binding proteins that in turn translate this molecular signal into appropriate cellular phenotypes. His group has identified several novel Ubiquitin binding domains and used structural and functional studies to demonstrate their roles in the regulation of DNA repair, inflammation, receptor endocytosis, and proteasomal degradation. Despite their biological relevance, modern-day tools to study Ub chains in their physiological environment remain rudimentary and mainly focus on the biochemical characterization of chains, substrates or ubiquitin-binding domains (UBDs). Lately, Ivan Dikic's group described the development and *in vivo* application of highly versatile chain-specific Ub sensors.

Ivan Dikic, born 1966 in Zagreb, Croatia where he was trained as a medical doctor has subsequently obtained his PhD in molecular biology, while working under the supervision of Joseph Schlessinger at the New York University Medical Center. Ivan Dikic is a dedicated educator and mentor of young scientists in becoming independent researchers. He has established the Laboratory for Tumor Biology at the Medical School in Split, Croatia, where he supports training and education of students and postdoctoral fellows. He is an active promoter of popularization of science in general public, by giving public lectures, participating media science discussions and by organizing multidisciplinary courses. Also this part of his work was recognized with William C. Rose Award.

Informations:

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**The Goethe University**, with its strong research focus, is based in Frankfurt, Europe's financial metropolis. It was founded 94 years ago by Frankfurt citizens and is now one of Germany's ten largest universities. On January 1, 2008 it returned to its historical roots as a university financed by foundations, guaranteeing it an exceptional degree of autonomy. And the historical ensemble of buildings designed by Julius Poelzig back in the 1920s in Frankfurt's Westend is now the hub of what, when complete, will be Germany's most beautiful campus - the construction work will cost a total of about EUR 600 million. Since 2000, over 50 new foundation-financed professorships and visiting professorships have been established, meaning the Goethe University is again the trailblazers in Germany, and has been well up with leaders for three consecutive issues of the CHE's three research ranking table and the German Academic Excellence Initiative.

**Editor:** Der Präsident der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main. **Redaktion:** Dr. Anne Hardy, Referentin für Wissenschaftskommunikation. Abteilung Marketing und Kommunikation, Senckenberganlage 31, 60325 Frankfurt am Main, Tel.: (069) 798-29228, Fax: (069) 798-28530, hardy@pww.uni-frankfurt.de.