

# Programme

25th October 2006 - MIB Launch

## 14.00 – 16.00 Registration and Tours of MIB

Guests are invited to join us for registration in the Atrium of the Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre, Princess Street, at the University of Manchester.

Music performed by musicians from the Manchester Camerata.

Tours of the building will take place periodically during the registration period (please sign up at the tours desk).

## 16.15 – 17.15 Poster Display

The posters on display in the Atrium will provide a showcase of the research taking place within the MIB.

## 17.30 – 18.20 Welcome and Introductions

### Welcome address

Professor Alan Gilbert, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manchester.

### Naming of the Building

Professor John Perkins, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences.  
Professor John Garside, former Vice-Chancellor of UMIST.

### Introduction to the Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre

Professor John McCarthy, Director of the Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre.

### Guest Speaker

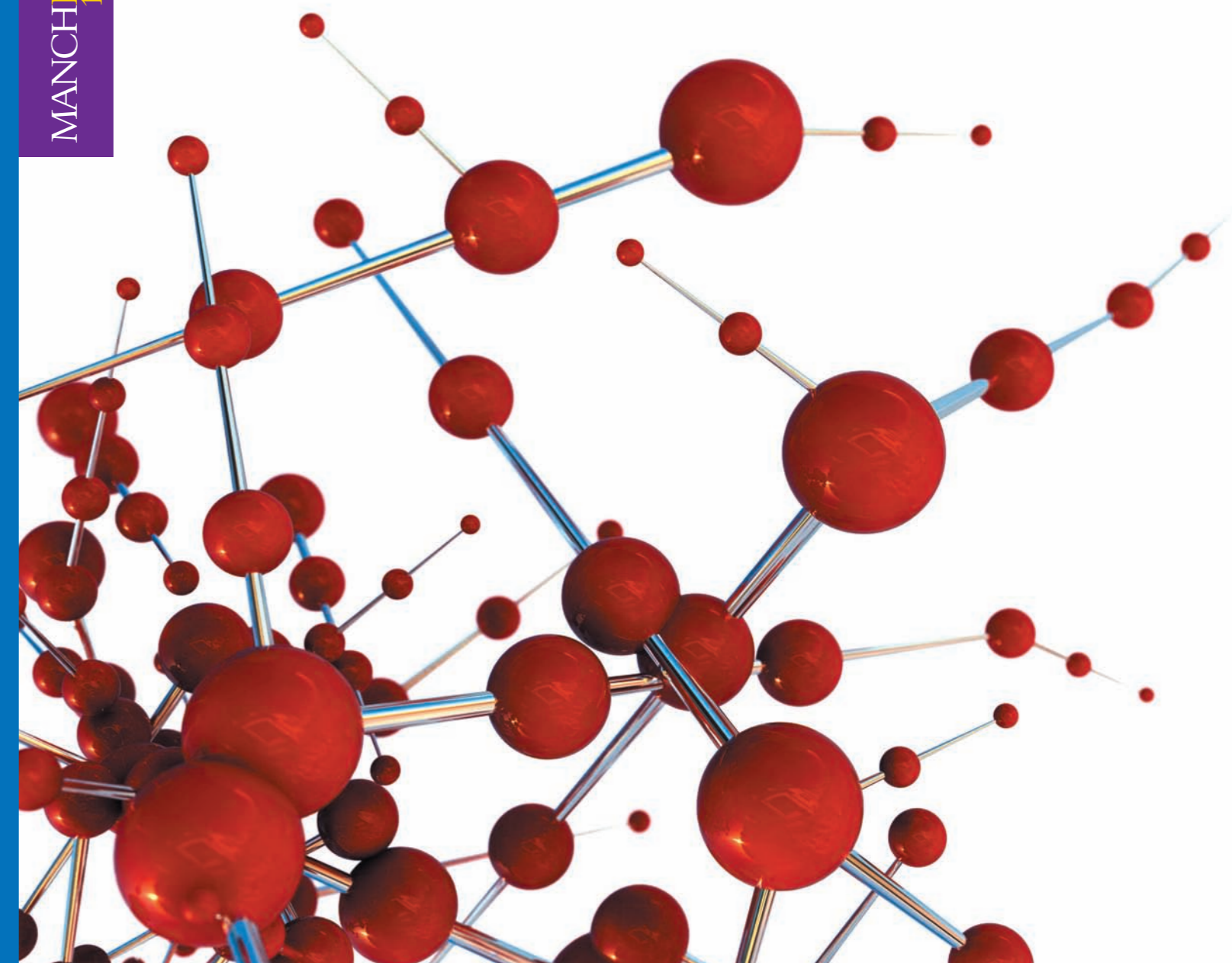
Professor Keith O'Nions FRS, Director General of the Research Councils.

## 18.30 – 22.00 Reception and Presidents Dinner

Guests are invited to join us for a drinks reception, followed by dinner in the Weston Conference Centre.

The University of Manchester  
MIB

MANCHESTER  
1824



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We thank Lesley-Ann Barcroft, Lynne Davies and Dr Rachel Woolley for their help in organising this event.

## Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre

The launch of a world-class research institute at  
The University of Manchester

25th October 2006

# Welcome to the official launch of the Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre (MIB).



The overall scientific strategy of the MIB focuses on developing an understanding of biomolecular systems based on rigorous principles of physical science, engineering and mathematics. An integral part of this strategy is the development of novel enabling technologies.

wellcome trust



The MIB is housed in a purpose-built structure, now named the John Garside building, which has been designed to help us provide the infrastructure, research environment and culture that optimally promote interaction and openness between researchers from different backgrounds. The MIB can accommodate between 75 and 85 research groups (depending on the sizes of the respective groups), which is equivalent to a total of more than 600 staff.

We are very grateful to the Wellcome Trust and to the Wolfson Foundation for providing the financial support that made the development of the MIB possible.

More information about this institute can be found on our website [www.manchester.ac.uk/mib](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/mib).

We very much hope you enjoy your visit. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a member of the MIB launch team at any time.

John McCarthy

**Professor John McCarthy** is the Director of The Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre. After undergraduate study at Oxford University, he moved on to Birmingham University, the National Biotechnology Research Institute in Germany, UMIST, and the newly formed University of Manchester. His early work ranged from energy transduction in biological membrane systems to the mechanisms that allow bacteria to direct the synthesis and assembly of complex cellular structures and machines. Subsequent research shifted to the study of eukaryotic posttranscriptional gene expression using a variety of biochemical, genetic, biophysical and theoretical approaches.

Prof McCarthy has coordinated the MIB project since 1998 and was Head of the Department of Biomolecular Sciences at UMIST 1998-2000. He chairs the Royal Society of Chemistry, Chemistry Biology Interface Forum and sits on the Governing Council of the John Innes Centre in Norwich, UK. He is a Wolfson-Royal Society Research Fellow.



**Professor Alan Gilbert** is the President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manchester. He is leading the university towards its vision to be one of the most pre-eminent universities in the world by 2015.

Before moving to the University of Manchester in February 2004, Professor Gilbert was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne, Australia's premier research-intensive university. During his eight-year term at Melbourne, he initiated and, for the first four years led, Universitas 21, an incorporated association of international universities from ten countries. Prior to his appointment at Melbourne, he was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania, where he oversaw a merger with the Tasmanian State Institute of Technology.



**Professor Sir Keith O'Nions** is the Director General of the Research Councils and the Director General of Science and Innovation at the Office of Science and Innovation. He has overall responsibility for the eight research councils.

Professor O'Nions has held academic positions in the universities of Columbia, Cambridge and Oxford. He has been the Chairman, or a member, of a number of committees of the Natural Environment Research Council, was a member of the Council of Science and Technology, and was Chief Scientific Advisor to the Ministry of Defence. Professor O'Nions received a Knighthood for services to Earth Sciences in the 1999 Queen's Birthday Honours.



**Professor John Perkins** is the Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences. Prior to taking his appointment at the University of Manchester, Professor Perkins was Principal of the Faculty of Engineering and Courtauld's Professor of Chemical Engineering at Imperial College London.

His research interests cover a number of facets of process systems, including process design, process control and process modelling and dynamic simulation and his academic career spans periods at Cambridge University and at the University of Sydney as well as Imperial College.

Professor Perkins is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, the City and Guilds of London Institute, the Institution of Chemical Engineers and the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications. He is a Chartered Engineer, Chartered Mathematician and Chartered Scientist.



**Professor John Garside CBE** is the former Vice Chancellor of UMIST (2000 – 2004); in this position he was instrumental in leading the merger of UMIST and the Victoria University of Manchester to form the new University of Manchester.

He held academic positions at UCL and Iowa State University prior to being appointed to a Chair in Chemical Engineering at UMIST in 1982. His research specialisation is in the broad field of crystallisation where he has published over 150 papers.

Professor Garside is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering and of UCL and holds honorary Degrees from UMIST and the University of Manchester. He has served as President of the Institution of Chemical Engineers and is currently Vice-President of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering. In 2004 he was awarded a CBE for services to higher education.



**Professor Sir John Walker** is the Director of the Medical Research Council's (MRC) Dunn Human Nutrition Unit in Cambridge. He is the Chairman of the MIB Scientific Advisory Board.

In 1997 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry, together with Professor Paul Boyer, for their elucidation of the enzymatic mechanism underlying the synthesis of adenosine triphosphate.

His award winning work, which provided insight into the way that life forms produce energy, was conducted at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, in Cambridge, which he joined in 1974.

Professor Walker is a Fellow of the Royal Society, and a foreign member of the US National Academy of Sciences, of L'Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei and of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is a Fellow of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and an Honorary Fellow of St Catherine's College, Oxford. He was knighted in 1999 for his services to molecular biology. He has received honorary doctorates of science from numerous universities, including UMIST.



**Professor Jean Beggs CBE, FRS** is the Royal Society Darwin Trust Professor at the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology, University of Edinburgh.

Professor Beggs is an eminent international expert in the area of RNA splicing. In the late 1970's she made a key contribution to the development of yeast molecular genetics and her work was fundamental to the development of recombinant DNA technology in eukaryotic systems.

She is a Fellow both of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and of the Royal Society. In 2003 she was awarded the Royal Society Gabor Medal and a year later, the Biochemical Society Novartis Medal. More recently she received a CBE in the 2006 Queen's Birthday Honours for her services to science.



**Professor Sir Alan Fersht FRS** is the Herchel Professor of Organic Chemistry at Cambridge University and Director of the Medical Research Council's Centre for Protein Engineering.

His research interests lie in the area of protein engineering and protein folding, and in particular he looks at the role of protein misfolding and instability in cancer and disease.

Professor Fersht, who is often described as the founder of protein engineering, was the first to apply site-directed mutagenesis to analyse the structure and activity of proteins.

Among numerous accolades, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1983 and he was knighted in 2003 for his pioneering work on protein folding.



**Professor Ivar Giaever** is an Institute Professor Emeritus at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, NY. He has a degree in mechanical engineering from the Norwegian Institute of Technology in Trondheim, Norway and a Ph.D. in theoretical Physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. He worked as a staff member at General Electric Research Laboratory for 30 years before becoming an Institute professor at RPI in 1988.

His early work in superconductors and quantum mechanical tunnelling led to a share of the Nobel Prize in 1973. Later he turned his interests to biophysics, where he first worked in immunology and developed a simple antibody test. More recently he became interested in tissue culture and together with Dr. C.R. Keese developed a method, referred to as ECIS, to study cells in tissue culture using electric fields. He is presently CEO of a small company, Applied BioPhysics, Inc., that is commercialising this method.



**Sir Tom McKillop FRS** is the Group Chairman of The Royal Bank of Scotland, a position which he has held since his retirement as Chief Executive of AstraZeneca PLC in 2005.

In his former post Sir Tom oversaw the creation of AstraZeneca, formed by a merger of the Zeneca Group – formerly ICI Pharmaceuticals – with Astra of Sweden.

Sir Tom is currently also a non-executive director of BP plc and Pro-Chancellor of the University of Leicester.

He received a knighthood in the 2002 Queen's Birthday Honours for his services to the pharmaceuticals industry. In recognition of his work and commitment to education he has received many honorary degrees including one from the former Victoria University of Manchester in 1999 and one of the first granted by the new University of Manchester.



**Professor Gregory Stephanopoulos** is the Bayer Professor of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He is also the Taplin Professor of Health Sciences and Technology (2001-), Instructor of Bioengineering at Harvard Medical School (1997-), Member of the International Faculty of the Technical University of Denmark (2001-), and Director of the MEBCS program of the Singapore-MIT Alliance (2000-).

Professor Stephanopoulos' current research focuses on metabolic engineering and its applications to the production of biochemicals and speciality chemicals; the rigorous evaluation of cell physiology using advanced isotopic methods; the metabolism and physiology of mammalian cells with emphasis on obesity and diabetes; and bioinformatics and functional genomics, whereby new genomics-based technologies are applied to the elucidation of cell physiology and metabolic engineering.

In 2003, he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) and recently was awarded an honorary doctorate degree (doctor technicus honoris causa) by the Technical University of Denmark (2005).