THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
Department of Physics and
School of Life Sciences

JOINT SEMINAR

Mechanisms of Programmed Cell Death through Structural Biology

by

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Time: 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Place: L2, Science Centre, CUHK

ALL INTERESTED ARE WELCOME
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Abstract

Programmed cell death, also known as apoptosis, is central to the development and homeostasis of metazoans. Dysregulation of apoptosis leads to a variety of human pathologies, including cancer, autoimmune diseases, and neurodegenerative disorders. Since the concept of apoptosis was established in 1972, research efforts have led to the identification of hundreds of genes that govern the initiation, execution, and regulation of apoptosis primarily in three model organisms: Caenorhabditis elegans, Drosophila melanogaster, and mammals. The central pathway of apoptosis is conserved among the three organisms and involves the activation of cell-killing proteases known as caspases. In this lecture, I describe systematic characterization of the molecular mechanisms of programmed cell death by an integrated approach of structural biochemistry and biophysics.

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