A new lecture series:
Paths of Discovery in Biology
organized by the ZMBH and HBIGS

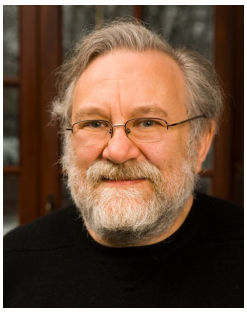
Inaugural lecture by

Peter Walter

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics at the University of California (UCSF)
& Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator

"The serendipitous path of discovery"

Thursday 22. 3. 2012, 4 pm
Bioquant (INF 267), seminar room 041



Peter Walter made several key discoveries in cell biology. First, he discovered that nascent secreted proteins are targeted to the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) by the signal recognition particle in eukaryotic cells. Second, his laboratory at UCSF has discovered a feedback loop within cells called the unfolded protein response (UPR), which adjusts the amount of ER to the protein folding load in this compartment through a signaling pathway between the ER and the nucleus. Recent evidence suggests that the UPR is dysregulated in a number of disease processes and may therefore represent an important target for therapeutic intervention.
Peter Walter is a co-author of the widely used textbook "Molecular Biology of the Cell", which is now in its fifth edition.

The **Paths of Discovery in Biology Lecture Series** is open to the public. It especially targets graduate students, doctoral students and postdocs who want to learn about the thrills of scientific discovery from speakers who made seminal contributions to biology. The focus is less on individual results but on the process of discovery and historical perspective on a complete field of research.