

**Participant 5. UGLAS - Walter Kolch**, Professor for Molecular Cell Biology, Institute of Biomedical and Life Sciences & Director, Sir Henry Wellcome Functional Genomics Facility, University of Glasgow.

W. Kolch is a Senior Group Leader at the Beatson Institute for Cancer Research (BICR), Glasgow, (<http://www.beatson.gla.ac.uk/kolch.htm> ) and Professor of Molecular Cell Biology at the University of Glasgow. WK also was a founding investigator and first Director of the Sir Henry Wellcome Functional Genomics Facility (SHWFGF; <http://www.gla.ac.uk/functionalgenomics/> ) at the University of Glasgow. He currently is Scientific Director of the Interdisciplinary Research Collaboration in Proteomics Technologies, a multidisciplinary consortium developing innovative proteomics methods and instrumentation for application in biomedical and biological research (<http://www.gla.ac.uk/rasor/>).

WK's research focuses on signal transduction and its role as a target for disease. In this regard he has a long standing collaboration with the group in Regensburg working on the molecular mechanisms associated with BMT related complications, such as reverse signalling in monocytes with Guenther Eissner, and on Hsp70 interaction partners with Gabriele Multhoff. WK's laboratory discovered RKIP, the first physiological inhibitor protein of the Raf-MAPK pathway. WK has a previous background as Department Head in pharmaceutical industry (Parke-Davies, now Pfizer) and a strong interest in trans-lational research, which is reflected in advisory functions for biotechnology diagnostics (Mosaiques) and biomedical software (Definiens) companies, Scottish Enterprise (the business development arm of the Scottish government), the UK House of Commons, and Cancer Research UK.

#### **Network team:**

**Dr Andrew Pitt** (Director, SHWFGF) **Dr Richard Burchmore** (Head, Proteomics, SHWFGF), **Dr Pawel Herzyk** (Head, Bioinformatics, SHWFGF).

The SHWFGF is an integrated facility for proteomics, gene arrays and DNA analysis, bioinformatics and laser microdissection at the University of Glasgow. The SHWFGF provides both a service as well as training in these technologies. The SHWFGF is currently running close to 2000 gene arrays per year and analyses circa 400 proteomic samples per day. The SHWFGF has dedicated core staff. In addition to technical services in the above areas SHWFGF provides an extensive support and training programme. They assist with experimental design and grant writing for functional genomics projects (>40 grant applications last year). They also provide user training in gene arrays, proteomics, laser microdissection, and bioinformatics. This is mainly individual hands on training, but they also hold workshops and courses in bioinformatics and functional genomics. As reflected by joint publications they have longstanding collaborations with the groups of Dr G Eissner and Prof G Multhoff (partner UREG) in regard to applying proteomics and cell signalling techniques to biomedical questions. Prof Kolch employs one experienced researcher for Transfer of Knowledge and training activities together with WP tasks and management.

#### **Relevant References :**

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8. Chalmers, M. J., Kolch, W., Emmett, M. R., Marshall, A. G. & Mischak, H. Identification and analysis of phosphopeptides. *J. Chromatogr. B Analyt. Technol. Biomed. Life Sci.* **803**, 111-120 (2004).
9. Eissner, G., Kolch, W. & Scheurich, P. Ligands working as receptors: reverse signaling by members of the TNF superfamily enhance the plasticity of the immune system. *Cytokine Growth Factor Rev.* **15**, 353-366 (2004).
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