

Dr. Ernberg to speak at Greenfield Lecture

Ingemar Ernberg, Ph.D., Professor at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden, will give the Robert Greenfield lecture on Thursday May 4th at 1:00pm in the Durham Auditorium. Dr. Ernberg is one of the foremost cancer researchers in the world.

He was trained at the Tumor Biology Department at the Karolinska Institute under the mentorship of Dr. George Klein. Professor Klein was a pioneer cancer biologist and his department was one of the leading centers in cancer biology, genetics and immunology. Dr. Klein and his wife Eva were honored with Honorary Degrees from UNMC in 1991. During the time of Ingemar's PhD research studies, Dr. Donald Johnson in the Pathology and Microbiology Department at UNMC, was a guest scientist (gästforskare) at the Tumor Biology Institute. They shared a crowded office and laboratory, and collaborated on research regarding the immunological properties of EBV and other Herpesvirus related tumors in non-human primates. Dr. Ernberg has done post-doctoral studies at the Department of Pathology at UNMC with Dr. David Purtillo, and at the MRC in Cambridge, England. When Dr. Klein retired in 1993, Dr. Ernberg became chair of the newly established combined Microbiology and Tumor Biology Department at the Karolinska Institute.



Ingemar Ernberg, Ph.D.

His present laboratory with 10 researchers focuses on experimental systems and clinical collaborations to better understand the connection between viruses and cancer. Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), the most common virus infection in man, is the "model" that he has used to elucidate the complex sequence of events leading to tumor development, particularly related to Epstein-Barr virus tumor virology and latency in at risk patients. He recently has proposed a theory of complex gene regulation networks leading to a new model of carcinogenesis. This cancer cell attractor state theory may be generalized to all cancer cell populations, offering a previously unidentified characteristic for studying cancer.

Dr. Ernberg has published over 245 papers in cell biology, virology, tumor biology, and systems biology; as well as authoring the books *The Ruthless Cell - in modern cancer biology*, *The Stomach: bacteria, rumbling and crash*, and *What is Life in the Cosmos, in the Cell, in Man?*

Dr. Ernberg was awarded the Karolinska Institute Grand Silver Medal in 2016 for special recognition of his outstanding contributions to medical research and the Karolinska Institute. He also starred with Professor Lennart Nilsson in the 2010 Swedish TV documentary "*Journey to the Core of Life.*"