Cologne Seminars on Ageing

Speaker: **Josef Penninger**

The University of British Columbia, Vancouver (CA)

Friday, 24th May 2019 at 10.00 am

MPI Age, Joseph-Stelzmann-Str. 9b
Auditorium, ground floor

Host: Martin Denzel (MPI Age)

Scientific background and research interests

Josef Penninger, MD was formerly a lead researcher at the Amgen Research Institute in Toronto. Since 2002 Josef Penninger was the founding and scientific director of the newly established Institute of Molecular Biotechnology (IMBA) of the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna, Austria. In 2018 he accepted the appointment as Director of the Life Sciences Institute (LSI) at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Canada.

Major achievements include pioneering insights into the molecular basis of osteoporosis and breast cancer, as well as the study of metastatic spread. Josef Penninger's major awards include the Descartes Prize, the Wittgenstein Prize of the Austrian Federal Government, the Ernst Jung Prize for medical excellence, an AAAS Award, the Innovator Award from Era of Hope/U.S. Department of Defense and a second ERC Advanced grant.

Title: From haploid stem cells to blood vessel engineering

About Dr. Penninger's talk:

Large scale data sets have revolutionized our understanding of biology. Yet we require fundamental dissection of the predicted gene functions. To accomplish this we developed haploid stem cells allowing us to perform yeast genetics in a "normal' mammalian cell. We also explored the potential of such cells to discover novel pathways for diseases and in development, focusing on blood vessels. To further explore this we recently also engineered human blood vessel organoids to study diabetic vasculopathy.

We are looking forward to an interesting talk and subsequent discussion with morning tea!

CECAD COLOGNE Excellent in Aging Research – Exzellent in Alternsforschung

Max Planck Institute for Metabolism Research

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR BIOLOGY OF AGEING