



Cambridge Society for the Application of Research

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General Anaesthetics

Dr Pak-Lee Chau

Bioinformatique Structurale, CNRS URA 2185
Institut Pasteur, 75724 Paris, France

7.30 p.m., Monday 1st November, 2010

The Wolfson Lecture Theatre, **Churchill College**, Storey's Way, Cambridge

About this lecture:

Dr P-L Chau writes:

"General anaesthetics have been in use since the mid-19th Century, but their mechanism of action is still unclear. In this talk, I shall briefly describe past efforts to elucidate their mechanism of action, followed by a review on current attempts. The talk will conclude with a "road map" of how future research could be conducted using theoretical and experimental methods."

About the speaker:

P-L Chau read medicine, physics and pharmacology at the University of Cambridge. He carried out his postdoctoral research at the Departments of Pharmacology and of Biochemistry, while also supervising medical students as a senior research fellow at New Hall, Cambridge. Chau is currently a senior staff scientist at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, and his research aims to elucidate the molecular mechanism of action of general anaesthetics using physical methods.

The Organising Secretary adds....

Some of you will remember the title I gave to Professor David Menon's lecture, at the beginning of the last decade. I wrote "And the Lord cast Adam into a deep sleep", from the passage in Genesis. This elicited an instant response from the speaker, who pointed out that he knew very little about anaesthetics (despite holding a chair in the subject – that's Cambridge for you).

Instead, he gave us a most excellent lecture on his métier - the intensive care of brain injuries.

This time, however, we have a speaker who genuinely does work with anaesthetics, and who understands their mechanism of action. Dr P-L Chau works at the prestigious Institut Pasteur in Paris, and also in Cambridge. Come along and learn all about the molecules which put us to sleep.

Coffee will be available in the foyer outside the Wolfson Lecture Theatre from ~7.00 p.m.

Best Regards

Richard Freeman

Organising Secretary

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