

THE ROYAL PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF GLASGOW

SCOTTISH CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION (SCIO) CHARITY NO. SC015557



216th Lecture Series 7.30pm - 10th January 2018

Sir Paul Nurse Great Ideas of Biology



ABSTRACT

Three of the great ideas of biology are the gene theory, the theory of evolution by natural selection, and the proposal that the cell is the fundamental unit of all life. When considering the question of what is life these ideas come together, because the special way cells reproduce provides the conditions by which natural selection takes place allowing living organisms to evolve. A fourth idea is that the organization of chemistry within the cell provides explanations for life's phenomena. A new idea is the central role that information management plays in generating biological organization.

BIOGRAPHY

Paul Nurse is a geneticist and cell biologist who has worked on how the eukaryotic cell cycle is controlled and how cell shape and cell dimensions are determined. His major work has been on the cyclin dependent protein kinases and how they regulate cell reproduction. He is Director of the Francis Crick Institute in London, and has served as President of the Royal Society, Chief Executive of Cancer Research UK and President of Rockefeller University. He shared the 2001 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine and has received the Albert Lasker Award and the Royal Society's Royal and Copley Medals. He was knighted in 1999, received the Legion d'honneur in 2003, and for 15 years was a member of the Council for Science and Technology advising the UK Prime Minister and Cabinet concerning science and innovation issues, and is now a member of the EU High Level Group Scientific Advice Mechanism.

LINKS

<https://royalsociety.org/people/paul-nurse-12012/>

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/medicine/laureates/2001/nurse-bio.html

**All lectures take place in Lecture Theatre K3.25, John Anderson Building,
University of Strathclyde, Rottenrow East, Glasgow G4 0NG.**

Visitors Welcome

The John Anderson Building is in the pedestrianised area between Rottenrow and Rottenrow East. Free car parking is available behind the building. From High Street enter Rottenrow East at the Barony.

Refreshments will be served at 9.00pm.