



Cambridge Society for the Application of Research

Churchill College
Storey's Way
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www.csar.org.uk

'Something really has come up!'

Science, Art and Drug Discovery, a personal perspective

Dr Simon F Campbell CBE FRS

(Former Head of Discovery, Pfizer Central Research; Immediate Past President of the Royal Society of Chemistry)

7.30 p.m., Monday 3rd November, 2008

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

Dr Campbell writes:

"The pharmaceutical industry is under intense pressure to increase productivity, and drug discovery is undergoing a paradigm shift whereby the explosion in genome sciences and new technologies is being harnessed to produce innovative therapies within shorter time scales. However, while new targets and screening hits are being identified at unprecedented rates, innovative science is still rate limiting in transforming leads into drug candidates. Moreover, since the structures of many receptors and enzymes are unknown, successful drug discovery teams must blend scientific data with experience and intuition to develop robust hypotheses for drug-receptor interactions that guide rational design and synthesis. These challenges, together with two innovative solutions, will be illustrated with the research programmes that lead to amlodipine (Norvasc™) and sildenafil (Viagra™).

These research programmes will be discussed from a personal perspective that will highlight the importance of multidisciplinary project teams, challenges that arose during discovery and development and factors that influenced key decisions."

Dr Campbell has supplied me with a much more extensive summary of his work and his background; please email me if you would like the complete, unexpurgated version

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About the Speaker:

Simon Campbell is a synthetic organic chemist who received his first degree and doctorate from Birmingham University in the UK. He then carried out postdoctoral research in Birmingham, Chile and at Stanford University with W.S. Johnson, before being appointed Visiting Professor at the Universidade de Sao Paulo, Brasil in 1970.

In 1972, Dr. Campbell joined Pfizer Central Research, Sandwich, as a medicinal chemist, and he retired from Pfizer in October 1998 as Senior Vice President for World-wide Discovery and Medicinals R&D Europe. He has co-authored over 115 publications and patents.

He was a key member of the research teams that discovered doxazosin (Cardura™) and amlodipine (Norvasc™). Both of these novel medicines became the leading agents worldwide in their therapeutic class. In addition, he was senior author on the research proposal that led to sildenafil (Viagra™), the first oral treatment for Male Erectile Dysfunction.

Dr Campbell was President of the Royal Society of Chemistry (2004-06), and was awarded a CBE in the Queen's 80th Birthday Honours List (2006) "for services to science

The Organising Secretary adds.....

I think we are in for an evening of serious organic chemistry. Since that is where I started, at Sussex University back in the '60s, I am looking forward immensely to Dr Campbell's lecture. Come and along and enjoy another of our sparkling sessions, liberally illustrated with good (and highly practical) science.

Best Regards

Richard Freeman, CSAR Organising Secretary

Coffee available, as usual, in the foyer outside the lecture theatre from ~7.00 p.m.

DON'T FORGET; AUTUMN COLOURS VISIT TO St John's College Gardens:
3 p.m on FRIDAY 31st October. Contact **Elizabeth Platts on Mobile 07817 434728**, leaving your name and full phone number. Elizabeth will phone you if you have a place. If you are not contacted then it is because ALL THE PLACES ARE FULL.

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