



UBIQUITIN & FRIENDS SYMPOSIUM

29-30 April 2026

Van Swieten Saal

Van-Swieten-Gasse 1a, 1090 Vienna



**TARGETED
PROTEIN
DEGRADATION**

FWF Austrian
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GMI
GEORGE MOULDS INSTITUTE
OF MOLECULAR PLANT BIOLOGY

 **FIMBA**
Forschungsinstitut für
Molekulare Biologie

 **IMP**
Institute of Molecular
Pathology

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TARGETED PROTEIN DEGRADATION

SFB F79 funded by

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Organized by:

Research consortium [SFB F79 “Targeted Protein Degradation”](#)

Lead institution: **University of Vienna**

Conference Coordinators

Sascha Martens, Zahra Ayatollahi and members of the SFB F79

ECR Organizing Committee

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Lisa Kainacher, Malak Haddad, Maximilian Schmid

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Homepage: www.protein-degradation.org/symposium

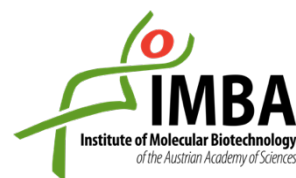
Bluesky: @sfb-tpd-vienna.bsky.social

Symposium hashtag: #ubfriends2026

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Program

WEDNESDAY, 29 APRIL 2026

08:00-09:00 Registration and poster setup
09:00-09:05 Welcome & Opening remarks (Tim Clausen)

SESSION 1 Molecular Insights Into the UPS

(chaired by Silvia Ramundo)

09:05-09:35 **Paul Elliott** (University of Oxford)
Specificity within the Ub/UBL conjugation pathways

09:35-09:50 **Stefan Arold** (King Abdullah Univ. of Science & Technology, Thuwal)
How to awaken Striga with a hydrolytic E3 ubiquitin ligase complex

09:50-10:20 **Hemmo Meyer** (University of Duisburg-Essen)
Loading of ubiquitylated substrates onto the VCP/p97^{Ufd1-Npl4} for unfolding and degradation

10:20-10:35 **Thomas Hermanns** (University of Cologne)
Transubiquitination: A new arrow on the ubiquitination map

10:35-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-11:15 **Tânja Francisco** (University of Porto)
Uncovering a dual role for the ubiquitin-(de)conjugating enzyme UBE2D3 in the non-conventional ubiquitination of PEX5

11:15-11:30 **Eric Kummelstedt** (ETH Zurich)
Comprehensive synthesis of K48/K63 ubiquitin pentamers by graph-empowered automation

11:30-12:00 **Brenda Schulman** (Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Martinsried)
2-RNA-factor authentication mechanism specifying a protein ubiquitylation substrate

12:00-12:30 Flash talks 1 – odd poster numbers

12:30-14:00 Lunch with poster session 1 (odd numbers) – sponsored by BioDuro

14:00-14:15 Group photo

SESSION 2 Expanding the Ubiquitin Toolkit

(chaired by Georg Winter)

14:15-14:45 **Cristina Mayor-Ruiz** (IRB Barcelona)
Unlocking and decoding the chemical rewiring of E3 ubiquitin ligases

- 14:45-15:00 **Tamara Prentzell** (German Cancer Research Center DKFZ, Heidelberg)
Targeted degradation of the aryl hydrocarbon receptor (AHR) using PROTAC-based strategies
- 15:00-15:15 **Hirokazu Arimoto** (Tohoku University, Sendai)
Autophagy-targeting chimeras: progress towards practical, autophagy-based TPD
- 15:15-15:45 Coffee Break
- 15:45-16:00 **Mónica Pozo-Rodriguez** (CIC-bioGuno, Derio)
Development of BioDUB, a biotin-based approach to identify specific targets of deubiquitinases
- 16:00-16:15 **Johannes Bigenzahn** (Medical University Vienna, KILM)
Genetic identification of the RAS proteostatic machinery and its failure to regulate oncogenic variants
- 16:15–16:30 **Tim Aguirre** (Leiden University Medical Centre)
Chemically synthesized serine- and threonine-linked di-ubiquitins enable assessment of oxyester stability and sensitivity towards DUBs
- 16:30-17:00 Flash talks 2 – even poster numbers
- 17:00-18:15 Poster session 2 (even numbers) – with refreshments
(sponsored by MedChemExpress)
- 18:25 **Departure***: Transfer by **tram line 38** to dinner venue [Heuriger Maly](#)

***Dinner transfer by public transport:**

Take the **tram line 38** from either the stop "Spitalgasse" or "Schwarzspanierstraße", **to the final stop "Grinzing"** (travel time: approximately 25 minutes). From there, it is a short walk to [Heuriger Maly](#) (Sandgasse 8, 1190 Vienna)



THURSDAY, 30 APRIL 2026**SESSION 3 Protein Folding – Starting at the Ribosome**

(chaired by Elif Karagöz)

- 09:00-09:30 **David Balchin** (The Francis Crick Institute, London)
Molecular logic of a chaperone generalist
- 09:30-09:45 **Max Seidel** (EMBL Heidelberg)
Mapping the ubiquitin code of translation: Ubiquitin selective ribosome profiling reveals the blueprint of co-translational quality control
- 09:45-10:15 **Juliette Fedry** (MRC LMB, Cambridge)
CryoET insights into the ribosome collision stress response
- 10:15-10:45 **Janine Kirstein** (Leibniz Institute of Aging - Fritz Lippmann Institute, Jena)
DNAJB2a, a J-domain protein triaging proteotoxic stress
- 10:45-11:15 Coffee Break

SESSION 4 Quality Control in Cellular Compartments

(chaired by Noelia Urbán & Sascha Martens)

- 11:15-11:45 **Yasin Dagdas** (University of Heidelberg)
UFMylation anchors splicing factors at the ER to reprogram nuclear splicing
- 11:45-12:00 **Mihaela Pravica** (School of Medicine, University of Zagreb)
Quiescent yeast cells maintain active degradation-mediated protein quality control through ubiquitin-proteasome system, nucleus-vacuole junctions and selective autophagy
- 12:00-12:15 **Krystof Knapp** (Max Delbrück Center, Berlin)
Synthetic cargo for functional and structural studies of autophagy initiation
- 12:15-12:30 **Gopal Jayaraj** (Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Martinsried)
Ubiquitin signalling mediated chaperone function regulates stress-responsive nucleolar adaptation and quality control
- 12:30-12:45 **Anastasia Okun** (Max Perutz Labs, Vienna)
The role of the protein quality control machinery in Stress Granule disassembly
- 12:45-13:45 **Lunch Break**

13:45-14:15 **Aakriti Jain** (University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center)
Uncovering novel regulators of lysosome membrane repair

14:15-14:30 **Delong Li** (Max Planck Institute of Biophysics, Frankfurt)
Cathepsin-dependent amyloid formation drives mechanical rupture of lysosomal membranes

14:30-15:00 **Ian Ganley** (MRC PPU, University of Dundee)
Using a kinase to compensate for loss of a ligase: Can AMPK activation be beneficial for FBXL4-related mitochondrial DNA depletion syndrome?

15:00-15:15 Award ceremony & closing remarks

(Gijs Versteeg & David Haselbach)

LIST OF POSTERS

PRESENTER

P01 Sonja Achleitner

Activation of Atg2 membrane binding and lipid transfer by the Atg1 kinase

P02 Celia Alonso Martin

An unconventional Golgi degradation pathway revealed by Rsp5-dependent ubiquitylation

P03 Sascha Amann

Structural basis for the ubiquitin chain recognition of the human 26S proteasome

P04 Livnat Barski

Targeting AHR signaling and degradation pathways in breast cancer

P05 Dalia Barsyte-Lovejoy

Chemical-induced proximity between USP21 deubiquitylase and KLHL12-Cul3 E3 ligase enables USP21 recruitment to COPII assembly

P06 Bernd Bauer

TAX1BP1 recruitment reactivates autophagy of Tau aggregates through ULK1 and TBK1

P07 Laura Blenkarn

Targeted Degradation of Cyclin T1 Causes Tumour Cell Cycle Arrest

P08 Erik Bonke

Dissecting molecular glue cooperativity at biomolecular complexes in cells with BRETSA

P09 Cara Ellison

Structural determinants governing E1-E2 FAT10 transfer

P10 Paula Eschger

Transubiquitination – a novel unconventional activity of transthiolating ligases

P11 Jakob Farnung

The E3 ubiquitin ligase mechanism specifying targeted microRNA degradation

P12 Maximilian Fottner

Genetic Code Expansion Facilitates Programmable Ubiquitylation via UBE2W

P13 Yanchun Guo

Analysis of ubiquitination in high-throughput assay system

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P14 Cameron Haddow

The RING-like domain of UPF1 does not bestow it with E3-ubiquitin ligase activity

P15 Maximilian Haka

Deciphering SUMO Chain Recognition by the DeSUMOylating Enzyme Ulp2

P16 M. Georgina Herrera

TBK1 Induces the Formation of Optineurin Filaments That Condensate with Polyubiquitin and LC3 for Cargo Sequestration

P17 Yun-Hsuan Huang

A mass spectrometry-based approach to map protein aggregation and phase separation

P18 Lamiya Mahmudova

The E3 ubiquitin ligases MKRN1/2 and RNF214 are required for efficient stress granule clearance

P19 Bhoomika Manchandia

Exploring the role of linear ubiquitin chains in tau aggregation and degradation

P20 Laura Merino-Cacho

Deciphering the mechanism of action of NEDD4L in the rare disease PVNH7

P21 Markus Mueller

Small-molecule stabilization of non-native c-Myc multimer drives degradation using an IDP-targeting discovery platform

P22 Katarína Ondrušková

DCAF12: A Key Player In DNA Replication

P23 Guido Papa

State-selective protein degradation technology as a new modality to target viral condensates

P24 Upayan Patra

SUMO Signaling Rewires HSF1-dependent Gene Expression Programs

P25 Friederike Profe-Austermann

SUMO and SUMO-Targeted Ubiquitin Ligases in Protein Quality Control

P26 Greeshma Pushpa Bose

Subcellular re-organisation of proteasomes in quiescent adult neural stem cells

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P27 Christina Robb

Conformational landscapes resolved by ion mobility mass spectrometry reveal differential mechanisms of polyubiquitin-controlled phase separation

P28 Carolina Saad, Lino Bauer, Andreas Bachmair

Protein turnover via N-degrons in plants

P29 Apurva Saha

Ubiquitin Coating of Inner Mitochondrial Membrane Extrusions Protects from Mitochondrial DNA Release

P30 Leonardo Seidl

Automated, Chemoenzymatic Synthesis of K48/K63 Ubiquitin Pentamers

P31 Rakesh Sharma

Targeted Ubiquitination of AMPK by the GID Complex Regulates Energy Homeostasis and Aging

P32 Kashish Singh

In situ cryo-ET of mammalian embryos reveals cytoplasmic lattices contain ubiquitin-charged E2-E3 ligase assemblies

P33 Sophie Strich

Parkin-USP30 Counter-Regulation: Systemic Profiling of Mitochondrial Function and Target Engagement

P34 Jan Stuke

The N-terminal tail of SUMO modulates interactions in a crowded environment

P35 Nazife Tolay

UCHL1 is a key regulator of cellular homeostasis

P36 Susanna Tulli

Scs2 recruits the Atg1 kinase complex to the ER to initiate autophagosome biogenesis

P37 Julian van Gerwen

Computational approaches for charting the functional and structural landscape of protein ubiquitination

P38 Vera Wanka

Building Complex Activity-Based Probes through Site-Specific SUMOylation of Electrophile-Bearing Target Proteins

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P39 Alice Wicks

Virus- and interferon-dependent cysteine E3 profiling

P40 Theresa Zeisner

Molecular mechanisms regulating protein degradation and developmental tempo during early embryogenesis

P41 Cheuk-Ling Wun

AICC1: A Chloroplast Membrane Protein Potentially Involved in Chloroplast Protein Degradation via Selective Autophagy

P42 Eric Kummelstedt

Comprehensive synthesis of K48/K63 ubiquitin pentamers by graph-empowered automation



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