

MBL SPECIAL LECTURE SERIES

Thursday, June 23, 2011 • Lillie Auditorium, 9:00 AM

The Gertrude Forkosh Waxler Endowed Lecture



"Causes and Consequences of Aneuploidy"

ANGELIKA AMON

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Biology

Angelika Amon is a professor in the Department of Biology and the David H. Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT, and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator. Dr. Amon studies the molecular mechanisms that govern chromosome segregation during mitosis and meiosis and the consequences—aneuploidy—when these fail. Her recent work on the effects of aneuploidy on cellular physiology is changing the way we think about the role of this condition in cancer development. Her results show that aneuploidy leads to protein stoichiometry imbalances that elicit an aneuploidy stress response. This stress response needs to be overcome during tumor evolution and could be exploited for new tumor therapies.

Dr. Amon received a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Vienna in 1993 and completed postdoctoral work at the Whitehead Institute in 1995. She is the recipient of many honors and awards including the Alan T. Waterman Award, the Eli Lilly and Company Research Award, the Paul Marks Prize for Cancer Research, and the National Academy of Sciences Award for Molecular Biology. In 2010 Dr. Amon was elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

ABOUT THE FORKOSH WAXLER LECTURESHIP

The Gertrude Forkosh Waxler Lectureship was established by The FMH Foundation, David S. Forkosh, M.D., President, in memory of his aunt, affectionately known as Gussie. Gertrude Forkosh Waxler was born and raised in Chicago – the eldest of six children. As the eldest child, Ms. Waxler was often responsible for the care of younger siblings. Although she did not have the advantage of a college degree, Ms. Waxler recognized the value of education and understood its importance to one's future. She worked in a jewelry store for thirty years using her income to put her brothers and brothers-in-law through medical and dental school. Among family members, she is remembered for her loyalty, devotion, and sacrifices. Ms. Waxler is one of many women who labored selflessly so that others might prosper. She possessed the spirit of philanthropy and the desire to make a difference. Today we celebrate Ms. Waxler's legacy by dedicating this lecture in her honor.



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