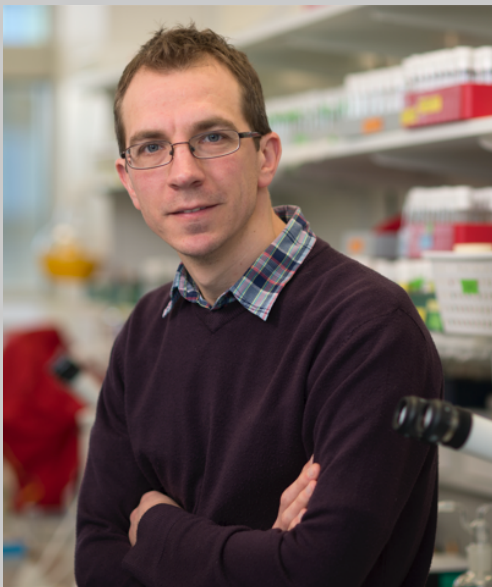




Biochemical Society-UCL CfMR Mitochondrial Lecture Series

Alex Whitworth:

‘Genetic analysis of mitochondrial quality control; clues from Parkinson’s disease and Drosophila’



After a BSc at Imperial College London (1997) Alex gained a PhD (2001) at the University of Cambridge, Department of Genetics, where he studied the genetic control of development in *Drosophila*. Following this he joined the laboratory of Prof. Leo Pallanck at the University of Washington in Seattle, where we developed several new *Drosophila* models of Parkinson’s disease (PD). These models provided compelling evidence that genes linked to familial forms of PD play an important role in mitochondrial homeostasis. In July 2005 he returned to the UK to start his own research group at the University of Sheffield. Continuing work on the *Drosophila* models of PD he described a number of mechanisms by which these genes regulate mitochondrial dynamics as a quality control mechanism. He also identified a number of neuroprotective targets that may have therapeutic

potential. In September 2015 he was recruited to the MRC Mitochondrial Biology Unit in Cambridge where he continues to work on the molecular and genetic analysis of mitochondrial homeostasis mechanisms relating to PD, motor neuron disease and other neurodegenerative diseases.

A.V. Hill Lecture Theatre, July 14th, 4.30pm

followed by reception @

PhD Common Room (Starling, Room 249)

<http://mitochondria.cs.ucl.ac.uk/cfmr/>