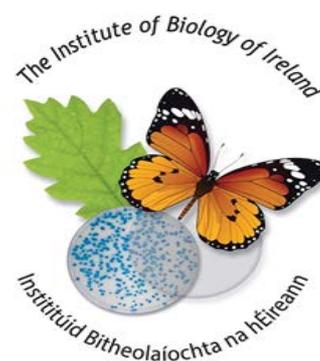


## Institute of Biology of Ireland Activity Series, 2017



**The Institute of Biology of Ireland, as part of the 2017 Activity Series, invites its members, families, friends and the general public to attend this free lecture.**

### Lecture Title:

**Tackling ‘The Emperor of all Maladies’; Cancer, a Journey of Discovery from Bench to Clinic**

### About the Lecture Content

The lecture will focus on how a novel human protein, called FKBPL, that occurs naturally in the body, has a unique ability to inhibit tumour blood vessel development, thereby stopping tumour growth and metastasis. A therapeutic peptide-based drug derived from the protein that has been designed to harness its therapeutic effects has entered Phase I/II cancer clinical trials. Professor Robson and her team have also acquired new data which suggests that this protein and drug also have a unique ability to target cancer stem cells; a type of tumour cell which is resistant to standard therapy. Prof Robson will summarise this ‘bench to bedside’ research, highlighting how this dual activity may be therapeutically advantageous clinically.

### Presenter:



**Professor Tracy Robson**

**Professor and Head of Molecular & Cellular  
Therapeutics, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland**

**Date and Time: Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> @ 8pm**

**Location: Lecture Theatre, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, D9**

**This is a free lecture event**

## About Professor Tracy Robson



Tracy Robson obtained her PhD in Cancer Biology from Imperial College, London. Her first academic post was as Lecturer in Radiation Science at Ulster University in 1997; she was promoted to Reader in 2001. She then moved to the School of Pharmacy, Queen's University of Belfast in 2004 to take up the post of Reader in Molecular Pharmacology; she was promoted to Professor in 2010. In 2016, she took up position as Professor and Head of Department of Molecular and Cellular Therapeutics at RCSI. Her major focus was the development of novel approaches for sensitizing tumours to therapy using personalised medicine approaches. She led a major programme of research aimed at the identification and functional characterisation of genes that alter tumour response to anti-cancer agents. In particular, she cloned and characterized a novel human gene, FKBPL. Her group has demonstrated an extracellular role for FKBPL as a naturally secreted, anti-angiogenic protein. Together with Almac, she led the development of therapeutic peptide derivatives (AD-01 and ALM201) based on FKBPL's active anti-angiogenic domain. Based on the robust efficacy and excellent safety profile, ALM201, a 'first-in-class' FKBPL-based anti-angiogenic therapeutic peptide has completed formulation and toxicology testing and has entered phase I/II cancer clinical trials (EudraCT number: 2014-001175-31). More recently, ALM201 was granted Orphan Drug Designation by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the treatment of ovarian cancer.

## Getting to the National Botanic Gardens

- **GPS users:** either use the garmin loc8 system with this code: **NP7-57-F53** or input the following latitude **53.3717** and longitude **-6.2696**
- **By Bus:**

[4 \(Route Map\)](#) Harristown, Ballymun, Botanic Ave., Phibsboro Shopping Centre, O'Connell St., Pembroke Rd., Blackrock, Stradbroom )

[9 \(Route Map\)](#) Limekiln Ave. South Circular Rd. O'Connell St. Botanic Rd. Beneavin Rd. Charlestown )

[83 \(Route Map\)](#) Kimmage {Sundrive road, Rathmines} / Harristown {Ballygall Road East}

For any other starting points in Dublin, use [Hittheroad.ie](http://Hittheroad.ie) which is an excellent website showing you how to get between any two points in Dublin City, using a smart combination of Dublin Bus, Luas and DART routes.

- **By Car, Bike or on Foot:**

From the south, or City centre: leave Dublin via the Drumcondra road (N1) and turn left at Botanic Avenue (Fagan's pub), just before crossing the river Tolka. At end of Botanic Avenue turn left at T-junction.

ALTERNATIVELY, leave the city via Phibsborough, on the Finglas road (N2). Just after passing over the Royal Canal, follow the one way system around Hart's corner, turning right, then left onto Botanic Road. At the bottom of the hill turn left at the traffic lights. The Botanic Gardens are 100m past this junction and on the left.

Car parking facilities are available: Hours 1 and 2: €1 per hour; Hours 3 onwards: €2 per hour.

Visit [www.ibioli.net](http://www.ibioli.net) for more information on the activities and role of the Institute of Biology of Ireland.

