



Department of Biological Sciences
Seminar Announcement
(Structural Biology Seminar Series)



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The Structure and Function of RNA Polymerase

The seminar will be concerned with the structure and function of RNA polymerase (RNAP). The X-ray structures of both the core RNAP from *Thermus aquaticus*, the corresponding holoenzyme, and the holoenzyme in complex with double-stranded DNA have been determined by Seth Darst. Comparison of these structures suggests how prokaryotic RNAP forms both its closed and open complexes with the DNA it is transcribing. The X-ray structure of yeast RNAP, determined by Roger Kornberg, reveals as expected, that it is similar to but considerably more complex than prokaryotic RNAP. Comparison of this structure with that of yeast RNAP in complex with a DNA·RNA hybrid helix suggests how RNAP mediates the transcriptional process.

Date: 5 March 2003, Wed
Time: 4-5pm
Venue: LT 32
Host: Dr Swaminathan

All are welcome