



## **Worlds Top Cancer Researchers converge in Adelaide for 'Science amongst the Vines' conference**

The "Science amongst the Vines" conference has an established international reputation for quality with the aim of bringing together the worlds best scientists and researchers.

This year's theme is 'Signalling Systems' which will help bring a new understanding of the global rules that govern signalling and their implications for fundamental biological processes as well as for therapeutic strategies.

The 3-day conference will bring together overseas experts in systems biology and signalling systems, together with key Australian researchers seeking to make sense of complex signalling information. This will pave the way for future discoveries in cancer research and lead to faster and better treatments for cancer sufferers in the future.

The event will also be the forum at which the **Clifford Prize for Cancer Research** is awarded to an exceptional scientist whose contribution has made a global difference in the fight against cancer.

**Professor Tony Hunter of the Salk Institute in California is the 2007 recipient of the Clifford Prize for Cancer Research.**

The Clifford Prize is the centrepiece of the world recognised biennial scientific conference "Science amongst the Vines" where international researchers in cancer research gather to discuss key issues in cancer prevention and treatment.

The Clifford Prize, initiated by Professor Angel Lopez (Head of the Division of Human Immunology at the IMVS and Hanson Institute in Adelaide) and Professor Mathew Vadas (Director of the Centenary Institute in Sydney), was conceived as a tribute by the Australian scientific community to those outstanding scientists whose contribution made a tangible difference in treating cancer patients worldwide.

In 2005 the Clifford Prize was awarded to Professor Axel Ullrich of the Max Planck Institute in Munich for his discovery and development of Herceptin, a drug that is now widely used to treat breast cancer.

The 2007 recipient, Professor Tony Hunter, discovered the chief mechanism underlying the conversion of normal tissue into cancer. There now exist several therapeutic agents that target this mechanism, called phosphorylation, resulting in thousands of lives worldwide being saved.

The Clifford Prize consisting of a Perpetual Trophy, an ad hominem glass sculpture (by Nick Mount) and a magnum of Australia's most famous wine, "Grange Hermitage" (donated by Penfolds) will be awarded by the Minister of Health of South Australia, the Hon John Hill at the biennial "Science amongst the Vines" conference, at a ceremony at the Novotel, Barossa Valley, on Thursday 15 November 2007.

***Interviews can be conducted with Professor Tony Hunter by contacting Professor Angel Lopez, Organising Committee Convenor, on 0401 120 779.***

***For further information please contact:  
Mr David Walsh, Marketing Director, Hanson Institute on 0419 850 572.***