

Welcome Address

Ten years in cell death: a double celebration

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Cell Death and Differentiation (2004) 11, 1. doi:10.1038/sj.cdd.4401354

It is with great pleasure that I introduce this special issue of *Cell Death and Differentiation* on the occasion of its 10th anniversary, and which is dedicated to Robert Horvitz, Nobel Prize winner for 2002 in Medicine and Physiology.

Horvitz's studies, conducted on the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*, were directed towards mapping the fate of every cell, including those destined to die by apoptosis (programmed cell death).

In this special issue, particular attention is paid to two aspects: cancer and neuropathology. The first is covered by

the excellent work of Alfred Knudson, George Klein and Michael Hengartner, while the second addresses various aspects of neuronal cell death in stimulating contributions from Stuart Lipton, Lloyd Greene and Gene Johnson.

This is also the occasion to announce that Dr. Bob Horvitz will be awarded a Degree in Medicine *Honoris Causa* in January 2004 from the University of Tor Vergata in Rome.