Distinguished Visitor Programme

Prof John Tooze
Executive Director of Research Integration and Services, Cancer Research UK

Biography

Prof John Tooze was educated at Cambridge University (M.A.), London University (Ph.D.) and Harvard University (where he was a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of J.D. Watson). After several years in basic research, he moved principally into science administration and science publishing, notably as the executive secretary of the European Molecular Biology Organisation, Heidelberg, Germany. In addition, John Tooze was elected as Secretary of The Human Genome Organisation (HUGO).

He is currently Executive Director of Research Integration and Services, Cancer Research UK, and editor of EMBO Journal. A molecular biologist, his previous books include Molecular Biology of Tumor Viruses, The DNA Story (with J.D. Watson) and the very successful first edition of Recombinant DNA: A Short Course (with J.D. Watson and D.T. Kurtz).

The first EMBO Gold Medal was awarded to John Tooze in acknowledgement of his outstanding contribution to the development of the Organization.

Lecture Abstract

16 October 2002, 6.15 pm, Clinical Research Centre Auditorium, Faculty of Medicine, MD11, National University of Singapore, 10 Medical Drive, Singapore 117597

"One and One Equals Three: Creating the World's Largest Cancer Charity"

"In Britain there are several hundred cancer charities, almost all of them very small. The two largest were the Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) which was founded in 1902 and the Cancer Research Campaign (CRC) which was founded in 1923 as the British Cancer Campaign. The ICRF and the CRC each raised over £100 million per year to pay for cancer research mostly in the UK. In February this year the ICRF and the CRC merged to form Cancer Research UK the largest cancer charity in the world. Why did Britain for 80 years have two rival cancer charities? Why was the decision to merge taken after decades of separate existence? How has the merger gone so far? What are the aspirations for Cancer Research UK? The merger is an irrevocable step, will 1+1=3?"