

*The Biotechnology Centre of Oslo hereby announces the Guest Lecture*

## **Initiation of human Th cell differentiation to functionally distinct subsets**

### **Professor Riitta Lahesmaa**

*Director Turku Centre for Biotechnology*

*University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University, Finland*



**Time: Monday 8th of February**

**Venue: Auditorium 2 Red, Rikshospitalet**

**When: 14.15-15.15**

Selective activation of T helper (Th) cell subsets with distinct cytokine secretion profiles and function plays a crucial role in host defense to foreign antigens such as pathogens or cancer as well as in the pathogenesis of human allergy and chronic inflammatory and autoimmune diseases. Understanding pathways that mediate the choice of differentiation to functionally distinct Th cell subsets, from the parent Th precursor (Thp) cells, is critical for the development of therapeutic strategies based on a rational manipulation immune response. I will present results based on our efforts focusing on the detailed characterization of the early stages of primary human Th cell differentiation.