



Tim Hunt was, until his retirement in 2010, a 'Principal Scientist' (note, not THE principal scientist) at Cancer Research UK, Clare Hall Laboratories, in South Mimms, Hertfordshire. Tim was born in 1943 and grew up in Oxford, moving to Cambridge to read Natural Sciences in 1961. He obtained his Ph.D. ("The Synthesis of Haemoglobin") from the Department of Biochemistry in Cambridge in 1968, and spent almost 30 years in Cambridge, working in the Department of Biochemistry, at first on the control of protein synthesis in red blood cells, sea urchin eggs and clam oocytes and from about 1983 onwards on the control of the cell cycle. He worked in the USA as a postdoctoral Fellow with Irving M. London at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine from 1968-70 and spent summers at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole from 1977 until

1985, teaching laboratory courses and doing research. In July 1982, he discovered cyclins, which turned out to be components of "Key Regulator(s) of the Cell Cycle". This led to a share of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2001, together with Lee Hartwell and Paul Nurse. Tim was chairman of the council of EMBO (European Molecular Biology Organization) from 2006 - 2010. From 2011 to 2015, he was a member of the Scientific Council of the European Research Council (ERC). Tim has been helping to compose problems for Molecular Biology of the Cell by Alberts et al. since 1985, and The Problems Book ran to 5 editions and will soon go online to accompany the 7th Edition of Alberts et al. Tim has never held the title of "Professor".