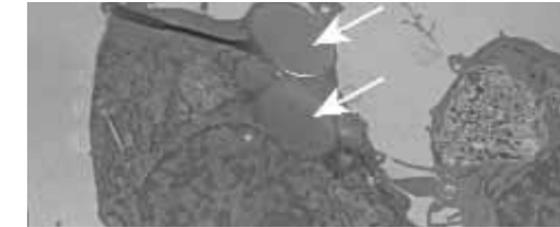


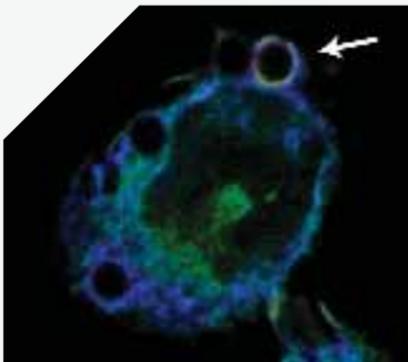


Matthias Trost

Programme Leader and Head of the Proteomics Division in the MRC-Protein Phosphorylation and Ubiquitylation Unit, College of Life Sciences



My interests changed quite considerably – I never would have expected to do what I'm doing now!



I'm originally a Chemist, but I moved relatively quickly into the field of Biochemistry, completing my PhD in Cell Biology and Proteomics and am now working in Cell Biology and Immunology as a Programme Leader and Head of the Proteomics facilities at the MRC-PPU. My interests changed quite considerably – I never would have expected to do what I'm doing now!

I came to mass spectrometry-based proteomics, the technique in which I became an expert, by coincidence during an ERASMUS student exchange in Manchester, showing that small decisions or pure chance can change your entire career. This is also exemplified with my PhD. My partner finished her masters before me and like many other scientists I followed her at the time to Northern Germany. Luckily there happened to be a proteomics group using extensive cell biology of which I had very little knowledge. I learned a lot of new things there and it was the

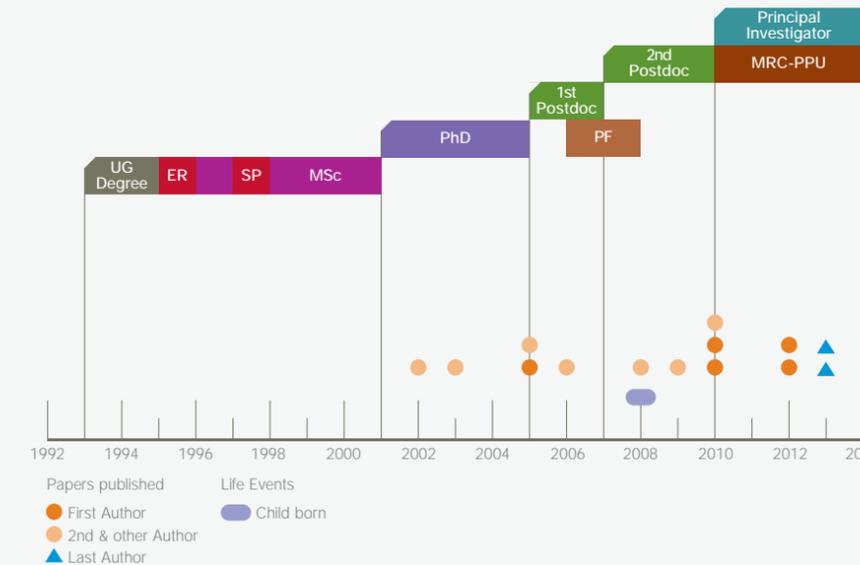
start of my career in Cell Biology. Towards the end of my PhD, when looking for postdoctoral positions, I remember quite clearly searching for articles in PubMed with 'Proteomics' and 'Cell Biology' and found only a few groups who had published in this field. One of the groups was in Montreal working on proteomics of phagosomes which seemed a logical continuation of my work after my PhD. I applied well in advance and wrote a fellowship application myself with feedback from my PhD supervisor and I was lucky enough to be awarded it.

I knew quite early I wanted to become a group leader, however, I often wondered if I would get the chance to do that job. I think my persistence helped me through this difficult period and once my first big paper was published I applied to various places around the world, eventually getting a good position in Dundee – I've been

here for three years now and it's an exceptional place to do science.

A Day in my Life

I spend most of my time in front of the computer analysing mass spectrometry data, writing grants and manuscripts or working on presentations. Quite a lot of my time is occupied with meeting students and postdocs, collaborators, admin and – as I am in a technological field – company representatives. I need to keep up to date with new technology and research and thus I also devote a good time each week reading papers. I work hard during the week trying to keep the weekends free for family, although this is not always possible.



Undergraduate Degree

University of Freiburg, Germany
Chemistry
ER - Erasmus student fellowship:
UMIST, Manchester
BSc (Hons) Chemistry

Masters Degree

University of Freiburg, Germany
Diploma in Chemistry
SP - President of the Student Union of the University of Freiburg (sabbatical year)

PhD

Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI), Braunschweig, Germany
Professor Jürgen Wehland
Functional genome analysis of secretory proteins and the Host-Pathogen-Interactions of the human pathogen Listeria monocytogenes

Postdoctoral Positions

1 Université de Montréal, Canada
Professor Michel Desjardins and Professor Pierre Thibault
Phagosomal proteome and phosphoproteome of activated macrophages

2 Institute in Research in Immunology and Cancer (IRIC), Montréal, Canada
Professor Pierre Thibault
Proteome and phosphoproteome of leukemic stem cells

Postdoctoral Fellowship

Postdoctoral Fellowship of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)

PI: Programme Leader Head of Proteomics

MRC Protein Phosphorylation and Ubiquitylation Unit, Dundee
Proteomics to understand phagosome biogenesis and cellular signal transduction

First Independent Funding

Core Funding MRC Protein Phosphorylation and Ubiquitylation Unit