

Lipid Trafficking and Rafts: Common Node for Biology and Pathology

May 13, 2008

NIEHS Rodbell Conference Center, Research Triangle Park, NC

Summary

The ORD-sponsored symposium Lipid Trafficking and Rafts: Common Node for Biology and Pathology was held at the NIEHS on May 13, 2008 in Rodbell Conference Center. The symposium was universally thought to be a great success. Attendance was in excess of 100, and included participants from several regional institutions, including Duke University, University of North Carolina, North Carolina State University, and Wake Forest University. We were able to attract several world-class experts on lipid raft biology from throughout the continental U.S., and there was discussion of several rare diseases, most prominently Batten Disease (speaker: Rose-Mary Boustany, Ph.D.). The general paradigm of the meeting was an attempt to understand how dysregulated lipid trafficking into and out of membrane microdomains in the cell can be a common origin for multiple diseases, rare and common. The ORD was recognized for their support. We do not plan to compose a symposium-related publication, but do have hopes to conduct a similar meeting in the future.