

## IAPSAP/MPSA 2010 Viktor Mutt Memorial Lecture

The 2010 Viktor Mutt Memorial Lecture, supported by the Viktor Mutt Memorial Foundation, will be given by Dr. Birgitta Agerberth, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Biophysics, Karolinska Institutet.



Dr. Agerberth did her thesis work on the isolation and characterization of biological peptides with an emphasis on those with hormone-like and antibacterial activities. She identified the human antimicrobial peptide LL-37, part of the cathelicidin family, isolated the mature active peptide from granulocytes, and characterized the *CAMP*, the gene that encodes LL-37. She has found that LL-37 is upregulated in keratinocytes during inflammatory disorders of the human skin and downregulated in colon epithelial cells in patients with *Shigella* infection. She has recently discovered that butyrate counteracts LL-37 downregulation in a rabbit model of shigellosis and is currently studying LL-37 regulation as a potential therapeutic means to treat shigellosis.