



## FEBS Workshop ‘Protein termini 2026 – From mechanisms to biological impact’

A [FEBS Advanced Course](#) and the 5<sup>th</sup> Conference of the  
[International Society for Protein Termini \(ISPT\)](#),  
Palermo, June 3-6, 2026 – [proteintermini.org/meeting](http://proteintermini.org/meeting)

### Tuesday, 2 June 2026

19:30-20:30	Welcome drink	Terrazze Cassaro Ai Quattro Canti, Via Vittorio Emanuele, 291 (5 <sup>th</sup> floor, rooftop restaurant)
20:00-22:45	Dinner (optional)	

### Wednesday, 3 June 2026

**Venue: Palazzo dei Normanni, Piazza del Parlamento, 1**

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
9:00-11:00	Registration & poster installation	
11:00-11:15	Opening	Carmela Giglione (ISPT) “Welcome and opening remarks”
11:15-11:25	Welcome	Magnifico Rettore Prof. Massimo Midiri “Opening speech”
11:25-12:05	The ISPT Keynote Lecture 	Roland Beckmann (Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, Germany) “It takes more than two to tango: structural basis and coordination of co-translational N-terminal nascent chain modifications”
12:05-13:15	Welcome Lunch	
13:15-14:50	Session 1	<b>Molecular Choreography: Ribosomal Coordination of Terminal Fate (Chair: R. Beckmann &amp; P. Narwani)</b>
13:15-13:35	Talk	Irmgard Sinning (Biochemistry Center Heidelberg University, Germany) “Multi-factor complexes coordinate protein N-termini processing at the eukaryotic ribosome”
13:35-13:47	Short Talk	Minkoo Ahn (University of Bristol, UK) “Engineering ribosome exit tunnel electrostatics to modulate cellular protein expression”
13:47-14:07	Talk	Elke Deuerling (University of Constance, Germany) „Interplay of N-terminal processing factors during translation“

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
14:07-14:19	Short Talk	Valentin Mitterer (University of Graz, Austria) “Terminal engagement directs energy-dependent remodelling during ribosome assembly“
14:19-14:31	Short Talk	Karin Römisch (Saarland University, Germany) “Sec61beta is a specific signal peptide receptor with the ER translocon“
14:31-14:46	<b>FEBS</b> <i>Letters</i>	Duncan Wright (FEBS Letters) “Presentation of FEBS Press“
14:50-18:00	<b>Session 2</b>	<b>Terminal Modifications I: Mechanisms &amp; Functions</b> <b>(Chair: R. Geiss-Friedlander &amp; Y. Xue)</b>
14:50-15:10	Talk	Thomas Arnesen (University of Bergen, Norway) “Protein N-terminal acetylation – from molecular machinery to protein fate“
15:10-15:30	Talk	Ophir Shalem (University of Pennsylvania, USA) “The role of N-terminal acetylation in alpha synuclein stability and function and potential therapeutic opportunities“
15:30-15:50	Talk	Markus Wirtz (Heidelberg University, Germany) Novel insights into control of plant stress responses by N-terminal protein acetylation
15:50-16:10	Talk	Carmela Giglione (Paris-Saclay University, France) “Multifaceted machinery of N-terminal protein modifications in plant plastids“
16:10-16:50	<b>Coffee Break + ECR Meet&amp;Greet Corner</b>	<b>Informal Networking</b>
16:50-17:10	Talk	Yi Zhang (Case Western Reserve University, USA) “Selectivity and specificity of ATE1: Catalytic mechanisms and beyond“
17:10-17:22	Short Talk	Thomas Reinheckel (University of Freiburg, Germany) “Loss of methionine aminopeptidase 1 creates a proteostatic vulnerability in PI3K-inhibited breast cancer cells“
17:22-17:50	Flash Talks	Poster Slam (9x3 min), session I
17:50-18:00	 <b>FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETIES</b>	Tamás Aranyi (FEBS) “Presentation of The Federation of European Biochemical Societies (FEBS)“
18:00-18:15	<b>Group photograph</b>	<b>All participants are invited to the group photograph</b>
19:00-21:00	<b>Dinner</b>	<b>Restaurant ”Moltivolti”, via Giuseppe Mario Puglia, 21, (7 min walk)</b>
21:00-23:00	<b>Poster Session 1</b>	<b>All poster sessions take place at Oratorio San Mercurio, cortile S. Giovanni degli Eremiti, 2 (3 min walk)</b>

Thursday, 4 June 2026

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
8:00-9:00	Walking Groups	<b>Optional: A casual stroll through the historic center. Discover Palermo's heritage through the eyes of a local expert (Valeria Piazza).</b>
9:00-10:35	Session 3	<b>Terminal Modifications II: Mechanisms &amp; Functions (Chair: D. Gibbs &amp; A. Caiella)</b>
9:00-9:20	Talk	Philip Beachy (Stanford University, USA) "Biogenesis and function of terminal lipid adducts in Hedgehog morphogen signaling"
9:20-9:32	Short Talk	Janna Puschmann (University of Münster, Germany) "The crucial role of the N-palmitate in Hedgehog signaling: is it direct or indirect?"
9:32-9:52	Talk	Christine Schaner Tooley (Jacobs School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Buffalo, USA) "Cytoplasmic and nuclear functions of N-terminal methylation"
9:52-10:04	Short Talk	Salomé Nashed (MNHN, Paris, France) "Shining a light on the dark Nt-acetylome by integrating omics data"
10:04-10:16	Short Talk	Rui Gonçalo Martinho (Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal) "Protein N-terminal acetylation as a modulator of physiological aging"
10:16-10:35	Flash Talks	Poster Slam (6x3 min), session II
10:35-11:00	Coffee Break + ECR Meet&Greet Corner	<b>Informal Networking</b>
11:00-12:00	Guided Rotating Spotlights	<b>Small-group thematic discussions on (i) Technological breakthroughs to tackle protein termini and (ii) Sustainability in Science (Chair: to be announced)</b>
12:00-13:00	Lunch	
13:00-15:25	Session 4	<b>N-Terminal Signals in Protein Stability (Chair: S. Baginsky &amp; A. Brünje)</b>
13:00-13:20	Talk	Anton Khmelinskii (IMB, Mainz, Germany) "Specificity and functions of terminal degrons in proteostasis and metabolism"
13:20-13:40	Talk	Andreas Bachmair (Max Perutz Labs, Vienna, Austria) "Ubiquitin ligases of N-degron pathways"
13:40-14:00	Talk	Michael Holdsworth (University of Nottingham, UK) "Understanding the roles of N-degron pathways in plant biology"

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
14:00-14:20	Talk	Frederica Theodoulou (Rothamsted Research, UK) “Linking proteostatic and physical functions of BIG/AtUBR4”
14:20-14:32	Short Talk	Sophie Mason (University of Oxford, UK) “Investigating the role of the arginine N-degron pathway in non-vascular plants”
14:32-14:44	Short Talk	Oscar Lorenzo (University of Salamanca, Spain) “Deciphering nitric oxide (NO) sensing by the N-Degron pathway in plants”
14:44-15:25	<b>Coffee Break + ECR Meet&amp;Greet Corner</b>	<b>Informal Networking</b>
15:25-18:15	<b>Session 5</b>	<b>N-Degrans and Their N-Recognins (Chair: F. Theodoulou &amp; C. Dambire)</b>
15:25-15:45	Talk	Itay Koren (Bar-Ilan University, Israel) “Old dog, new tricks: unlocking new specificities for UBR E3 ligases in N-degron pathways”
15:45-16:05	Talk	Tanja Bange (Ludwig Maximilians University, Germany) “CUL4A-DDB1-DCAF10 acts as an N-recognin for Nt-acetylated Src Kinases”
16:05-16:17	Short Talk	Youming Xie (Wayne State University, Detroit, USA) “A new role of N-terminal IDRs in controlling cotranslational protein degradation”
16:17-16:29	Short Talk	Ruth Geiss-Friedlander (University of Freiburg, Germany) “An interplay between proteases: DPP9 as a regulator of non-lysosomal cathepsins”
16:29-16:49	Talk	Anna Kashina (University of Pennsylvania, USA) “N-terminal protein regulation as a driver of protein isoform diversity”
16:50-17:15	Flash Talks	Poster Slam (8x3 min), session III
17:15-18:15	<b>Networking Event</b>	<b>Guided ECR Speed Networking (Chair: to be announced)</b>
19:00-20:00	<b>Dinner</b>	<b>Restaurant “Al Fresco”, via Matteo Sclafani, 9 (5 min walk)</b>
20:00-23:00	<b>Poster Session 2</b>	<b>Oratorio San Mercurio. Poster session with snacks and drinks</b>

Friday, 5 June 2026

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
8:00-9:00	Walking Groups	<b>Optional: A casual stroll through the historic center. Discover Palermo's heritage through the eyes of a local expert (Milena Vela).</b>
9:00-9:40	The EMBO Keynote Lecture 	F. Ulrich Hartl (Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Germany) "Molecular chaperone functions in protein folding and proteostasis maintenance"
9:40-12:40	Session 6	<b>Beyond Degradation: Functional Roles of Protein Termini (Chair: M. Hayer-Hartl &amp; J. Buggiani)</b>
9:40-10:00	Talk	Chris Overall "There is no darkside of proteome... As a matter of fact it's all dark"
10:00-10:12	Short Talk	Yi-Chin Tsai (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) "Rubisco maintenance by CbbQO activases involves substrate and chaperone termini"
10:12-10:24	Short Talk	Sebastian Hoernstein (University of Freiburg, Germany) "Dissecting the molecular function of AARE: dual mode proteolysis shapes plant proteostasis and ageing"
10:25-11:05	Coffee Break + ECR Meet&Greet Corner	<b>Informal Networking</b>
11:05-11:25	Talk	Annika Meinander (Åbo Akademi University, Finland) "M1-ubiquitination of the Drosophila caspase Dredd promotes NF-κB activation by protection of the IKK complex"
11:25-11:45	Flash Talks	Poster Slam (5x3 min), session IV
11:45-12:05	Talk	Antonis Kirmizis (University of Cyprus, Cyprus) "Function of NatD-mediated histone N-terminal Acetylation »"
12:05-12:17	Short Talk	Fatih Demir (Aarhus University, Denmark) "Interleukin signaling induction by a human complement C3 fragment"
12:17-12:37	Talk	Young-Jun Choe (Nanyang University, Singapore) "Aggregation mechanism of C-terminally extended stalled polypeptides"
12:37-14:00	Lunch	

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
14:00-16:35	Session 7	<b>Therapeutic Applications I</b> (Chair: C. Overall+ A. Fuentes-Terron)
14:00-14:20	<b>The IUBMB Lecture</b> 	Michael Rapé (University of Berkeley, USA) “Stress response silencing in development and disease“
14:20-14:40	Talk	Edward W. Tate (Imperial College London & Francis Crick Institute, UK) “Targeting termini: from anti-infectives to next generation cancer therapeutics“
14:40-14:55	Short Talk (+3 min)	Mark Distefano (University of Minnesota, USA) “New chemical probes provide insights into the biology of protein lipid modification“
14:55-15:10	Short Talk (+3 min)	Luc Berthiaume (University of Alberta, Canada) “Zelenirstat, a first-in-class N-myristoyltransferase inhibitor: from N-terminal myristoylation biology to clinical anticancer activity“
15:10-15:30	Talk	Geert-Jan Boons (Utrecht University, The Netherlands) “Improving pharmaceutical properties of proteins by N-terminal glyco-tagging“
15:30-15:42	Short Talk	Byung-Hoon Lee (DGIST, Daegu, Korea) “Revealing the mechanisms of TDP-43 proteinopathy at the interface of proteostasis and ribostasis“
15:42-15:54	Short Talk	Cheol-Sang Hwang (Korea University, Korea) “The Ac/N-degron pathway as a key determinant of ferroptosis: physiological and pathological implications“
15:54-16:06	Short Talk	Mikel Lavilla Puerta (University of Oxford, UK) “The missing enzyme: What yeast can tell us about hypoxia“
16:10-16:50	<b>Coffee Break + ECR Meet&amp;Greet Corner</b>	<b>Informal Networking</b>
16:50-18:30	<b>Poster Session 3</b>	<b><i>All posters have to be removed after this session</i></b>
18:30-19:30	Free time	
19:30-20:00	Bus transfer or walk	<b><i>Bus shuttles to gala dinner venue at 19:30/19:40/19:50 or 35-minute walk through Palermo’s historic center</i></b>
20:00-23:00	Gala Dinner	<b><i>Villa Chiaramonte Bordonaro, via delle Croci, 21/A</i></b>
22:45-23:45	Bus transfer	<b><i>Return shuttle buses to Palazzo Normanni at 22:45/23:15/23:45; 3-8 min walk to your own accommodation</i></b>

Saturday, 6 June 2026

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
9:00-9:20	<b>Keynote Lecture of the <i>Assemblea Regionale Siciliana</i></b> 	Yong Tae Kwon (Seoul National University, South Korea) "Targeted degradation of disease-associated proteins based on the N-degron pathway: from basic science to clinical studies"
9:20-11:20	<b>Session 8</b>	<b>Therapeutic Applications II</b> (Chair: M. Distefano & R. Pain)
9:20-9:40	Talk	Stefan Knapp (University of Frankfurt, Germany) "Degron mimetics as tools for the development of selective protein degraders"
9:40-10:00	Talk	Rong Huang (Purdue University, USA) "Chemical approaches to probe protein terminal modifications"
10:00-10:12	Short Talk	Hyun Kyu Song (Korea University, Korea) "Molecular anatomy of the first-characterized E3 ubiquitin ligase, Ubr1"
10:12-10:24	Short Talk	Richard de Heiden (Leiden University, Netherlands) "Expanding the E3 toolbox: a scalable strategy to discover new degron-inspired ligands for targeted protein degradation"
10:25-10:55	<b>Coffee Break</b>	<b>Informal Networking (<i>participants of the afternoon excursion will collect their lunch boxes</i>)</b>
10:55-11:07	Short Talk	Hai Rao (Southern University, Shenzhen, China) "New function and application of UBR E3s: PROTAC and nutrient sensing"
11:07-11:19	Short Talk	Manuel S. Rodriguez (University of Toulouse, France) "Role of multiple ubiquitin enzymes in the regulation of proteaphagy and sensitivity to Bortezomib"
11:20-11:55	<b>Meeting, all attendees</b>	<b>Interactive Group Reflection: "Where Is the Field Going?"</b> (Chair: N. Dissmeyer & B. Pertschy)
11:55-12:15	<b>Meeting, all attendees</b>	<b>Poster and Early-Career Researcher Presentation Prizes (Chair: T. Bange &amp; T. Meinel)</b>
12:15-12:30	<b>Meeting, all attendees</b>	<b>Closing remarks and farewell, C. Giglione</b>
12:30-13:00	<b>Departure</b>	<b><i>Afternoon excursion participants will enjoy their lunch boxes before boarding the bus</i></b>
13:00-23:00	<b>Optional Social Event</b>	<b>Guided tour of the Greek archaeological site of Segesta with Dr. Arch. L. Biondo (Director of the Archaeological Park) and Dr. A. Ricotta, followed by a visit to the Ulmo Planeta winery near Lake Arancio (Sambuca di Sicilia), including a cellar tour, wine tasting, and dinner in the presence of the Planeta family</b>

## List of sponsors

 <p><b>FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETIES</b></p>	
 <p><b>CDBC</b> Cellular Degradation Biology Center</p>	 <p><b>EMBO</b></p>
 <p><b>anr</b> © agence nationale de la recherche</p>	 <p><b>DFG</b> Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft</p>
 <p><b>INTERNATIONAL UNION OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY</b></p>	 <p><b>German Society for Plant Sciences</b></p>
 <p><b>SFBBM</b> Société Française de Biochimie et Biologie Moléculaire</p>	 <p><i>The Company of Biologists</i></p>
 <p><b>DAAD</b> Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst German Academic Exchange Service</p>	 <p><b>S E B</b> SOCIETY FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY</p>

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# FEBS Workshop 'Protein termini 2026: From mechanisms to biological Impact'

3-6 June 2026, Palermo, Italy [proteintermini.org](http://proteintermini.org)

This is the 5th biennial conference of the the International Society for Protein Termini (ISPT) and part of the FEBS Advanced courses series. It brings together scientists across disciplines interested in the structure, substrates, and regulatory roles of protein termini across prokaryotic, animal, and plant systems. Topics involved: enzymatic modifications, cellular quality control mechanisms, and their implications for organelle dynamics and stress responses, advances in terminomics, cryo-EM, and biotechnological applications such as PROTACs, underscoring the transformative potential of the field in medical sciences and biotechnology.



Meeting website

**ISPT Lecture:**

**Roland Beckmann** (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, DE)

**EMBO Keynote Lecture:**

**F. Ulrich Hartl** (Max-Planck-Institute of Biochemistry, DE)

**IUBMB Lecture:**

**Michael Rapé** (University of California, Berkeley, US)

**Keynote Lecture of the Assemblée Regionale Siciliana:**

**Yong Tae Kwon** (Seoul National University, KR)

Thomas Arnesen (University of Bergen, NO)  
 Andreas Bachmair (Max Perutz Labs, Vienna, AU)  
 Tanja Bange (Ludwig-Maximilians University, DE)  
 Philip Beachy (Stanford University, US)  
 Geert-Jan Boons (Utrecht University, NL)  
 Young-Jun Choe (Nanyang Technological University, SG)  
 Elke Deuerling (University of Konstanz, DE)  
 Carmela Giglione (University Paris-Saclay, FR)  
 Michael Holdsworth (University of Nottingham, UK)  
 Rong Huang (Purdue University, US)  
 Anna Kashina (University of Pennsylvania, US)  
 Anton Khmelinskii (Institute of Molecular Biology, Mainz, DE)  
 Stefan Knapp (Goethe University, Frankfurt, DE)  
 Itay Koren (Bar-Ilan University, IL)  
 Annika Meinander (Åbo Akademi University, Turku, FI)  
 Ophir Shalem (University of Pennsylvania, US)  
 Irmgard Sinning (University of Heidelberg, DE)  
 Edward W. Tate (Imperial College, UK)  
 Frederica Theodoulou (Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, UK)  
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