

Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz
Pharmaziegebäude, Staudinger Weg 5, EG
Seminarraum 00 112

Geschäftsführende Leiterin
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DEUTSCHE PHARMAZEUTISCHE GESELLSCHAFT
LANDESGRUPPE RHEINLAND-PFALZ
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EINLADUNG

Am **Freitag, 08. Juni 2018, 15.00 Uhr (geändert)**
spricht im

Institut für Pharmazie und Biochemie
der Universität Mainz,
Staudinger Weg 5, Seminarraum I (EG):

Herr Prof. Dr. Roland Hartmann
Institut für Pharmazeutische Chemie
Philipps-Universität Marburg

über das Thema:

**„A novel RNA-free RNase P discovered in a small
group of Bacteria and many Archaea”**

Hierzu sind Sie herzlich eingeladen!
gez. Prof. Dr. Mark Helm

Abstract:

Although the genome of the hyperthermophilic bacterium *Aquifex aeolicus* became available as early as 1998, neither a gene for the RNA nor the protein component of bacterial RNase P could be identified. In 2008, RNase P activity could be detected in *A. aeolicus* cell lysates, but the nature of the enzyme remained elusive. We were able to sufficiently enrich the RNase P activity of *A. aeolicus* to reveal its identity. Lacking an RNA subunit, the enzyme is the smallest of its kind: the 23-kDa polypeptide, which only comprises a metallonuclease domain, has RNase P activity *in vitro* and can rescue growth of *E. coli* and yeast strains with deactivations of their larger and more complex endogenous ribonucleoprotein RNase P. Homologs of *Aquifex* RNase P (HARP) were identified in many Archaea and some Bacteria, of which all Archaea and most Bacteria also encode an RNA-based RNase P. For one bacterium and one archaeon, activity of both RNase P forms could be demonstrated. Bioinformatic analyses suggest that *A. aeolicus* and related Aquificaceae acquired HARP by horizontal gene transfer from an archaeon. Current functional and structural investigations on HARPs will be discussed.