Hardy Lab Press Release

Caspases are cysteine proteases that execute cell death. Their central role makes them prime drug targets in diseases ranging from cancer to neurodegeneration. Our lab is involved in developing allosteric inhibitors and activators of caspases and in discovering new allosteric sites for caspase regulation. We have recently begun to utilize natural mechanisms of regulation to inform our understanding of allosteric regulation in caspases. In particular, we have determined the structures of phosphomimetic caspases to understand at a molecular level how phosphorylation leads to caspase inactivation. During this chalk talk we will also present new data about the mechanisms by which phosphorylation alters the caspase – kinase interplay. Bay Serrano and Scott Eron will present their work.