

# Press release



Prof. Dr. Piet Gros, initiator of U-ProteinExpress B.V., receives Spinoza prize.

Utrecht, The Netherlands, June, 7<sup>th</sup> 2010 – Professor Piet Gros has received the Spinoza prize for his excellent work in biomacromolecular crystallography. In his research he focuses on the immune system, in particular the immune response by the complement system and complement-evasion mechanisms of pathogens and on the outer-membrane proteins of pathogenic bacteria. In 2005 Gros and his team determined the crystal structure of C3, the central component of the complement system. By solving the 3D-structure of C3 an important step was made in the development of drugs against rheumatism and other immune mediated diseases.

Prof. Piet Gros initiated the ABC Expression Facility, an expertise center of the “Academic Biomedical Center” of the Utrecht University. The success of the Expression Facility in the production of recombinant mammalian proteins is continued in the spin-off company U-Protein Express B.V.

Dr. Martin Hessing (CEO): “We congratulate professor Gros with this prestigious prize. We feel honoured to collaborate in this important field of research”.

Please visit the NWO website for more information about the [Spinoza Prize 2010](#) and the jury report.

For more information on U-Protein Express B.V. please contact Dr. Martin Hessing, CEO at [M.Hessing@U-ProteinExpress.com](mailto:M.Hessing@U-ProteinExpress.com).