

Invitation to two special seminars

to be given by **Dr. Anne Osbourn**,
John Innes Centre, Norwich, UK

Recipient of a Branco Weiss Fellowship “Society in Science”
(<http://www.society-in-science.ethz.ch>)

“The Poetry of Science”

Monday, 26th June 2006, 5 p.m.
Meridian Saal of the Collegium Helveticum

“Plant-derived natural products- function, synthesis and the basis of metabolic diversity”

Colloquium of the Institute of Plant Sciences
Tuesday, 27th June 2006, 11:15 a.m.
CAB G 59

Guests are welcome!

Prof. N. Amrhein
Institute of Plant Sciences

Prof. G. Folkers
Collegium Helveticum



Dr. Anne Osbourn

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Anne Osbourn is a Group Leader in the Department of Metabolic Biology at the John Innes Centre, Norwich, UK. Anne has a BSc in botany from the University of Durham and a PhD in genetics from the University of Birmingham. She later moved to Norwich, first joining the Sainsbury Laboratory at its inception in 1988, and then taking up her new position at the John Innes Centre in July 2005. Anne's research is focused on understanding why plants become diseased and on using this information to develop disease resistant crops. She is particularly interested in plant natural products – their function and synthesis - and in the origins of metabolic diversity. This research impacts on other fundamental aspects of biology such as chromosome structure and gene regulation, genome plasticity, diversification of function of enzymes and multi-component pathways and adaptive evolution. Anne has published extensively in leading scientific journals including *Science* and *Nature* and her research features in teaching courses and textbooks worldwide.

In September 2004 Anne was awarded a National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA) Dream Time Fellowship to spend a year on sabbatical in the School of Literature and Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia, where she explored ways in which scientific awareness can more fully invest the lives and language of others through creative writing. Anne has completed her own personal writing project (a hybridization of poetry collection, science journal, and images) which she hopes to publish in 2006. She has also conceived and developed the Science, Art and Writing (SAW) project, a creative initiative that encourages people of all ages and groupings to discover and explore science. The output of a SAW pilot project in schools, *See Saw* (an anthology of children's poetry and artwork around science), is available from Amazon.co.uk.