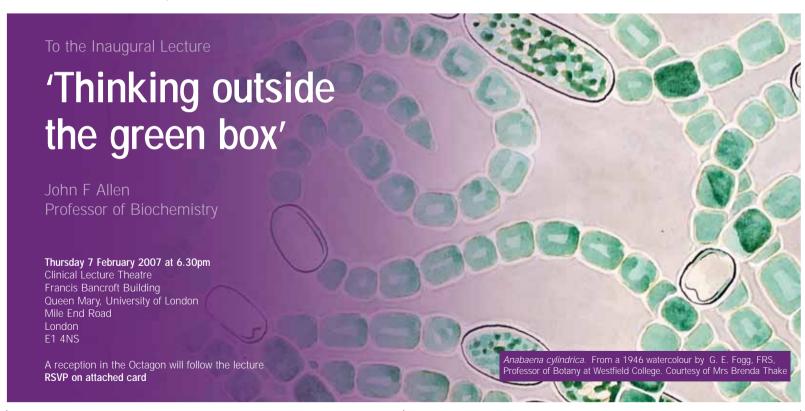


Invitation from

Professor Adrian Smith FRS, Principal



'Thinking outside the green box'

Thursday 7 February 2007 at 6.30pm

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Return to: Events Office Inaugural Lecture (07.02.08), Queen Mary, University of London, Mile End, London E1 4NS Professor John F Allen

'Thinking outside the green box'

Sunlight is power. Specifically, up to one kW for each square meter of the Earth's surface. Decent. self-reliant living things tap into this source of power by means of photosynthesis. The rest of us tap into them. Sunlight changes all the time, in quality and quantity. We learn something about our planet and ourselves in learning how living things adapt to these changes, using electrons as signals to finetune proteins and switch on genes. We also learn about all life, how it combines the flux of power conversion with the stasis of inheritance - a lesson close to home.

John F Allen is Professor of Biochemistry at Queen Mary, University of London, where he also holds a Royal Society -Wolfson Research Merit Award "Energy and Genome Function". A native of Newport. Monmouthshire, he obtained his BSc and PhD from King's College, London, and did postdoctoral research in Oxford and Warwick Universities, the latter including collaborative work in the University of Illinois. Allen became a lecturer in Leeds University, escaping temporarily to the University of California, Berkeley, on a Nuffield

Foundation Fellowship. This is his

third Chair. The first two were at

the Universities of Oslo, Norway,

and Lund, Sweden. He is still

Map www.qmul.ac.uk/about/campus/mileend

Map reference 18: Clinical Lecture Theatre, Francis Bancroft Building