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**"Synaptic vesicle exocytosis:
Why synaptotagmin catalyzes "fast"
membrane fusion (*and SNAREs do not*)"**

This seminar will address a recent hypothesis in which synaptotagmin 1 (or, 2) functions as a catalyst for exocytotic membrane fusion at nerve terminals. This model departs from most current scenarios which envision a direct role for SNAREs in the membrane fusion sequence. Instead, I will summarize how two structural elements of synaptotagmin can be combined to serve as templates for the fusion event. The talk will conclude with a brief summary of recent electron microscopic data which are compatible with this "synaptotagmin-only" model and are difficult to reconcile with SNARE-based proposals.

Host: Reinhard Jahn

Large Seminar Room, Administration Building
Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry, Am Fassberg 11, 37077 Göttingen