

BIOS FOR SPOKESPEOPLE

Professor Javier Garau, ESCMID President
Head, Department of Medicine Hospital Mutua Terrassa, Barcelona

Professor Garau became ESCMID President in 2009 and is Head of the Department of Medicine at the Hospital Mutua Terrassa in Spain. He received his medical training in Madrid and went onto hold a Fellowship in Infectious Diseases at the University of Chicago

His areas of focus include community-acquired infection, antibiotic resistance and new antimicrobials Professor has served on a number of Editorial Boards including the Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, Microbial Drug Resistance and Clinical Microbiology & Infection. He has also worked on a range of committees with the Spanish Ministry of Health and was former President of the Spanish Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases.

Professor Giuseppe Cornaglia, ESCMID Immediate Past-President and Communication Officer
Professor of Microbiology, Department of Pathology, Verona University

Professor Cornaglia is the current President of ESCMID, a post he has held since April 2007. He graduated in Medicine and Surgery from the University of Sassari, Italy, and since 2005 has been Associate Professor of Microbiology in the Department of Pathology, Verona University where he also sits on the Board of Directors.

Professor Cornaglia has co-ordinated the activities of the Italian Surveillance Group for Antimicrobial Resistance (ISGAR), including the creation of a national database of antimicrobial susceptibility data. Since 1999 he is also the leader of the Italian chapter of the Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics (APUA).

He was awarded a Ph.D in Public Health at the Catholic University of Trnava in Slovakia where he is also a Visiting Associate Professor. Professor Cornaglia was a key organiser of a meeting on the Role of Research in Combating Antibiotic Resistance in conjunction with the European Commission and Italian Ministries of Research and Health. In 1997 with Professor Jacques Acar he founded the European Study Group for Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance (ESGARS) as part of ESCMID and is currently Chairman of the Study Group.

Professor Wolfgang Graninger, President 20th ECCMID 2010
Head of the Division of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, Medical University of Vienna

Professor Graninger is MD, Professor and Head of the Infections Diseases and Tropical Medicine at the University of Vienna. He studied Medicine, Biology, Philosophy and Psychology at the University in Vienna, holding three doctorates and in 1985 completed his PhD on diagnosis and therapies concerning Infections and Tumors.

Professor Graninger is involved in research and teaching and has published numerous articles. His studies on the antibiotic Clindamycin in malaria therapy has led the WHO to recommend this form of therapy with Malaria tropica. His areas of focus include antibiotic therapy, fever of unknown origin, sepsis, pneumonia, blood stream infections, tropical diseases, fungal infections, immunizations, infections of the immunocompromized, postsurgical infections and travel associated diseases.

He is a member of the American Society of Microbiology, the International Society of Infectious diseases, the Austrian Society for Internal Medicine and the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine.

Professor Winfried Kern, ESCMID Treasurer

Head, Centre for Infectious Diseases and Travel Medicine, University Hospital, Freiburg

Professor Kern is a Professor of Medicine and currently heads up the Infectious Diseases and Travel Medicine Centre at the University Hospital, Freiburg in Germany. He is currently Treasurer of ESCMID and formerly President of the German Society for Infectious Diseases

With a specialist interest in travel medicine, his MD Theses focused on tropical medicine & health care in Southern Sudan. His other areas of research include multidrug resistance, opportunistic infections, infections in cancer patients, healthcare-associated infections, clinical trials methodology and rapid diagnostic tests in clinical microbiology and immunology.

He is Editor of *Infection*, Co-Editor GERMAPP2008 which monitors antibiotic resistance in Germany.

Professor Albert Osterhaus, Member of the ECCMID 2010 Programme Committee

Professor of Virology, Erasmus Medical Centre, Rotterdam

Professor Osterhaus is one of the world's leading virologists and his group was the first to identify human infection with the avian influenza strain H5N1. After qualifying as a veterinarian, he moved into research and graduated from Utrecht University with a PhD in virology. In 1997, his group discovered that a Hong Kong flu strain that had killed a three-year-old boy belonged to an avian influenza strain called H5N1. He was also the first scientist to show that H5N1 can be transferred into humans.

In 2003 at the height of the panic over SARS (Severe Acquired Respiratory Syndrome) Professor Osterhaus proved that the disease was caused by a newly discovered coronavirus that resides in civet cats, other carnivorous animals or bats. Currently he heads a 100-strong lab at Erasmus MC, Rotterdam and is the co-founder of two biotech companies. His group is heavily involved with working on a vaccine against avian flu.

Dr. Osterhaus is also Director of the National Influenza Centre in Rotterdam, Director of WHO Collaborating Centre for Arboviruses and Haemorrhagic Fever Reference and Research and Chairman of the European Scientific Working Group on Influenza (ESWI).

Professor Jordi Vila, ECCMID Programme Director

Professor of Microbiology, School of Medicine at University of Barcelona

Professor Vila is currently a member of ESCMID Executive Committee and the Programme Director for ECCMID. He is Professor of Microbiology at the University of Barcelona and a Consultant at the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory at Barcelona Hospital Clinic.

Receiving his education at the University of Barcelona where he gained his Ph.D in Biochemistry, Professor Vila held a post-doctoral position at the University of Virginia, was a Visiting Professor at the Center for Genetic Adaptation and Antimicrobial Resistance at Tufts University in Boston and Visiting Professor at the Department of Cellular and Molecular Biology at the University of California, Berkeley.

His areas of interest include antimicrobial resistance, development of new antimicrobial drugs, traveller's diarrhoea and child diarrhoea in developing countries and he has served on the editorial boards of *Revista Española de Enfermedades Infecciosas y Microbiología Clínica*, *Revista Española de Quimioterapia*