David Heymann, UK

Lessons from emergence of coronaviruses over two decades

Interview session

23 September 2020, 10:00 – 11:00

Prof. Heymann will be interviewed by Prof. Jacob Moran-Gilad, Beer Sheva, Israel

Fireplace 11:00 – 12:00

David Heymann is Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at LSHTM and Distinguished Fellow of the Centre on Universal Health at Chatham House, London and former Chairman of Public Health England. For 22 years he was based at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva on secondment from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) during which time he held various positions, such as Executive Director of the Communicable Diseases Cluster, a position from which he headed the global response to SARS. He worked in India as a medical epidemiologist in the WHO smallpox eradication programme before spending 13 years in sub-Saharan Africa on assignment where he participated in the response to outbreaks of Ebola hemorrhagic fever, human monkeypox and supported ministries of health in field research to better control malaria, measles, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases.

David Heymann is an elected fellow of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies (US) and the Academy of Medical Sciences (UK), and has received seven different public health awards, including the Heinz Award on the Human Condition. In 2009 he was appointed an honorary Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE) for service to global public health.
Mark Mulligan, US

COVID-19 vaccines: current state of play

Keynote lecture

23 September 2020, 16:00 – 16:30

Fireplace 17:00- 18:00

Mark J. Mulligan is the Director of the Division of Infectious Diseases & Immunology in the Department of Medicine, and Director of the NYU Langone Vaccine Center. He joined NYU Langone Health in 2018. He is a translational physician-scientist who leads a research clinic and a research laboratory. He conducts vaccine clinical trials and clinical studies of emerging infections and has studied HIV, Zika, Ebola, bird flu, 2009 pandemic influenza, and other infections with public health impact. He is now studying the novel coronavirus. He graduated of the University of Notre Dame and University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas. During infectious diseases training (UAB) he did his post-doctoral molecular virology training with Dr. Richard Compans, a renowned virologist.

Mark Mulligan served as lead investigator for an NIH-funded HIV/AIDS Clinical Trials Unit, conducting AIDS and TB research in Atlanta, Kenya, the Philippines, and Thailand (2006-2018). He also served as the principal investigator for an NIH-funded Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit (VTEU), 2007-18 - one of nine national units to conduct clinical research on medical countermeasures (such as vaccines, treatments, diagnostics, biomarkers) to combat infectious disease threats to human health.
Andrea Ammon, Sweden

The multifaceted response to COVID-19 in the EU

Keynote lecture

23 September 2020, 10:45 - 11:15

Fireplace 11:15 – 12:15

Andrea Ammon is the Director of ECDC and former Deputy to the Director and Head of Unit for Resource Management and Coordination. From May 2015, she was the ECDC’s Acting Director. She joined ECDC as the Head of the Surveillance Unit in 2005. The unit was responsible for developing The European Surveillance System (TESSy), implementing a long-term surveillance strategy for the European Union (EU), evaluating the Dedicated Surveillance Networks (DSN), revising the EU case definitions and producing an Annual Epidemiological Report on infectious diseases in the EU.

Prior to joining the ECDC, Andrea Ammon served in several roles at the Robert Koch-Institute in Berlin, German, most recently as Head of Department for Infectious Disease Epidemiology. In this capacity, she maintained and further developed the German national surveillance system; coordinated the national outbreak response team for current and emerging infections (incl. SARS and influenza A[H2N2]); and provided scientific advice for government Ministries, Members of Parliament, and the public.
Andrea Crisanti, Italy

**SARS-CoV-2 outbreak management: the Vo’ lesson**

Keynote lecture

24 September 2020, 16:45 – 17:15

Fireplace 17:30 – 18:30

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**Andrea Crisanti** is Director of the Department of Molecular Medicine and of the Laboratory of Virology and Microbiology at the Hospital/University of Padua, Italy. He recently returned to Italy from Imperial College London, where he is Professor of Molecular Parasitology. He has pioneered the molecular biology of the *Anopheles gambiae* vector and importantly contributed to the research of its malaria parasite. His work is based on a visionary solution aimed to harness genetic elements (homing endonucleases) allowing genetic modifications to impact vector populations, by either interfering with their fertility or make them resistant to malaria parasites.

Beyond the impact on malaria research, this gene transfer technology has also important implications in the field of synthetic biology, gene editing and will inform advances e.g. in the control of other vector-borne diseases. Recently he has excelled for the pilot study on the first Covid-19 outbreak of Vo’ Euganeo, Italy, and for his involvement in the task force for the emergency management in Veneto.
Arturo Casadevall, US

Use of convalescent plasma for COVID-19 treatment

Keynote lecture
24 September 2020 16:00 – 16:30
Fireplace 17:00 – 18:00

Arturo Casadevall is Professor and Chair of the W. Harry Feinstone Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, USA. He also chairs the Board of Governors of the American Academy of Microbiology. He received his MD and PhD degrees from NYU and completed his residency in internal medicine at Bellevue Hospital. His major research interests are in fungal pathogenesis and the mechanisms of antibody action. He is Editor-in-Chief of mBio, Deputy Editor of the Journal of Clinical Investigation and serves on numerous editorial boards.

He has served on several NIH committees including the NIAID Strategic Plan, NAS panel that reviewed the FBI investigation on anthrax attacks and the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity. He was a Commissioner in the National Commission on Forensic Science and served as President of the Medical Mycology Society of the Americas. Arturo Casadevall received numerous honours including election to American Academy of Microbiology and the National Academy of Medicine.
Luke O’ Neill is Professor of Biochemistry in the School of Biochemistry and Immunology, Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. He is a world expert on innate immunity and inflammation. His main research interests include Toll-like receptors, Inflammasomes and Immunometabolism. He is listed by Thompson Reuters/ Clarivates in the top 1% of immunologists in the world, based on citations per paper. Professor O’Neill is co-founder of Inflazome and Sitryx, which aim to develop new medicines for inflammatory diseases.

He was awarded the Royal Dublin Society / Irish Times Boyle Medal for scientific excellence, the Royal Irish Academy Gold Medal for Life Sciences, The Society for Leukocyte Biology (SLB) Dolph O. Adams award, the European Federation of Immunology Societies Medal and in 2018 the Milstein Award of the International Cytokine and Interferon Society. He is a member of the Royal Irish Academy, EMBO (European Molecular Biology Organisation) and a Fellow of the Royal Society.
Andrew Pollard, UK

News regarding COVID-19 vaccines

Keynote lecture
25 September 16:00 – 16:30
Fireplace 17:00-18:00

Andrew J Pollard is Professor of Paediatric Infection and Immunity at the University of Oxford, Honorary Consultant Paediatrician at Oxford Children’s Hospital and Vice Master of St Cross College, Oxford. He specialised in paediatric infectious diseases at St Mary’s Hospital, London, UK, studying immunity to Neisseria meningitidis, and at British Columbia Children’s Hospital, Vancouver, Canada, where he worked on anti-bacterial innate immune responses before returning to the University of Oxford in 2001.

His research includes the design, development and clinical evaluation of vaccines including those for meningococcal disease and enteric fever and leads studies using a human challenge model of (para)typhoid. He is chair to several scientific groups, such as the UK’s NICE meningitis guidelines development group or the European Medicines Agency scientific advisory group on vaccines. Andrew Pollard is member of WHO’s SAGE and received various awards, the latest being the Rosén von Rosenstein medal in 2019.
Ashleigh Tuite, Canada

Modeling a pandemic in real time: lessons learned from disease models for COVID-19

Keynote lecture

25 September 16:45 – 17:15

Fireplace 17:30 – 18:30

Ashleigh Tuite is an Infectious Disease Epidemiologist, Mathematical Modeler, and Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health. Her research focuses on integrating data with mathematical models to study the epidemic spread of communicable diseases and identify optimal intervention and control strategies. She completed her PhD at the University of Toronto and was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.
Peter Simmonds, UK

360 degrees around SARS-CoV-2 genetic evolution

Keynote lecture

24 September 10:15 – 10:45

Peter Simmonds is Professor of Virology at the University of Oxford, since April 2016. He is the former Professor of Virology, University of Edinburgh, and a part-time Consultant in Virology for the Lothian University Hospitals Trust. He was a Darwin Research Fellow and a Clinical Lecturer at the Department of Medical Microbiology, University of Edinburgh. Following graduation in medicine, Peter Simmonds pursued postgraduate medical training (MRCPath 1995) and a PhD in HIV pathogenesis. His recent research focuses on disease impacts, molecular epidemiology and transmission dynamics of RNA viruses and evolutionarily based studies of virus/host interactions at the level of innate cell defenses. Through membership of the ICTV Executive Committee, Peter Simmonds is closely involved in the ongoing development of virus classification methods and the assimilation of vast amounts of new viral metagenomics data. The ongoing research / development programme with clinical virology has helped with the assessment of the risk of newly discovered human viruses to human health and the development of methods to evaluate their prevalence, epidemiology and clinical associations to guide current and future diagnostic services.