

Alain van Gool, Professor Personalized Healthcare, Radboud University Medical Center, EATRIS, Netherlands

Alain van Gool is professor Personalized Healthcare at the Radboud university medical center, with a strong passion in the application of biomarkers in translational medicine and personalized healthcare. After his study (biochemistry, 1991) and PhD (molecular biology, 1996) Alain worked at a mix of academia, pharmaceutical industries (Organon, Schering-Plough, MSD), applied research institutes (CancerUK, TNO) and university medical centers in Europe, Asia and USA. He has been leading technology-based biomarker laboratories, cross-functional expert teams, therapeutic project teams and public-private consortia, many of which were focused on the discovery, development and implementation of translational biomarkers in a variety of therapeutic areas. His technical expertise resides most strongly in molecular profiling (various Omics approaches), analytical biomarker development and applications in translational scientific research. Alain currently coordinates several biomarker/omics/data/AI programs as part of the Translational Metabolic Laboratory including Lead PI of the Netherlands X-omics Initiative and Lead PI of the Healthy Data Program, is Domain Leader MedTech & Data Sciences of the Radboudumc, and is Chair Biomarker Platform of EATRIS (the European infrastructure for Translational Medicine), thus contributing to the organisation and coordination of local, national and European technology infrastructures.

Albrecht Stenzinger, Deputy Medical Director, Head of the IPH Center for Molecular Pathology Institute of Pathology (IPH), University Hospital, Heidelberg, Germany

Albrecht Stenzinger is Professor of Molecular Tumor Pathology, Vice Chair of the Institute of Pathology (IPH), as well as the Director of the IPH Center for Molecular Pathology (CMP) and Section Head for Molecular Diagnostics and Biomarker Development at the Institute of Pathology, University Hospital Heidelberg, Germany. Dr. Stenzinger is holding an MD degree from the University of Giessen, completed his residency and fellowship training in pathology at the Charité University Hospital, Berlin and the University Hospital Heidelberg. He is a board-certified surgical pathologist, molecular pathologist, and senior attending. Dr. Stenzinger received postdoctoral training at the University of Heidelberg and Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School, USA. He has broad expertise in molecular pathology as well as molecular diagnostics and works in the field of translational research and genetics of solid tumors.

Daniele Soroldoni, Managing Director, Vienna BioCenter Core Facilities (VBCF), Austria

Daniele Soroldoni is the CEO of Vienna BioCenter Core Facilities as well as Scientific Services Manager of the joint in-house core facilities at GMI/IMBA/IMP. Before joining the Austrian research center, he was a Senior Scientist at EPFL in Lausanne (CH), where he established and coordinated a new, semiautomated zebrafish facility. He has collected extensive experience by working as a developmental biologist at several European centers for research infrastructure such as Max Planck Institute in Dresden (GER), University College London (UK), and the Francis Crick Institute (UK). Daniele Soroldoni holds a Phd in Philosophy from International Max Planck Research School for Molecular Cell Biology and Bioengineering, additionally he brings a proven track record in developing and implementing innovative strategies to drive organizational change to the table.

Donald Lo, Director of Medicines Development, European Infrastructure for Translational Medicine and Scientific Lead, the European Platform for Medicines Repurposing (REMEDi4ALL), EATRIS, Netherlands

Donald Lo is the Director for Medicines Development at EATRIS and Scientific Lead of the REMEDI4ALL European Platform for Medicines Repurposing. Don previously headed the Therapeutic Development Branch at the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) at the US NIH. Don joined the NIH following a 27-year academic career at Duke University Medical Center, during which time he also co-founded and led 2 biotechnology companies and a non-profit patient care organization for Huntington's disease, and served as lead science advisor for a venture philanthropy organization for brain cancer. Don is a graduate of the California Institute of Technology, received his PhD from Yale University, and conducted postdoctoral research at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research at University College London.

Elisa May, Chief Enabling Technology Officer, German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany

Elisa May currently serves as the Chief Enabling Technology Officer at the German Cancer Research Center. In this role, she is responsible for leading and advancing the Center's core facilities. A biochemist by training she has >15 years of experience in the area of core facilities. After setting up the imaging core at the University of Konstanz, which she managed until 2021, she started a German network of imaging core facilities and in 2017, became the founding president of the German Society for Microscopy and Image Analysis, GermanBioImaging e.V. She developed concepts for large, distributed national infrastructures for biological imaging and is now Co-Chair of a consortium for the management of bioimaging data within the National Research Data Infrastructure. Her research interests are in the development of advanced imaging methods for the study of DNA damage and repair.

2023 Full Professor for Cellular Bioimaging, University of Konstanz

2021 Chief Enabling Technology Officer, German Cancer Research Center

2007 – 2021 Adjunct Professor and Head of Bioimaging Center, University of Konstanz

2005 Habilitation in Cell Biology and Molecular Toxicology, University of Konstanz

2000 – 2007 Principal Investigator in Molecular Toxicology, University of Konstanz

1996 – 2000 PostDoc in Molecular Toxicology, University of Konstanz

1993 PhD in Membrane Biochemistry, Max-Planck-Institute for Biochemistry, Martinsried

1998 Diploma in Biochemistry, University of Tübingen

Florian Jug, Senior Research Group Leader, Computational Biology Research Centre, Human Technopole, Italy

Dr. Florian Jug holds a PhD in Computational Neuroscience from the Institute of Theoretical Computer Science at ETH Zurich. His research aims at pushing the boundary of what AI and machine learning can do to better analyze and quantify biological data. At HT, Dr. Jug covers the full breadth of bio-image computing, from research on novel methods for computer vision and machine learning, all the way to offering bio-image analysis as a service.

Haian Fu, Professor and Chair, Department of Pharmacology and Chemical Biology; Associate Dean for Therapeutic Discovery and Development, Emory University School of Medicine, USA

Dr. Fu received his PhD in biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1989 and carried out his postdoctoral research in microbiology and molecular genetics at Harvard Medical School (1989-91). Dr. Fu joined Emory Pharmacology in 1994 after three years at the Harvard Medical School faculty, and since has risen through the ranks to Professor of Pharmacology at Emory University and become chair in 2017. He is a major scientific driver of the 14-3-3 biology field with the current focus on cancer-associated protein-protein interactions for therapeutic discovery. Throughout the past two decades, he leads multidisciplinary teams at Emory, serving on the national steering committees of the NIH Molecular Libraries Screening Centers Network (MLSCN) and the NIH/NCI Chemical Biology Consortium, respectively. Currently, he directs the Emory Chemical Biology Discovery Center and the NIH funded Lung Cancer P01 program. He is a dedicated educator and has mentored >20 PhD students and >30 postdoctoral fellows. Dr. Fu has authored >200 papers. His scientific services also include membership in multiple journal editorial boards and various NIH and international review panels. Dr. Fu is a co-founder and past chair of the Board of Directors for the International Chemical Biology Society.

Janna Saija Saarela, Professor and Director of NCMM Center for Molecular Medicine Oslo, Norway

Janna SAARELA, Prof, MD., PhD., Director of Centre for Molecular Medicine Norway, NCMM, the Nordic EMBL Partnership for Molecular Medicine, and Research Director at Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland, FIMM. She operated as a Director of FIMM Technology Centre in 2009-2018, and a senior consultant in the Department of Clinical Genetics at the Helsinki University Hospital. Saarela is Adjunct Professor in Medical Molecular Genetics at the University of Helsinki in 2018-2021. Saarela was a postdoctoral fellow at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Dept. Human Genetics in the laboratory of Prof. Leena Peltonen. Her current research interest is in genomics of rare and common immune disorders, especially autoimmunity and immune dysregulation. Her group also develops computational methods for safe sharing of sensitive health data. She is an invited expert in several international scientific networks: International MS Genetics consortium (IMSGC), European Network on Rare Immunodeficiency, Autoinflammatory and Autoimmune Diseases (ERN RITA) Molecular Testing working group, ESID Genetics working group, and ClinGen Immunology Clinical Domain Working Group (CDWG) Executive Committee and ClinGen SCID-CID Gene Curation Expert Panel (GCEP).

Melinda Duer, Professor of Biological and Biomedical Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge, UK

Melinda Duer is Professor of Biological and Biomedical Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge. She has a broad range of research interests from the development of tissues, especially calcified tissues, to the molecular structure of the extracellular matrix and its roles in cell function and differentiation, to how and why the molecular structure of tissues changes in cancer, degenerative diseases, ageing. She integrates NMR spectroscopy with optical, Raman and electron microscopy and imaging to generate new understanding of how tissues function at a molecular and nanoscopic level. She founded a company, Cambridge Oncology Ltd in 2018 to realise the potential of the extracellular matrix-based therapeutics in cancer. She is a recipient of the Royal Society of Chemistry UK Interdisciplinary Prize (2017), Suffrage Science award (2019), and Société

Chimique de France Franco-Britannique Prix (2023). She engages the public on scientific matters both on radio and TV, as well as public lectures.

Nicole Soranzo, Professor of Human Genetics, Head of Genomics Research Centre - Population & Medical Genomics, Genomics, Research Group Leader, Human Technopole, Italy

Nicole Soranzo is Head of the Genomics Research Centre at Human Technopole (Milan, IT) since 2021. She has also been Senior Group Leader at the Wellcome Sanger Institute (Hinxton, UK) since 2017 and Professor of Human Genetics, School of Clinical Medicine, at the University of Cambridge, since 2015.

After completing her degree in Biological Sciences at the University of Milan in 1994, she obtained her PhD in Genetics and Biotechnology at the University of Dundee, UK. From 1999 to 2002, she carried out post-doctoral research at the University of Milan, and from 2002 to 2005 at University College in London, where she applied human genetics to study human evolution.

From 2005 to 2007 she worked as Senior Scientist at the Pharmacogenomics Department of Johnson and Johnson Pharmaceutical applying human genetics to improve drugs discovery and pharmacogenomics. She returned to the UK at the Sanger Institute, where she started her group in 2009. In 2013 she became adjunct faculty at the University of Cambridge School of Clinical Medicine, and in 2015 she was awarded a personal chair in Human Genetics. For her outstanding performance, she received many awards and honours as the Italian Female Researcher and Scientist of Impact, National Observatory for Women's Health, in 2016.

Nicole Soranzo studies how the human genome influences the risk of common diseases in the general UK population

Olli Silvennoinen, Director of Biocenter Finland, Finland

Olli Silvennoinen, MD, PhD is Director of Biocenter Finland and holds professorship of Microbiology and Immunology at Tampere University. Prior to his current position he has served as Director of Institute of Medical Technology in Tampere, Director of Institute of Biotechnology, and HiLIFE, Helsinki Institute of Life Science at University of Helsinki. Dr Silvennoinen received his MD and PhD degrees at University of Helsinki and clinical microbiology specialization at University of Tampere. During his postdoctoral training at St Jude Children's Research Hospital and New York University Medical School he was centrally involved in original characterization of the JAK-STAT pathway. His laboratory has continued to elucidate the molecular and structural mechanisms of JAK kinases and their targeting in malignancies and autoimmune diseases. These studies have identified the key regulatory function of the pseudokinase domain in both physiological and pathogenic JAK signaling, and the first inhibitors based on these concepts are now in clinics. Dr Silvennoinen has been active in developing research innovations in academic setting and in start-up companies. He has been visiting professor at University of California San Francisco and UC hub for innovation and entrepreneurship at UC Quantitative Biosciences 3 (QB3), at Yale University and Tianjin Medical University

Sharon Wolf, Head of the Electron Microscopy Unit at the Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel

Dr. Sharon Grayer Wolf earned her BA in chemistry at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and her MSc & PhD degrees in Structural Chemistry at the Weizmann Institute of Science under the supervision of Prof. Leslie Leiserowitz. She studied the structures of lipids at the air/water interface using grazing incidence diffraction at synchrotron sources. Dr. Wolf's postdoctoral training was with the late Kenneth H. Downing at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratories, and together with fellow postdoc Eva Nogales, they solved the first structure of tubulin by electron crystallography. Dr. Wolf returned to the Weizmann Institute in 1997 as a staff scientist in the Electron Microscopy Unit. Dr. Wolf was the Head of the EM Unit from 2014-2021, where she managed a group of 14 staff members. She is currently a Senior Research Fellow.

Dr. Wolf specializes in the field of three-dimensional imaging of biological cells using electron tomography. Together with her EM Unit colleague, Dr. Lothar Houben, and Prof. Michael Elbaum from the Department of Chemical & Biological Physics, she developed a method for imaging vitrified specimens using a scanning transmitted electron probe beam (first published in Nature Methods in 2014). This method provides unprecedented new detail from thicker regions of cells, as well as quantitative information on chemical content.

Stefanie M. Hauck, Head of Metabolomics and Proteomics Core and Research Unit Protein Science at Helmholtz Munich, Germany

Stefanie M. Hauck is Head of Metabolomics and Proteomics Core at Helmholtz Munich since 2020 and Head of Research Unit Protein Science at Helmholtz Munich since 2016. She holds a PhD in Biology and adopted mass spectrometry-based proteome profiling early in her career in a neuroscience context. Her interest is understanding of (complex) diseases, by identification of protein-centric systems perturbations, as well as by defining metabolite, protein and peptide signatures indicative for disease progression and prediction and she contributes analytical expertise and data to a broad area of research in the German Center of Environmental Health and beyond. She published more than 250 scientific papers, participates in the Human Plasma Proteome Project and is executive board member of the German proteomics society since 2013. She was recently elected to the board of directors of the society and co-organizes the HUPO conference (Dresden, 2024).