Prof. Dr. Susan M. Gasser

Susan Gasser is a group leader at the Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research (FMI) and Professor at the University of Basel. She was the FMI Director from 2004 to 2019, and will retire from the FMI at the end of 2020.

Susan studied at the University of Chicago, completed her PhD at the University of Basel under Gottfried Schatz, and worked as a postdoctoral fellow with Ulrich Laemmli at the University of Geneva. From 1986 to 2001, she was a research group leader at the Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research in Epalinges/Lausanne, and she was Professor of Molecular Biology at the University of Geneva from 2001 to 2004.

Research in the Gasser group has pioneered studies of long-range chromatin organization and its impact on DNA repair and replication, and its role in the epigenetic inheritance of cell fate. Specific areas of focus are nuclear compartmentation, chromatin dynamics in repair, and stress-induced epigenetic functions.

Susan has authored more than 250 primary articles and reviews and has received a number of awards, including the EMBO Women in Science Award 2012, the Weizmann Institute Women in Science Award 2013, the INSERM International Prize in 2011, and both the Otto Naegeli Award and the Gregor Mendel Medal in 2006. She was elected to the Académie de France, the German Academy Leopoldina and the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences, and holds two honorary doctorates. Susan chaired the EMBO Council, served as a member of the President’s Science and Technology Advisory Council of the European Commission, and currently serves on the Board of the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology and on a number of scientific advisory boards across Europe.

Program

09:00  Welcome

Session: Histones and Chromatin
(chair, Ueli Schibler)

09:15  Edith Heard | EMBL, Heidelberg, Germany
09:45  Carl Wu | John Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA
10:15  Anja Groth | BRIC, Copenhagen, Denmark

Session: Telomeres and Chromatin Dynamics
(chair, Daniela Rhodes)

11:15  Virginia Zakian | Princeton University, Princeton, USA
11:45  Titia De Lange | Rockefeller University, New York City, USA
12:15  Lunch break
13:30  Haico van Attikum | Leiden University, The Netherlands
14:00  Ana Pombo | Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Berlin, Germany

Session: Replication and Kinases
(chair, Erich Nigg)

14:30  John Diffley | Francis Crick Institute, London, UK
15:00  Paul Nurse | Francis Crick Institute, London, UK

Session: Chromosomes and Developmental Systems
(chair, Maria Leptin)

16:00  Denis Duboule | Université de Genève, Switzerland
16:30  Janet Rossant | University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada
17:00  Mark Fishman | Harvard Stem Cell Institute, Cambridge, USA
17:30  Musical interlude
18:00  Susan Gasser | FMI, Basel, Switzerland
18:45  Reception
The symposium is open to all interested scientists.

Please register online by May 29, 2020:
www.fmi.ch/gasser

If you have questions about the symposium, please contact Denise Schweizer, personal assistant of Susan Gasser at: directors.office@fmi.ch