

Laudation of Professor Peter Schirmacher

Peter Schirmacher received his MD degree in 1989 at the University of Mainz. He earned board certificates of pathology and molecular pathology in 1995 and 1996, respectively. He received his PhD degree in molecular pathology in 1991 at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. He served as the Deputy Director of the University of Cologne between 1998-2004. Since then he is full professor of pathology and director of the Institute of Pathology at Karls-Ruprecht University of Heidelberg.

Professor Schirmacher's main research fields include hepatology, oncology and molecular pathology with a special focus on the mechanisms, molecular diagnostics and classification of liver cancer. He is an internationally recognized authority on liver tumor pathology, whose work helped uncovering the mechanisms of resistance to the treatment of liver cancer. He published well over 600 papers, and his Hirsch-index is 66.

He is the founder of the centralized Biomaterial Bank in Heidelberg, and the coordinator of the Biobanking Platforms in the German Consortium for Translational Cancer Research and the German Center for Infectious Diseases Research. He became member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina in 2012.

He has been the board member and president of several professional societies, including the European Society of Pathology, the International Liver Cancer Association, the International Laennec Society of Liver Pathology, and the National Center of Tumor Diseases. He is the current president of the German Society of Pathology.

The collaboration between Professor Schirmacher and the 2nd Department of Pathology of Semmelweis University began more than 15 years ago. As a result, numerous joint papers were published, and DAAD grants were awarded. He gave several presentations at Hungarian conferences and Technology Transfer Meetings. In 2013 he initiated the German-Hungarian Symposium within the framework of the annual German Congress of Pathology.

Considering the very intensive scientific relations and the prospect of future collaborations, I am delighted to welcome Professor Peter Schirmacher to confer upon him the „Doctor Honoris Causa” title.