

Laudation for Professor Andrea Olschewski

Andrea Olschewski is currently in a Full Professor position for Experimental Anesthesiology at the Medical University of Graz in Austria. She studied medicine in Hungary in Debrecen, completed her clinical training in anesthesiology at the Justus Liebig University Giessen, Germany, where she earned a PhD in Physiology and subsequently completed her habilitation in anesthesiology.

She is now an internationally recognized expert for ion channels in the pulmonary circulation and for pulmonary vascular diseases. Accordingly, she was the leading author for pathobiology and pathophysiology of the pulmonary circulation at the last Cologne Consensus Conference on pulmonary hypertension and was an executive member of the corresponding working group of the last World Symposium on Pulmonary Hypertension in Nice, 2018. Her records contain over 130 publications (h-index 47), many of them in high impact journals. She successfully applied for more than € 20 million worth of peer-reviewed third-party funding from national and international sponsors (DFG, EU, Ludwig Boltzmann Society, FWF etc.) throughout the last fifteen years. Her scientific work has been awarded with several prizes.

After her appointment as a full professor in Graz, she successfully established a translational multidisciplinary research and training institute. Under her leadership, this Ludwig Boltzmann Institute became an internationally recognized research and training hub for young scientist. They received more than 30 national and international awards for their work. She has also implemented several additional bilateral collaborations e.g. with the Enyedi Group at Semmelweis University as well as with pharmaceutical companies (e.g. Encysive, Pfizer, Actelion, Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim).

In addition to her research activities, she served as a Dean for Doctoral Studies in Graz and headed the young medical faculty in Linz as a Vice-Rector for Medicine and Dean of the Medical Faculty at the Johannes Kepler University in Linz. In this position, she directed the establishment of the new Bachelor Program for Human Medicine and the Clinical Scientists and Advanced Clinical Scientists Research Training Programs.