Associate Editor Kurt Blaser

Kurt Blaser, Davos.

Kurt Blaser, PhD, is Professor Emeritus of Experimental Allergy at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. Currently, he is a Senior Professor within the Collaborative Research Center 'Allergic Immune Responses in the Lung' at the Philipps University Marburg, Germany. Kurt Blaser started his career as a technician and chemical engineer (Ing. Chem.) in the chemical industry. Later, he studied chemistry, biochemistry and physics at the University of Bern, Switzerland, where he also graduated as PhD with a thesis on the development of synthetic peptide allergens. After that, he spent two postdoctoral years at the Center for Cancer Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The University of Bern then appointed him the head of Molecular Immunology, and he made his lecture qualification in the medical faculty. His research activities were mostly in the field of cellular and molecular immunological mechanisms of IgE-mediated allergy in animal models and in the human model of bee venom allergy.

In 1988, Kurt Blaser was appointed director and founder of the Swiss Institute of Allergy and Asthma Research (SIAF) in Davos, Switzerland, which he guided for more than 20 years. There, he pursued his work on basic regulatory mechanisms in human ex vivo models of allergy, asthma and atopic dermatitis. This research was internationally acknowledged and demonstrated the T cell regulatory nature of allergic and non-allergic asthma, allergy and atopic dermatitis.

Kurt Blaser's work led to almost 300 highly cited publications in internationally reviewed journals and a large number of other papers and book chapters, which made him one of the ISI-Highly Cited Researchers in immunology. Under his guidance, a large number of PhD and MD students performed their thesis work, and many postdocs were successfully trained for their university career.

Kurt Blaser is a member of numerous national and international societies, among them the Collegium Internationale Allergologicum. He is honorary member of the Swiss Society of Allergy and Immunology, the German Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology and the Turkish Immunology Society. He was specially honored by the European Academy for Allergy Clinical Immunology, and was a recipient of the Paul Ehrlich Honorary Medal for basic allergy research and the Karl Hansen Medal for his efforts in the field of allergy.