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## Curriculum Vitae Professor Dr. Axel A. Brakhage

**Name:** Axel A. Brakhage  
**Born:** 20 June 1959  
**Family Status:** married



### Academic and Professional Career

- since 2005 Director, Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology –  
Hans Knöll Institute (HKI) – Jena, Germany
- since 2005 Head of Department Molecular and Applied Microbiology, HKI Jena, Germany
- since 2004 Full Professor and Chair of Microbiology and Molecular Biology, Institute of  
Microbiology, Friedrich Schiller University (FSU) Jena, Germany
- 2001 - 2004 Full Professor and Chair of Microbiology, University of Hanover, Germany
- 1998 - 2001 Associate Professor of Microbiology, Darmstadt University of Technology, Germany
- 1996 Habilitation in Microbiology, University of Munich, Germany
- 1992 - 1998 Assistant Professor, University of Munich, Germany
- 1990 - 1992 Postdoctoral researcher, DFG funded, The University of Sheffield, UK
- 1989 - 1990 Group leader, Research Department Biotechnology, BASF AG, Ludwigshafen, Germany
- 1989 Ph.D. in Microbiology, with distinction, University of Muenster and Institut de Biologie  
Physico-Chimique (IBPC) Paris, France

1985 studies Chemistry / Biology; Diploma in Biology, University of Muenster, Germany

### **Project coordination, Membership in collaborative research projects (Selection)**

2009 - 2012 Coordinator ERA-NET program ANTIFUN

since 2007 Coordinator of the Excellence Graduate School „Jena School for Microbial Communication“, Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Germany

2004 - 2010 Speaker DFG Priority Program 1160 "Colonisation and infection by human-pathogenic fungi"

2003 - 2009 Program Committee DFG Priority Program 1152 "Evolution of Metabolic Diversity"

2006 - 2008 Speaker "International Leibniz Research School for Microbial and Biomolecular Interactions" Jena, Germany

### **Functions in Scientific Societies and Committees (Selection)**

since 2008 Elected Member of the German Academy of Sciences (Deutsche Akademie Naturforscher Leopoldina)

2008 - 2015 Member of the University Council of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena

2003 - 2004 Dean Faculty of Biology, University of Hanover, Germany

### **Honours and Awarded Memberships (Selection)**

2012-2015 Speaker DFG panel 204 (Microbiology, Virology, Immunology)

2011 - 2013 Elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President of the "Vereinigung für Allgemeine und Angewandte Mikrobiologie (VAAM)"

since 2010 Representative of the Leibniz Association in the coordination board of the strategy process Biotechnology 2020+ (Federal Ministry of Education and Research)

since 2010 Scientific advisory board "Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI)", Braunschweig, Germany

since 2010 Scientific Advisory Board "Research Centre Borstel", Borstel, Germany

since 2009 Supervisory board of the DSMZ, Braunschweig, Germany

2009 - 2012 Scientific Advisory Board of "Centre for Infectious Diseases", U. Wuerzburg, Germany

2009 - 2011 Elected President VAAM

2008 - 2015 Elected Member of the DFG Panel "Microbiology"

2007 - 2009 Elected 1st Vice-President VAAM

2006 Seeliger-Award for Bacteriology and Mycology (Seeliger-Stiftung)

since 2005 Member of the Scientific Advisory Board "Goettinger Center for Molecular Bio / Sciences", University of Goettingen, Germany

2003 - 2011 Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of "Center for Microbial Biotechnology" DTU  
Copenhagen, Denmark

since 1998 Editor: Applied and Environmental Microbiology,  
Frontiers in Microbiology/Fungi and their interactions  
Editorial Board: Applied and Microbial Biotechnology, Molecular Microbiology, eLife,  
Current Genetics

### Major Scientific Interests

1. Pathobiology of the human-pathogenic fungus *Aspergillus fumigatus*; pathogenicity determinants, interaction with the immune system, immune evasion, proteome and transcriptome analyses
2. Molecular biology and biotechnology of the biosynthesis of fungal secondary metabolites; transcription factors, activation of silent gene clusters by genetic engineering, drug discovery, antibiotics
3. Fungal transcription factors (CCAAT binding complex, iron sensors), epigenetics related to histone modifications
4. Microbial communication; interaction of fungi and bacteria leading to the activation of silent gene clusters with the production of novel compounds; molecular mechanisms of cross talk
5. Systems biology of fungal infection