

MICHAEL J. WINGFIELD

ABRIDGED CURRICULUM VITAE - MARCH 2023

Personal details:

Michael John Wingfield, Advisor to the Executive of the University of Pretoria, Research Professor, Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI) Director, Born 21 April 1954.

Phone (home): +27-12-362 1692 (fax phone)
(work): +27-12-420 3938/ 3939
Mobile: +082-909 3137
Fax: +27-12-420 3960
E-mail: mike.wingfield@fabl.up.ac.za
Web Site: <http://fabinet.up.ac.za/>

SUMMARY

Mike Wingfield has a broad interest in biology and ecology, with his research increasingly over the years, lying at the intersections of disciplines such as mycology, plant pathology and entomology. The primary focus of his research has been on the health of forest trees, especially where trees have been affected by damage due to fungi and insects. In this regard, he has a specific interest in the microbes (particularly fungi) that are associated with insects and that (broadly) are found on trees and wood. He has been involved in research projects in many parts of the world, particularly those relating to the health of trees and determining the pathways of movement of the causal agents of tree disease. He has a strong belief that a comprehensive understanding of the biology and genetics of pathogens and pests is needed, in order to reduce their impact. This has provided the foundation for an intensive basic research programme using the most modern biotechnological tools. And it is also consistent with his commitment to science education and research excellence.

Education:

Harvard Business School, Advanced Management Programme, 2008.
Ph.D. (Plant Pathology and Entomology), University of Minnesota, USA, 1983.
M.Sc. *cum laude*, University of Stellenbosch, 1979.
B. Sc. (University of Natal, 1976) and B.Sc. (hons.), University of Natal, 1977.

Employment:

Department of Agriculture (1978-1988) up to Assistant Specialist Scientist; Associate Professor (1988-1990); Professor (1990-March 1998), University of the Free State, South Africa; Founding Director of the Tree Protection Co-operative Programme (TPCP) 1990-2018.
Professor (member of Senate) and founding Director of the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI), Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, University of Pretoria (1998-2018).
Director of the Centre of Excellence in Tree Health Biotechnology, one of the first six Department of Science and Technology funded, Centres of Excellence in South Africa (2004-2018).
Advisor to the Executive, University of Pretoria and FABI Research Professor (2018-present).

Board and committee appointments

- Senate Research Committee and Committee of the Academic Information Services, University of Pretoria (2006-2018).
- Advisory Committee of the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures, Netherlands (2003-2012).

- Board of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (Ministerial appointment) for four terms (2003-2005, 2006-2009, 2009-2012, 2012-2014).
- Research Committee of the Hans Merensky Foundation, 2003-present. Member of the Board of Trustees, 2020- present.
- Board of the International Union of Forestry Research Organisations (IUFRO) 2001- present; Member of Management Committee (Executive) 2006-present Vice President, 2010-2014.
- President of IUFRO 2014-2019. Immediate Past President 2019-2024.
- Board of Trustees, Hans Merensky Foundation, 2020- present.
- Marcus Wallenberg (Sweden) Prize Committee, 2020- present.

Major awards and recognition (selection):

President's award, Foundation for Research Development (1989-1992).

Senior Captain Scott Memorial Medal (1995).

Fellow of the Southern African Society for Plant Pathology (1995);

NRF 'A' rating (1996 and onwards to present).

Havenga Prize of the South African Academy for Arts and Science (1998).

Member, South African Academy of Science (1998).

Fellow, Royal Society of South Africa (1998).

National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF) 'lifetime" award (1998).

Christiaan Hendrik Persoon Medal, Southern African Society for Plant Pathology (1999).

Scientific Achievement Award, International Union of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO) Kuala Lumpur, August 2000.

Distinguished Alumnus Award, University of Minnesota, 2000.

Chancellor's Medal for Research, University of Pretoria, 2001 and 2007.

University of Pretoria Outstanding Achiever's Award 2002-present.

Gold Medal, Southern African Association for the Advancement of Science, 2005.

Laureatus Award, University of Pretoria, 2005.

Honorary membership, Mycological Association of America, 2006.

Chancellor's Medal for research,

Fellow, American Phytopathological Society, 2008.

Biotech Fundi Award, Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, 2009.

Johanna van Westerdijk Award, Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures (Netherlands Academy of Sciences) 2009.

Doctor of Science *Honoris Causa*, University of British Columbia, 2012.

Doctor of Science *Honoris Causa*, North Carolina State University, 2013.

Kwame Nkrumah Award, African Union, 2013.

Herschel Medal, Royal Society of South Africa, 2018.

National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF), International Year of Plant Health, Theme Award, 2020.

Doctor of Science *Honoris Causa*, University of the Free State, South Africa, 2022.

Frederick Harry Oppenheimer Fellowship of the Oppenheimer Memorial Trust, 2022.

Prestigious appointments:

Director, Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI), University of Pretoria (1998 – 2018).

Director, Tree Protection Co-operative Programme, University of the Orange Free State (1990-1997) and University of Pretoria (1998-2018).

President, Southern African Society for Plant Pathology (1990-1993);

Chair Forest Pathology Committee, International Society for Plant Pathology (1993-1998).

Foundation for Research Development Microbiology Collegium (1990-1991 and convenor, 1992);

Chair, IUFRO Working Party on Plant Pathogen Interactions (1996-2000);

Vice-President, International Society for Plant Pathology (1993-1998)
Mondi Paper Company Chair of Forest Pathology (1994-2017)
Review committee, Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures (CBS) Netherlands 2002,
International Union of Forestry Research Organisations (IUFRO) Deputy Coordinator
Division 7 (2002-2005) and Co-ordinator (2005-2010) and member of the IUFRO Scientific
Programme Committee for 2005 and 2010 IUFRO World Congresses.
Vice President of IUFRO (2010-2014), President (2014-2019), Immediate Past President
(2019-2024).
Advisor to the Executive, University of Pretoria (2018-2023).
Board of Trustees, Hans Merensky Foundation (2020- onwards).
Selection Committee, Marcus Wallenberg Prize, Sweden (2020- onwards).

Invited guest and speaker:

Universities, research institutions and congresses in South Africa, United States, Canada, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, Argentina, Ecuador, Indonesia (Sumatra, Suluwesi, Kalimantan), Malaysia, Vietnam, Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan, Japan, China, Thailand, Malaysia, England, Norway, Finland, Bhutan, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France-, Finland, in many countries on more than one occasion.

Publications, Presentations and Impact

One of approximately 10 South Africans on Clarivate list of most highly cited scientists every year from 2017.

Google h-index 117, Web of Science h-index (All 92; Core 87).

Publications in internationally recognised peer review journals - 1150

Chapters in books and conference proceedings - 95; Books 13

Presentations at International Congresses (in excess of 440).

Presentations at National Conferences (in excess of 650).

Editorial responsibilities (career long):

Editorial board of numerous mycology and plant pathology journals.

Reviewer for grant proposals for National Science Foundation (USA), Foundation for Research Development/National Research Foundation (South Africa).

Referee for tenure applications for numerous academic institutions globally.

Research and Science Advisory:

Advisory support primarily to forestry companies in many countries of the world on the health status of plantations and to develop strategies to resolve tree disease problems. Some relationships eg. Smurfit Kappa Colombia and Royal Golden Eagle, Indonesia/Brazil extending beyond 20 years.

Research grants and awards:

Research grants since 1993 from private forestry companies (globally), South African National Research Foundation (NRF), Department of Science and Innovation (South Africa), Department of Trade and Industry (South Africa), and various inter-governmental bilateral agreements.

Students advised and co-advised:

M.Sc. degrees as advisor or co-advisor, 83 completed.

Ph.D. degrees as advisor or co-advisor 116, completed.

A MORE COMPLETE OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES LINKED TO MY RESEARCH PROGRAMME CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB SITE OF THE FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE (FABI), UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA <http://fabinet.up.ac.za/>