

Curtis G. Gemmell, PhD



Curtis G. Gemmell, B.Sc, Ph.D, F.R.C.Path. is currently Emeritus Professor of Bacterial Infection and Epidemiology, University of Glasgow and Honorary Research Professor, University of Strathclyde.

Following his undergraduate and postgraduate studies at the University of Glasgow, he was appointed Lecturer in the Department of Microbiology in 1963 where his research focussed on the pathogenicity of *Staphylococcus aureus* and coagulase-negative staphylococci. In 1976 he was promoted to Senior Lecturer in Bacteriology in the University's Medical School based in Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Concomitantly he was appointed as Honorary Consultant, Greater Glasgow Health Board. In 1979-8 he spent twelve months as associate Professor in the Departments of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, University of Minnesota before returning to Glasgow. In 1984 he was made a Fellow of

the Royal College of Pathologists and promoted to Reader. Ten years later he became Professor of Bacterial Infection and Epidemiology. From 1992-98 he served on the Council of the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland and in 1998 he became Chairman of the UK Association of Clinical Microbiologists. In 1997 he was invited to become inaugural Director of the Meticillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) Reference Laboratory for Scotland and continued in this post until his retirement in 2006. However retirement from his full-time academic appointment at the University of Glasgow was followed by a four-year spell as Part-time Professor of Microbial Infection in the Medical School, University of St. Andrews and an appointment as Honorary Research Professor, University of Strathclyde.

From 2002-16 he served as Editor-in-Chief of Reviews in Medical Microbiology and from 2012-17 he was an International Expert Scientific Adviser to the Medical Research Council, Singapore.

Author of more than 230 peer review scientific papers and presenter of more than 200 posters at medical/scientific meetings worldwide.

Research interests during academic career have included studies on the toxins of *Staphylococcus aureus* and their role in pathogenicity, control of expression of bacterial toxins by sub-MIC levels of certain antibiotics, recognition of role of *Clostridium difficile* and its toxins in antibiotic associated colitis, interaction of antibiotics with polymorphonuclear leukocytes, recognition of role of *Helicobacter pylori* and its virulence factors in gastritis, epidemiological studies of meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) clones in Scotland, evaluation of

intervention strategies to control nosocomial spread of meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA).

His association with the International Immunocompromised Host Society began in 1982 as part of the organising committee for the second meeting of the group in Stirling, Scotland followed eight years later in the role of Chairman of the Organising Committee for the 6th Meeting in Peebles, Scotland. Subsequently he was elected to the ICHS Council and served as its Vice-chairman (1998-2000) and Chairman (2000-02)

Outwith academia, he has served on the Advisory Panels of several international pharmaceutical companies and following the formation of his own private consultancy company in 2001 he has continued to provide professional advice to biotechnology and healthcare companies in the UK and Europe.

Other interests include golf, horticulture and international travel.