

Maya Simionescu

President of the Section of Biological Sciences of the Romanian Academy



POSITIONS AND TITLES:

- Director, Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "N. Simionescu", Bucharest
- Visiting Professor, Yale University, School of Medicine, New Haven, USA
- Visiting Professor at McGill University, School of Medicine, Montreal, Canada
- Visiting Professor at Columbia University, New York, USA
- Borun Visiting Professor of Cardiology, University of California, Los Angeles, USA
- Member of the Romanian Academy
- Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences
- President of the Romanian Society for Cell Biology
- Executive President of the National Science and Art Foundation
- President of the Section of Biological Sciences, Romanian Academy,

EDUCATION

- 1954 - Baccalaureate, High School "Iulia Hasdeu", Bucharest
- 1959 - School of Biology, University of Bucharest
- 1978 - Doctor in Biological Sciences University of Bucharest

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| 1960-1971 | Institute of Endocrinology, Bucharest, Scientific Investigator |
| 1971-1973 | Rockefeller University, New York, USA, Research Associate |
| 1973-1979 | Yale University, School of Medicine New Haven, USA
Senior Research Associate and Lecturer in Cell Biology and Cytology |
| 1979-1994 | Yale University, Visiting Professor |
| 1979 | McGill University, Visiting Professor |
| 1990-1991 | Columbia University, Visiting Distinguished Professor |
| 1979-1995 | Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology, Bucharest,
Senior Scientific Investigator (grade I) |
| 1998-2006 | Romanian Academy, Vice-President |
| 1995-present | Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "N. Simionescu" - Director |

SPECIAL TRAINING IN CELL BIOLOGY

1970 - 1979 Rockefeller University, New York, NY, and Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA, Department of Cell Biology, Prof. George E. Palade (Nobel Prize Laureate)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Visiting Professor - 19 years at Yale University, USA: Cell Biology Course
5 years - University of Bucharest, University of Constanta, Romania

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 1978 - *The Louis and Arthur Lucian International Award for Research in Circulatory Diseases*-McGill University, Montreal, Canada
- 1987 - *Medal of the Institute of Clinical Electron Microscopy*, Bologna, Italy
- 1990 - 1991 - *Ludwig Schaefer Distinguished Professor*, Columbia University, USA
- 1990 - Correspondent Member of the Romanian Academy
- 1991 - Member of the Romanian Academy
- 1998 - Vice-president of the Romanian Academy
- 1998 - Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences
- 1998 - *Sanofi Thrombosis Prize* - for Atherosclerosis and Thrombosis Research
- 2000 - Doctor Honoris Causa of the University "Ovidius", Constanta, Romania
- 2000 - Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Medicine "Gr.T.Popa", Iasi, Romania
- 2000 - Award "*Serviciul credincios*" - *Great Crosse*, Romanian Presidency
- 2001 - Award "*Rio Branco – Comendador*", of the Brazilian Presidency
- 2001 - Honorary Member, Academy of Sciences of Moldova Republic
- 2001 - UNESCO - L'Oreal Special Honour Award for Women in Science
- 2004 - "*Ion Pavel*" Prize of the Romanian Academy of Medical Sciences
- 2004 - Award "*Cultural Merit*" - *Officer Degree* granted to the Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "N. Simionescu", Romanian Presidency
- 2005 - *Académica Correspondiente* de la Real Acadèmia de Doctors, Barcelona, Spain
- 2006 - Doctor Honoris Causa of the West University, Timisoara, Romania
- 2008 - National Order "*Steaua Romaniei*" - *Great Officer*, Romanian Presidency
- 2008 - "*Opera Omnia*" Prize, of the Romanian Ministry of Education and Research
- 2013 - National Order of the "*Legion d'Honneur*" - French Republic

MEMBER OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

- American Society for Cell Biology
- Romanian Society for Cell Biology (President)
- European Cell Biology Organization
- European Life Scientist Organization (Vice-President)

CONSULTANT FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

- National Institute of Health (NIH), Bethesda, USA
- National Science Foundation (NSF), Washington, USA
- Swiss National Science Foundation
- Wellcome Trust, United Kingdom
- Institute of Cardiology, Texas, Houston, TX, USA
- Dept. of Experimental Medicine, Pharmacia Biotechnology, Uppsala, Sweden
- Medical Research Council (MRC), London, United Kingdom
- INSERM - France
- Romanian Academy and the Ministry of Education and Research

EDITORIAL BOARDS

- 1977-1992 - Microvascular Research
- 1989-present - European Journal of Cell Biology
- 1989-present - Differentiation

1993-present - Cell and Tissue Research
1990-present - Sciences at Techniques de l'Animal de Laboratoire
1995-present - Journal of Submicroscopical Cytology and Pathology
1999-present - Biomedical Reviews
2004-present - Journal of Cellular and Molecular Medicine

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

Publications

Over **400 scientific papers** published in international peer review journals;

Citations ISI: about 6830; Hirsh Index: 40

- **55 chapters in international handbooks** (Elsevier, Annals of New York Academy of Science, Raven Press, William and Wilkins, Academic Press, Marcel Dekker, Springer International etc.);

- **2 monographs** published by Plenum Press (co-editor);

- **2 monographs** published in Romania

Chairperson and invited speaker (*plenary lectures*) at over 60 scientific international meetings.

A SCIENTIFIC SIDE PROJECT:

"A Romanian Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology"

Having a great desire to develop Cell Biology in Romania, in 1971 while in USA, Prof. Maya Simionescu together with Prof. Nicolae Simionescu initiated a daring project to create an Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology (ICBP) in Bucharest, Romania, designing a detailed structural plan and the scientific program. The main objectives of ICBP were: biomedical basic research, training scientists from the country, Ph.D. and post-doctoral programs, promotion of modern cell biology and pathology in Romania and facilitation of international exchanges. Since 1979 when officially opened, Maya Simionescu was responsible for the scientific program, trained directly all young scientists in the framework of a Ph.D. program, (many of them are now working abroad in Europe and USA).

In nearly 35 years of intensive research, ICBP became internationally recognised. Under the leadership of Maya Simionescu, since 1995, ICBP was re-elected as Institution member of **UNESCO-Molecular Cell Biology Network, Centre of Excellence of the Romanian Academy and of the Ministry of Education and Research** and was selected, by competition, **Centre of Excellence of the European Community**.