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IUIS Secretary-General

Direktor:
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Mainz, 11. April 2025

Concerning: Nomination of Prof. Wilfried ELLMEIER for IUIS Council 2025-2028

Dear Dr. Viola,

Dear members of the IUIS Executive Committee,

With this letter I would like to nominate Prof. Wilfried Ellmeier as a member for the IUIS Council 2025-2028. As outlined in the attached nomination letter, I am convinced that Wilfried Ellmeier is an excellent candidate for an IUIS council member.

Sincerely yours,



Nomination of Wilfried Ellmeier for the IUIS Council 2025-2028

It is my pleasure to nominate Wilfried Ellmeier as a council member 2025-2028 for IUIS. Wilfried Ellmeier is an internationally renowned scientist, Professor of Immunobiology and Head of the Institute of Immunology at the Medical University of Vienna, Austria. He studied biochemistry at the University of Vienna, carried out his doctoral thesis at the Research Institute of Molecular Pathology (IMP) in Vienna and performed postdoctoral studies at the Skirball Institute (NYU Medical Center) in New York. Subsequently, he established his independent research group in Vienna at the Institute of Immunology, Medical University of Vienna and was appointed full professor in 2007. His research interests focus on epigenetic and transcriptional control mechanisms that regulate T cell development, differentiation and function in health and disease. He made significant contributions in the field of transcriptional control of T cell development as well as on the role of histone deacetylases with over 100 publications, almost 13400 citations and an h-index of 49 (Google Scholar, April 2025). In several studies he showed that HDAC1 is a key driver for T cell-mediated autoimmune diseases. Since 2019, he also coordinates a big special research program consortium funded by the Austrian Science Fund on "Histone deacetylases as regulators of T cell-mediated immunity" that runs over a period of 8 years. He received several prizes including the START program award for highly-qualified young scientists from the Austrian Science Fund and the Novartis Award Austria for biology. Wilfried Ellmeier is corresponding member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and scientific board member of the Austrian Science Fund. In addition to his scientific accomplishments, he is also very involved in the education of the next generation of scientists, trained more than 20 PhD students and is coordinator of the PhD program Immunology at the Medical University of Vienna.

Wilfried is highly active within the scientific community at a national and international level, as well. He serves as the current President of the Austrian Society of Allergology and Immunology (ÖGAI). He also has a strong interest in science policy and served as President (2020-2021) of the BioMed Alliance in Europe, an umbrella organization of 35 European Medical and Research Societies that together represent more than 400.000 members. More importantly with respect to the IUIS Council, he is chair of the Scientific Program Committee of IUIS2025 which will take place in Vienna in August 2025. In this role he is already very active within IUIS and knows IUIS very well.

Due to his scientific achievements, his strong commitment in educational activities and his continuous interest in and activities for the scientific (immunological) community, I am convinced that Wilfried Ellmeier (who agrees to be nominated) is an excellent candidate for an IUIS Council member.

Sincerely yours,



Univ.-Prof. Dr. med. Tim Sparwasser,
Institute for Medical Microbiology and Hygiene
University of Mainz

April 11, 2025

Academic curriculum vitae: Wilfried ELLMEIER

Date of Birth: September 9, 1966
Place of Birth: Mödling
Nationality: Austrian
Acad. Degree: Mag.Dr. (Ph.D), Professor
Current Position: Full Professor of Immunobiology, Head of the Institute of Immunology
Address: Institute of Immunology, Center for Pathophysiology, Infectiology and Immunology, Medical University of Vienna, Lazarettgasse 19, 1090 Vienna, Austria, Tel: +43-1-40160-33293; e-mail: wilfried.ellmeier@meduniwien.ac.at
Web: www.ellmeierlab.org; <http://www.meduniwien.ac.at/immunologie/ellmeier>
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8192-8481>

Main Research Interests

Regulation of T cell-mediated immunity in health & disease. Current research topics include:

- How do histone deacetylases (HDACs) control T cell-mediated immunity?
- What are the regulatory mechanisms that control effector T cell differentiation and function in tissues?
- How is T cell lineage identity and integrity maintained in tissues?

The experimental strategies to address our research interests include multi-color flow-cytometry, a variety of immunological tools, biochemical and molecular approaches, retroviral-mediated gene transduction into hematopoietic stem cells, next generation sequencing and mouse molecular genetics tools.

Scientific Education and Career History

1985	University entrance qualification, HTL-Mödling; with distinction
1985 – 1990	Studies in Biochemistry, University of Vienna; with distinction
1989 – 1990	Diploma thesis at the Institute for Molecular Pathology (IMP) in Vienna
1990 – 1994	Doctoral studies, University of Vienna; PhD Thesis performed at the Institute for Molecular Pathology (IMP) in Vienna; with distinction
1995 – 1999	Postdoctoral Fellow in Dan Littman's laboratory, Skirball Institute, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, New York University Medical Center, New York, NY, USA
Since 2000	Group Leader, Institute of Immunology, University of Vienna
12/2002	Habilitation in Immunology, University of Vienna Medical School
2005 – 2007	Associate Professor (a.o.Univ.Prof), Medical University of Vienna
Since 07/2007	Full Professor of Immunobiology

Career-related Fellowships (selected)

1995 – 1997	Erwin-Schrödinger Postdoctoral Fellowship, FWF
2000 – 2002	APART Habilitation Fellowship, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Supervision of Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows

Since 2000	Supervisor of 10 Postdocs, 22 PhD students (18 already finished), 8 master students
Fellowships and prizes won by lab members	<u>Postdoctoral fellowships:</u> German Research Foundation. <u>PhD fellowships:</u> DOC - Austrian Academy of Sciences; Schering foundation; L'Oreal fellowship – women in Science – Austria; <u>Prizes:</u> Karl Landsteiner prize (3x); Sanofi-Aventis prize (3x); Best dissertation award (3x)

Teaching Coordination Activities (selected)

Since 2008	Program coordinator of MedUni Wien PhD program "Immunology" (it is one of the largest thematic programs): www.meduniwien.ac.at/phd-immunology
2010 - 2020	Deputy speaker: FWF/MedUni Wien PhD program "Inflammation and Immunity"

Institutional Responsibilities (Experience in Scientific Management and Organization) (selected)

2011 - 2020	Speaker MedUni Vienna "Immunology Research Cluster (IRC)"
2019 - now	Speaker and coordinator of the FWF SFB-F70 (Special Research Program)
2020 - now	Deputy Head of the Center for Pathophysiology, Infectiology and Immunology
10/2020 - now	Head of the Institute of Immunology
09/2021 – 07/2024	Head of the MedUni Wien "Core Facility Laboratory animal breeding and husbandry"

Commission of Trust (selected)

2000 - now	Reviewer for Nature, Nature Immunology, Science Immunology, Nature Medicine, Immunity, Journal of Experimental Medicine, EMBO Journal, Journal of Immunology, European Journal of Immunology, Frontiers in Immunology, Immunology Letters, etc.
2000 - now	Grant reviewer for MRC (UK), Telethon (Italien), ANR (France), Dutch Reumafonds, Czech Science Foundation, BBSRC (UK)
2005 - 2019	Member: Austrian Academy of Sciences APART and DOC fellowship committee
2014 - now	Academic Editor of FEBS Letters
2018 -2023	President elect (2018-2019), President (2020-2021) and past-president (2022-2023) of the Biomedical Alliance in Europe
2019 -	Scientific Board member of the Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
10/2021	Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Doctoral School RESPIimmun
2022 - now	Member of the Scientific Cluster Advisory Board, Charite Berlin
06/2023 - now	Member of the Strategic Advisory Board of the ERA4Health funding program
2024	Chair of the health research committee of the Biomedical Alliance in Europe
2024	Member of the MedUni Wien Senat
2024	Co-speaker of the MedUni Wien Professors
2025 - 2026	President Austrian Society for Allergy and Immunology
01/2025 - 12/2029	Member of the Austrian "Gentechnikkommission"

10 Most Important Publications

100 scientific papers (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=ellmeier+w&sort=date>). Based on Google Scholar, the publications received more than >13000 citations with a current life-time Hirsch *h*-index of 49.

1. **Ellmeier W***, Sunshine MJ, Maschek R and Littman, DR (2002). Combined deletion of CD8 locus cis-regulatory elements affects initiation but not maintenance of CD8 expression. *Immunity* 16, 623-634. *corresponding author (from the transition phase postdoc/independent principal investigator)
2. Bilic I, Koesters C, Unger B, Sekimata M, Hertweck A, Maschek R, Wilson, CB and **Ellmeier, W** (2006). Negative regulation of CD8 expression via Cd8 enhancer-mediated recruitment of the zinc finger protein MAZR. *Nat Immunol.* 7, 392-400, doi:10.1038/ni1311.
3. Raberger J, Schebesta A, Sakaguchi S, Boucheron N, Blomberg EM, Bergloe A, Kolbe T, Smith CIE, Rülcke T and **Ellmeier W.** (2008). The transcriptional regulator PLZF induces the development of CD44 high memory phenotype T cells. *PNAS* 105, 17919-17924, doi:10.1073/pnas.0805733105.
4. Sakaguchi S, Hombauer M, Bilic I, Naoe Y, Schebesta A, Taniuchi I and **Ellmeier, W.** (2010). The zinc-finger protein MAZR is part of the transcription factor network that controls the CD4 versus CD8 lineage fate of double-positive thymocytes. *Nat Immunol.* 11, 442-448, doi:10.1038/ni.1860. (selected in the News & Views section).
5. Hassan H, Sakaguchi S, Tenno M, Kopf A, Boucheron N, Carpenter AC, Egawa T, Taniuchi I and **Ellmeier, W.** (2011). Cd8 enhancer E8I and Runx factors regulate CD8alpha expression in activated CD8+ T cells. *PNAS* 108, 18330-18335, doi:10.1073/pnas.1105835108.
6. Boucheron N, Tschisnarov R, Goeschl L, Moser MA, Lagger S, Sakaguchi S, Winter M, Lenz F, Vitko, D, Breitwieser FP, Haust L, Hassan H, Bennett KL, Colinge J, Schreiner W, Egawa T, Taniuchi I, Matthias P, Seiser C and **Ellmeier W*** (2014). CD4(+) T cell lineage integrity is controlled by the histone deacetylases HDAC1 and HDAC2. *Nat Immunol.* 15, 439-448, doi:10.1038/ni.2864. (*shared senior-authorship).
7. Göschl L, Preglej T, Hamminger P, Bonelli M, Andersen L, Boucheron N, Gulich AF, Müller L, Saferding V, Mufazalov IA, Hirahara K, Seiser C, Matthias P, Penz, T, Schuster M, Bock C, Waisman A, Steiner G. and

- Ellmeier, W** (2018). A T cell-specific deletion of HDAC1 protects against experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis. *J Autoimmun.* 86, 51-61, doi:10.1016/j.jaut.2017.09.008.
8. Andersen L, Gülich AF, Alteneder M, Preglej T, Orola MJ, Dhele N, Stolz V, Schebesta A, Hamminger P, Hladik A, Floess S, Krausgruber T, Faux T, Andrabi SBA, Huehn J, Knapp S, Sparwasser T, Bock C, Laiho A, Elo LL, Rasool O, Lahesmaa R, Sakaguchi S and **Ellmeier W** (2019). The Transcription Factor MAZR/PATZ1 Regulates the Development of FOXP3+ Regulatory T Cells. *Cell Rep.* 29(13):4447-4459.e6. doi: 10.1016/j.celrep.2019.11.089
 9. Preglej T, Hamminger P, Luu M, Bulat T, Andersen L, Göschl L, Stolz V, Rica R, Sandner L, Waltenberger D, Tschisnarov R, Faux T, Boenke T, Laiho A, Elo LL, Sakaguchi S, Steiner G, Decker T, Bohle B, Visekruna A, Bock C, Strobl B, Seiser C, Boucheron N and **Ellmeier W** (2020). Histone deacetylases 1 and 2 restrain CD4+ cytotoxic T lymphocyte differentiation. *JCI Insight* 5(4). pii: 133393. doi: 10.1172/jci.insight.133393.
 10. Zhu, C., Boucheron, N., Al-Rubaye, O., Chung, B. K., Thorbjørnsen, L. W., Kocher, T., Schuster, M., Claudel, T., Halilbasic, E., Kunczer, V., Muscate, F., Cavanagh, L. L., Waltenberger, D., Lercher, A., Ohradanova-Repic, A., Schatzlmaier, P., Stojakovic, T., Scharnagl, H., Bergthaler, A., Stockinger, H., Huber, S., Bock, C., Kenner, L., Karlsen, T. H., **Ellmeier, W.***, and Trauner, M.* (2025). 24-Nor-ursodeoxycholic acid improves intestinal inflammation by targeting T(H)17 pathogenicity and transdifferentiation. *Gut*, gutjnl-2024-333297. doi: 10.1136/gutjnl-2024-333297. (*shared senior-authorship),(selected for Editorial comment).

Additional Scientific/Scholarly Research Achievements

Awards & Prizes (selected)

- 06/2001 START Prize of the Austrian Science Fund (most prestigious prize in Austria for young scientists; similar to ERC Starting Grant), 1110 k€ for 5 years
- Since 05/2012 Corresponding member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

Organization of Scientific Meetings (membership in the steering and/or program committee)(selected)

- Co-organizer of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Harald von Boehmer Midwinter Conference “Advances in Immunobiology”, 2017, 2019, 2024 Seefeld, Austria.
- Scientific program committee member of the European Congress of Immunology 2021, Belgrade, Serbia and 2024, Dublin, Ireland
- Chair of the scientific program committee, IUIS2025 Congress in Vienna, 17.-22.8. 2025 (World Congress of Immunology)

Invited presentations to conferences and/or international advanced schools (selected)

- 09/2022: Invited talk at the Joint Meeting of the German Society for Immunology (DGfI) the Austrian Society for Allergology and Immunology (ÖGAI), Hannover, Germany.
- 05/2024: Invited talk at the International ThymE meeting “T cell & thymus biology”, Porto, Portugal
- 10/2024: Invited talk at “Immunocon 2024” of the Indian Immunology Society, Bangalore, India

Research Funding (selected)

Since 2000, I was able to finance my laboratory with 24 internationally peer-reviewed research grants: total funding approx. > 8800 k€. Among the research grants was the highly competitive START prize 2001 of the Austrian Science Fund (similar to an ERC Starting Grant; 1100 k€/5years) and 2 special research programs (SFBs) of the FWF (only SFB funding directly to the Ellmeier group – either for coordination or subproject - has been included in the 8000 k€). One recent major funding is provided by the following grant:

- 03/2019 – Speaker and Coordinator of an Austrian Science Fund (FWF) Special Research Program: SFB-02/2027 F70. Project title: Histone deacetylases as regulators of T-cell-mediated immunity. Funding for Ellmeier: 2331k€ (coordination project) & 780k€ (sub-project) (Funding for the whole network of 8 research groups: 8930k€)

Review writing (selected)

- **Ellmeier, W.** and Seiser, C. (2018). Histone deacetylase function in CD4⁺ T cells. *Nature Reviews Immunology*, 18, 617-634; doi: 10.1038/s41577-018-0037-z.



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Prof. João P. B. Viola
IUIS Secretary General

Vienna, April 14, 2025

Regarding: IUIS Council

Dear IUIS Executive Committee members!
Dear IUIS Constituents!

With this letter I would like to express my great interest in becoming a member of the IUIS Council. I am a Professor of Immunobiology and head of the Institute of Immunology at the Medical University of Vienna, Austria. Although I was trained as a biochemist, ever since my postdoctoral studies I am working in the field of immunology. My research interests focus on understanding molecular and cellular mechanisms that regulate the development, differentiation and function of T cells.

In my role as Chair of the Scientific Program Committee for the IUIS2025 congress in Vienna, I have had the great honor and opportunity to work with many colleagues from the IUIS family over the past two years. This has been and still is an exciting experience and I really appreciate the working-together spirit of IUIS. Therefore, I would like to continue working within the IUIS network in the coming years and contribute to strengthen the field of immunology, immunological research as well as the education & training of the next generation of scientists worldwide.

I have always been interested in bringing the scientific community together and to work with different stakeholders on common aims and tasks – either as the current president of the Austrian Society of Allergology and Immunology (ÖGAI) or at an international level as the former president of the Biomedical Alliance in Europe (an umbrella association of 35 (bio)medical societies that together represent more than 400.000 researcher and health professionals). I would like to bring in my expertise and experience from working in these associations to the IUIS community and contribute to the important goals and objectives of IUIS. It goes without saying that I am fully committed to actively participate in and support the various activities of IUIS.

It would be a great honor to be elected and to serve as a member of the IUIS Council in the coming years.

With best wishes from Vienna,

Wilfried Ellmeier