

Claudio De Virgilio

Department of Biology, University of Fribourg

Biographical sketch

Claudio De Virgilio studied biology at the University of Basel (Switzerland), where he did his diploma work on trehalose metabolism in the fission yeast *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*. After this short encounter with fission yeast, he continued to study the role of trehalose for the development of thermotolerance in budding yeast (*i.e. Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) and obtained his Ph.D. in 1993. In 1998, following postdoctoral studies on yeast cell polarity in the laboratory of John Pringle at the University of Chapel Hill (North Carolina, USA), Claudio De Virgilio became an independent group leader and lecturer at the University of Basel. In 2001, he was nominated Swiss National Foundation Professor and joined the Faculty of Medicine in Geneva, where he developed his new passion for signalling pathways that control entry into and exit from G₀ in yeast. Since 2007, he pursues his research as full professor at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland). In this context, his studies (and the ones of others) have uncovered that the nutrient-regulated hub TORC1 (for target of rapamycin complex 1) orchestrates both entry into and exit from G₀. His current research is specifically focused on the elucidation of both the mechanisms that regulate TORC1 activity and the nature of the effectors that are regulated by TORC1 in yeast. Notably, hyperactivation of mammalian TORC1 (mTORC1) has been implicated in a number of cancers and cancer predisposition hypertrophic syndromes. Identification of the conserved pathways that impinge on, or that are regulated by TORC1, are therefore likely to significantly contribute not only to the basic understanding of these fundamental processes, but also to the development of both diagnostic and therapeutic tools for the treatment of diseases associated with hyperactivated mTORC1.

Short CV

Name: De Virgilio, Claudio
Date of birth: 28. 7. 1964
Citizenships: Switzerland and Italy

Professional address: Department of Biology, University of Fribourg
Chemin du Musée 10, 1700 Fribourg

Phone: +41 26 300 86 56

E-mail: Claudio.DeVirgilio@unifr.ch;

Web-Page: <http://www.unifr.ch/biology/research/devirgilio/>

Degrees: 1998: Habilitation (University of Basel)
1993: Ph.D. thesis (Faculty of Sciences; University of Basel)
1989: Diploma in Biology (University of Basel)
1983: Maturity, Type B (Realgymnasium Basel)

Professional history: 2007- now : Full Professor, University of Fribourg
2001-2006 : SNF Professor, University of Geneva, CMU
1998-2001 : PI, University of Basel, Institute of Botany
1996-1998 : Postdoc University of Basel, Institute of Botany

1994-1996 : Postdoc University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
1993-1994 : Postdoc University of Basel, Institute of Botany
1989-1993 : Ph.D. studies University of Basel
1983-1989 : Studies of Biology University of Basel

Distinctions: Prix Leenaards (2007), SNF Professorship (2001), NETS Prize (2001), 1st prize of the Kanton Baselland for applied research (2000)

Publications (75): Google Scholar indices: *citations*: 9324; *h-index*: 47;
average citations/article: 124
<https://scholar.google.ch/citations?user=IY6Q3tUAAAAJ&hl=de>

Web of Science indices: *citations*: 6568; *h-index*: 42;
average citations/article: 100
<http://www.researcherid.com/rid/B-4707-2012>

Patent: PCT WO 00/47749

Other functions: Board member of the Novartis Foundation for Medical and Biological Research (since 2017), evaluation committee of the Swiss National Foundation Eccellenza Awards (2018), editorial board of FEMS Yeast Research (since 2016), committee member of the Swiss Microbiology Society Mycology section (since 2010), member of the committee for research promotion of the University of Fribourg (since 2009)