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## Curriculum Vitae Professor Dr. Iain W. Mattaj



**Name:** Iain William Mattaj

**Born:** 5 October 1952

### Academic and Professional Career

- since 2005 Director General, European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)
- 1999 - 2005 Scientific Director, European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)
- 1990 - 2005 Programme Coordinator, Gene Expression Programme (EMBL)
- 1985 - 1990 Group Leader at EMBL
- 1982 – 1985 Postdoctoral Research at the Biocenter, University of Basel with Dr. Eddy De Robertis
- 1979 - 1982 Postdoctoral research at the Friedrich-Miescher-Institute, Basel, with Dr. Jean-Pierre Jost
- 1978 - 1979 Postdoctoral research at the University of Leeds, Dept. of Genetics, UK
- 1974 - 1978 Postgraduate studies at the University of Leeds, Dept. of Genetics, UK with Dr. John Wootton
- 1970 - 1974 Undergraduate studies at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland

### Functions in Scientific Societies and Committees

- 2010 - 2011 FET (Future and Emerging Technologies) Flagships Science Coordination Group, Brussels
- since 2010 EMBO Scientific Publications Advisory Board
- 2009 - 2010 Chair of the European Intergovernmental Scientific Research Organisation forum (EIROforum)
- since 2008 Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of the DKFZ – ZMBH Alliance

- since 2008 Chair of the Advisory Board for the Wellcome Trust Centre for Gene Regulation and Expression, Dundee, Scotland
- 2007 - 2010 Member of the Scientific Planning Committee, UK-Centre for Medical Research and Innovation
- since 2007 Member, and from 2010 Chair, Scientific Advisory Board "Institut Curie", France
- 2007 - 2010 President of the European Life Sciences Forum (ELSF)
- since 2006 Member of the European Commission's Framework Programme 7 Advisory Group for Health Research
- since 2006 Member of the Scientific Committee of the "Stiftung Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum Heidelberg"
- since 2006 President of the Scientific Advisory Board of IGBMC, Illkirch, France
- since 2006 CIMERA Scientific Advisory Board, Fundación Caubet-CIMERA, Illes Balears, Spain
- since 2005 Member of the Scientific Council, Cancer Research UK London Research Institute
- since 2005 Member of the Scientific Advisory Board, Gene Center, Ludwig Maximilians Universität, Munich, Germany
- 2003 - 2005 Cancer Research UK senior scientific promotions panel
- since 2002 Biogem Ariano Irpinio, Naples, Italy
- 2001 - 2004 EMBO Young Investigator Programme Selection Committee
- since 2001 Institute for Molecular Medicine, Lisbon, Portugal
- since 2001 Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG), Barcelona, Spain
- 2001 - 2010 Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology, University of Edinburgh, UK
- 2000 - 2003 French Government "Genopole" Programme review committee
- 2000 - 2001 Managing Board of E-Biosci, the European electronic publishing initiative
- since 2000 Wellcome Trust / MRC / University of Dundee, Institutes of Biochemistry and Cell Biology (Chair)
- 2000 - 2009 Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology, Tübingen (Chair), Germany
- 1998 - 2001 President-Elect and President of the RNA Society

### **Honours and Awarded Memberships**

- 2010 Honorary Doctorate, University of Edinburgh, UK
- 2010 Recipient of the Science and Society Award of the Italian Chemical Society
- 2006 Honorary Professor, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Germany

since 2006	Member of the Science Committee for the Louis-Jeantet Prize for Medicine
2006 - 2010	Member of the Life Sciences Search Committee for the Körber Prize
2005	Delivered the “Severo Ochoa Commemorative Lecture” marking the centenary of Ochoa’s birth in Madrid, Spain
2005	Elected member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
since 2003	Curator of the Lautenschläger Research Prize
since 2002	Trustee of the Darwin Trust, a charitable trust dedicated to supporting young scientists from developing countries
2001	Elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences
2001	Awarded Honorary Membership of the Japanese Biochemical Society on presentation of the “President’s Symposium Plenary Lecture”
2001	Awarded the Louis-Jeantet Prize for Medicine
2001	Awarded the Caledonian Research Foundation/RSE prize lectureship
2000	Elected “Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, FRSE”
1999	Elected “Fellow of the Royal Society, FRS”
1999	Elected member of Academia Europaea
1990	Awarded the FEBS Anniversary Prize
1989	Elected member of EMBO

### Major Scientific Interests

Iain Mattaj’s early work centered on a group of ribonucleoprotein particles, the U snRNPs, that function in the processing of messenger RNA precursors.

His analyses of these RNPs spanned a variety of topics including transcription of the RNA components, RNA-protein interactions, function of the RNPs in messenger RNA production and assembly of the RNPs from their component parts *in vivo*.

This work led to numerous studies of transport of RNA and proteins between the cell nucleus and cytoplasm. Mattaj’s group identified numerous factors and mechanisms involved in this important process.

Iain Mattaj’s most recent work is focused on aspects of the regulation of processes that occur during cell division, including spindle formation and nuclear envelope breakdown and reassembly.