

Professor Tim SKERN

- **Personalia**

Born 11.07.1956 in Hull, England. British & Austrian citizen. Married, two children.

- **Education**

Educated at Bridlington School, England. Studied biochemistry at Liverpool (1974-1977; B.Sc. Hons., First Class) & London (1977-1981: Ph.D) Universities. Habilitation in biochemistry at the University of Vienna in 1995.

- **Employment**

Post-doctoral research at the Institute of Biochemistry, Medical Faculty, University of Vienna (1982-1985 & 1987-1991). Research Scientist at Transgene SA, Strasbourg (1985-1987). University Assistant at the Medical Faculty, University Vienna (1991-2002) & Medical University Vienna (2003-date). "Ausserordentlicher Professor" since 1997. 7 month sabbatical leave at Univ. Cape Town (2005). Head of Division 2009-2013.

- **Teaching**

Lectures in **virology** to science & medical students. Lectures, seminars & practicals in **biochemistry** to medical & science students. **Scientific English** to science & medical under- and post-grads. **The importance of science in medicine** to medical students. I designed & developed the courses on virology & scientific English myself. Supervision of **25 master students & 20 graduate students**.

- **Scientific publications and lectures**

84 peer-reviewed publications in excellent virological & biochemical journals, two books (**Coffee House Notes on Virology, Writing Scientific English**), several reviews & book chapters. Well over **60 guest lectures** & conference talks. **8 invited talks** at international conferences.

- **Research field**

Interaction of viruses and host cells, understanding how **RNA viruses manipulate host protein synthesis**, using the error-prone nature of **RNA viral replication** as an investigative tool, analysis of **structure and function of viral proteins**.

- **Research highlights**

Determining how **picornaviral proteases** control translation of **host cell mRNA** in the infected cell as well as the **three-dimensional structures** of **various viral proteins** by X-ray crystallography & NMR. Analysis of **flavivirus replication** in mammalian and arthropod cells.

- **Extra-curricular activities**

Editor Archives of Virology, Member **ICTV Study Group** on Picornaviruses, Board member of **Dialog Gentechnik**, providing balanced information on gene technology & life sciences to the general public.