

## Susan M. GASSER



### Introduction & Professional experience

From 2004 to 2019, Susan M. Gasser was the Director of the Friedrich Miescher Institute (FMI) for Biomedical Research, in Basel, Switzerland, supported by the Novartis Research Foundation. There she continued as an FMI research group leader until the end of 2020. On February 1, 2021, she became the Director of the ISREC Foundation, based in Lausanne, which is dedicated to translational cancer research. She served on the Board of Directors of the Genomics Institute of the Novartis Foundation in La Jolla, California, is member of the Board of Directors of the ETH Domain in Switzerland and served on the Nestlé Nutrition Council from 2008 – 2018. She is currently chairing the Strategic Committee of the Helmholtz Institutes of Health Sciences, Germany, and serves on the European Molecular Biology Council and the Swiss Science Council, advising the Department of Research, Education and Innovation in Switzerland.

Susan Gasser is a molecular biologist whose research combined genetics, in vivo imaging and multi-omic analyses to probe the role of chromatin and nuclear organization in cell fate decisions and genome stability. She is an expert in the molecular genetics and cell biology of budding yeast and the nematode, *C. elegans*. As Director of the FMI and ISREC Foundation she has overseen biomedical research in neurobiology, organoid biology, epigenetics and precision oncology. She held professorships at the University of Geneva, the University of Basel and currently at the University of Lausanne. She was elected to the US Academy of Sciences, l'Académie de France, EMBO, the German Academy of Science and the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences. Among other awards she received the INSERM International Prize, the FEBS | EMBO Women in Science Award, the Weizmann Institute Women in Science award, the Otto Naegeli award for biomedical research and honorary doctorates from Universities of Lausanne, Fribourg, Geneva and the Charles University of Prague.

### Education

Prof. Susan Gasser pursued her studies at the University of Chicago with an Honors thesis in Biophysics and completed her PhD at the University of Basel in Biochemistry in 1982. She studied chromatin and chromosome organization in health and disease as a Group leader at the Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research (ISREC) in Lausanne, as professor of Molecular Biology at the University of Geneva, and at the FMI in Basel.

### **Selected external appointments**

Director of the ISREC Foundation, Lausanne, Switzerland	<i>since 2021</i>
Swiss representative, European Molecular Biology Council, Heidelberg, Germany	<i>since 2022</i>
Member, Gairdner Prize Award committee, Toronto, Canada	<i>2015-2022</i>
Member, Crick Institute Review and Scientific Advisory Board, London, UK	<i>since 2016</i>
Member, Swiss Wissenschaftsrat (Swiss Science Council, SSC), Bern	<i>2016-2024</i>
Member, ETH Board (Governing Board of the ETH Domain), Switzerland	<i>since 2018</i>
Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Inst. of Quantitative Biology, U. of Tokyo, Japan	<i>since 2018</i>
Chair, Strategic Board of the Helmholtz Society Health Program, Germany	<i>2019-2027</i>
Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Biozentrum, University of Basel, Switzerland	<i>since 2020</i>
Board of Trustees, IST, Austria	<i>2020-2022</i>
Chair, International Review Board for ONCODE Network, NL	<i>since 2020</i>
Member, Scientific Advisory Board of VIB, Belgium	<i>since 2021</i>
Member, Scientific Advisory Board, CABIMER, Sevilla, Spain	<i>since 2022</i>
Member, International Advisory Board of IIMCB, Warsaw, Poland	<i>since 2022</i>
Board of Directors, UCB SA, Brussels, Belgium	<i>since 2021</i>
Scientific advisor, VI Partners AG, Switzerland	<i>since 2021</i>
Policy Committee of the European Academy of Cancer Sciences (EACS)	<i>since 2022</i>