

Curriculum vitae

Prof. Dr. Simone Sommer

Institute Evolutionary Ecology and Conservation Genomics, Ulm University, Germany.

Position: Chair, Institute Director Evolutionary Ecology and Conservation Genomics & Head of EcoHealth Unit.

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Major research interests

- Consequences of anthropogenic impact and associated ecological changes on wildlife health and zoonotic infections: shifts in population ecology and genetics, infection prevalence and intensity, host-pathogen interactions, co-infection networks and emerging zoonotic diseases
- Gut and skin microbial (microbiome) diversity and function, host–microbiome interactions, effects of dysbiosis on pathogen prevalence and associated fitness consequences
- Importance of adaptive immune gene diversity (MHC, TLR) in evolutionary processes: pathogen resistance, behavioural ecology and conservation

Academic Education and Degrees

1987-1989 Studies of Biology, Ruprecht-Karls-University Heidelberg, Germany.

1990-1994 Studies of Biology, Eberhard-Karls-University Tübingen, Germany.

1995-1997 PhD, Eberhard-Karls-University Tübingen, Germany.

28. Jan 2004 Habilitation in Zoology, Hamburg University, Germany.

03. Feb 2004 *Venia legendi* for Zoology and Animal Conservation, Hamburg University, Germany.

08. Nov 2006 *Venia legendi* for Evolutionary Ecology, Potsdam University, Germany.

Professional Career

Since 2014 **Full Professor (W3)**, Director, **Evolutionary Ecology and Conservation Genomics, Ulm University, Germany.**

2013 **Call declined: Full Professor (W3), Molecular Ecology and Evolution**, Potsdam University, Germany.

2007 - 2013 **apl Professor, Evolutionary Ecology**, Potsdam University, Germany.

2006 - 2013 **Department Head, Evolutionary Genetics**, Leibniz-Institute for Zoo- and Wildlife Research (IZW), Berlin.

2005 **Visiting Scientist**, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Stellenbosch University, South Africa, Dept Genomics & Conservation Biology: Evolutionary genetics and gastrointestinal parasites of South African mammals.

2002 - 2009 **Project Coordinator and Principal Investigator (PI)**, Science and Technology for the Mata Atlântica/Brasil; funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF): Biodiversity conservation in fragmented landscapes at the Atlantic Plateau of São Paulo, Brazil (BioCAPSP).

2001 **Project Coordinator**, IUCN Species Survival Commission (World leading conservation agency): Defining priorities for biodiversity conservation in Madagascar.

1998 - 2006 **Assistant Professor, Animal Ecology and Conservation**, Hamburg University, Germany (Prof Dr JU Ganzhorn).

- 1998 **Postdoctoral Fellow** (DAAD), Washington University, St. Louis/USA (Prof Dr A Templeton), Northwestern University, Chicago (Prof Dr A Yoder).
- 1996-1997 **Research Associate**, Behavioural Physiology, Tübingen University & MPI for Immunology, Tübingen/Germany.

Awards

- 2023 Lehrbonus (teaching award), Ulm University.
- 2017 Lehrbonus (teaching award), Ulm University.
- Since 2010 Entitled Member, AcademiaNet (network of excellent female scientists).
- 2007 German Scientist Award in Natural Sciences, Award to outstanding scientists, 13. German-American Frontiers of Science Symposium GAFOS, Irvine California/USA, funded by the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation and the National Academy of Sciences, USA.
- 2005 Research Fellowship, Stellenbosch University, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).
- 2003 Junior Scientist Award, 92. Dahlem Conference, Berlin 'Attachment and Bonding: a new synthesis'.
- 2000 Hamburg: summa cum laude: Award to outstanding scientists by the Senat of the City of Hamburg.
- 1998 Fritz-Frank-Award, PhD thesis award of the German Mammalogist Society, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Säugetierkunde (DGS).
- 1998 Postdoc fellowship, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).
- 1995-1997 Several conference travel awards & support of field work in Madagascar, Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft.
- 1995-1997 PhD fellowship, Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg.
- Since 1998 > 230 invited talks.

Academic and professional services and achievements (selection)

- Since 2023 Nominated Member, Foundation Board / Stiftungsrat, Leibniz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change / Leibniz-Institut zur Analyse des Biodiversitätswandels (LIB), Hamburg, Bonn.
- 2023 Nominated Member, Jury 'Hamburger Wissenschaftspreis 2023 One Health', Akademie der Wissenschaften in Hamburg/Academy of Science in Hamburg.
- Since 2023 Nominated Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research GmbH (HZI, Braunschweig, Germany) and Helmholtz Institute for One Health (HIOH, Greifswald, Germany).
- Since 2022 Nominated Member, DFG Grants Committee on Collaborative Research Centres / Senats- und Bewilligungsausschusses für Sonderforschungsbereiche.
- Since 2021 Elected Member, Scientific Advisory Board 'Nationale Forschungsplattform für Zoonosen'.
- Since 2021 Invited Member, International Zoonoses Community of Experts.
Invitation to the Inauguration of the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence by Dr T. A. Ghebreyesus, Director-General World Health Organization (WHO).

- Since 2020 Nominated Member, DFG Interdisciplinary Commission for Pandemic Research / Interdisziplinäre Kommission für Pandemieforschung.
- Since 2020 Member, PREZODE Initiative (PREventing ZOonotic Diseases Emergence).
- Since 2020 Elected Senator, Ulm University.
- Since 2020 Nominated Member, Senatsausschuss Lehre, Ulm University.
- Since 2019 Elected Head, Scientific Advisory Board *Senckenberg – World of Biodiversity*, Member of the Leibniz-Association.
- Since 2018 Scientific Advisor, *Swiss Academics of Arts and Science*. Swiss Academic fact sheets: Biodiversity, a guarantee of health.
- 2017 - 2019 Study Dean, Biological Studies and Biochemistry, Ulm University.
- 2016 - 2021 Nominated Member, Jury of the Karl-Ritter-von-Frisch Price, Scientific Award of the German Zoological Society (DZG).
- 2014 - 2019 Nominated Member, Scientific Advisory Board, *Nationalpark Schwarzwald*.
- Since 2014 Nominated Member, Scientific Advisory Board *Senckenberg – World of Biodiversity*. Member of the Leibniz-Association.
- Since 2014 Member of the Faculty Council, Ulm University.
- Since 2014 Member of the Study Commission Biology, Ulm University.
- 2011 - 2022 Steering Committee Member, DFG Priority Program “*Ecology and Species Barriers in Emerging Viral Diseases*” (SPP 1596).
- Since 2011 Editorial Board, *Nature Conservation*.
- 2011 - 2018 Nominated Member, Scientific Advisory Board, *Leibniz-Institute of Primate Research (DPZ)*, Göttingen.
- 2010 - 2013 Associate Member, *Centre of Infection Biology and Immunology*, ZIBI, Berlin.
- Since 2009 Associate Editor, *Conservation Genetics*.
- 2009 - 2013 Editorial Board, *Ecotropica*.
- 2009 -2013 Founding Member; Steering Committee ‘*Berlin Consortium for Genomics in Biodiversity Research*’. Next generation sequencing technology center for ‘Evolutionary and ecological genomics in biodiversity research’.
- 2008 - 2015 Elected Member, German Research Foundation (DFG), Scientific Advisory Board for evaluation of research proposals, Panel ‘Zoology’ / DFG-Fachkollegiatin.
- Since 2007 Member of evaluation committees of numerous national and international tenure-track and professorship applications,
Expert reviewer to assess numerous scientists nominated for academies, prizes, and awards,
Member of evaluation committees of various national and international research institutions.
- Since 2004 External member of doctoral theses and habilitation committees in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, UK, Sweden, South Africa, Mexico and Australia.
- Since 1998 Expert reviewer to assess grant applications for various national and international funding agencies and bodies.

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