

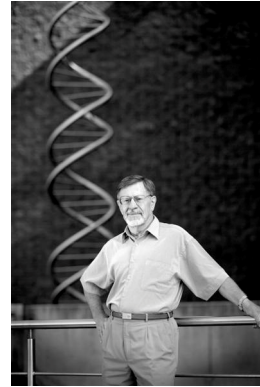
# CURRICULUM VITAE

**Walter Charles Cornelius FIERS**

Date and place of birth: January 31, 1931, Ieper (Belgium)

Nationality: Belgian

Married; three children



## 1. Studies

High School: "Koninklijk Atheneum", Ieper, 1949

University: Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Ghent:

- › Engineer of Chemistry and Agricultural Sciences, 1954
- › "Agrégé" for Higher Education (Biochemistry), 1960
- › PhD, 1963

## 2. Scientific Career

- 1954 - 1955 Fellowship of the IWONL
- 1956 Assistant, Laboratory of Physiological Chemistry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ghent, Fellowship of the Danish Government (Danish-Belgian Cultural Agreements)
- 1957 - 1959 Research Assistant with the NFWO (National Foundation for Scientific Research)
- 1960 - 1961 Research Fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation, New York, USA
- 1960 - 1961 Research Fellow in Biology, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA, USA
- 1960 - 1962 Senior Research Assistant with the NFWO
- 1962 Research Associate, Institute for Enzyme Research, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, USA
- 1963 - 1967 Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of Ghent, Belgium
- 1967 Associate Professor at the Faculty of Sciences, University of Ghent, Belgium  
Responsible for the postgraduate course in Molecular Biology
- 1967 - 1997 Director-Head of the Laboratory of Molecular Biology (later renamed as "Department"), University of Ghent, Belgium
- 1969 - 1996 Professor of Molecular Biology at the Faculty of Sciences, University of Ghent, Belgium
- 1979 - 1989 Member of the "Scientific Board" of Biogen Inc.
- 1996 - 1997 Extension for 1 year as Director of the Department for Molecular Biomedical Research (DMBR), VIB, Gent, Belgium
- 1997 - Free-lance Research Collaborator at the University of Ghent, group Molecular Virology, DMBR, Gent, Belgium
- 2009 Honorary citizen of the town of Destelbergen (B)

### **3. Residences Abroad**

Oct. 1, 1956 - Sept. 30, 1957 Carlsberg Laboratory, Copenhagen, Denmark (with Prof. Dr. H. Holter)

Oct. 1, 1960 - March 30, 1962

California Institute of Technology, Department of Biophysics, Pasadena, CA, USA (with Prof. Dr. R.L. Sinsheimer)

April 1, 1962 - Oct. 1, 1962, and May 1, 1963 - June 7, 1963

Institute for Enzyme Research, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, USA (with Prof. Dr. H.G. Khorana, Nobel Laureate in Medicine & Physiology; moved later to MIT)

### **4. Scientific Awards**

1961 - Triannual Award "J.B. Van Helmont" (period 1958-1960) of the Royal Flemish Academy of Medicine of Belgium

1966 - Award of the Flemish Chemical Society (1964-1965)

1971 - Medal of the Société de Chimie Biologique de France

1975 - Award "Doctor A. De Leeuw - Damry - Bourlart" of the National Foundation for Scientific Research of Belgium for the period 1970-1975 (Mathematical, Physical and Chemical Sciences)

1976 - Francqui Award (Francqui Foundation, Belgium)

1978 - Doctor honoris causa, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium

1980 - Jenkinson Memorial Lecture, University of Oxford, UK

1986 - Dr. Beijerinck Gold Medal for Virology, Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences, The Netherlands

- Rik & Nel Wouters Prize for Cancer Research, Belgium

1989 - Artois - Baillet Latour Prize, Belgium

- Carlos J. Finlay Prize (UNESCO Prize for Microbiology, including Immunology, Molecular Biology and Genetics)

1990 - Personal title of "Baron" and hereditary nobility conferred by H.M. the King of Belgium

1991 - Robert Koch Prize (Robert Koch-Stiftung, Bonn, Germany)

2003 - Co-laureate of the 2003 A. Sabin Prize for Belgium (awarded by GSK)

### **5. Elected Memberships**

Elected member of EMBO (European Molecular Biology Organisation, 1966), the Flemish Royal Academy of Belgium (1981), Academia Europaea (1989), HUGO (The Human Genome Organisation) (1989), Honorary Member of the Royal Society of Flemish Engineers (1991), Honorary Member of the Royal Academy of Medicine (1992), "Foreign Honorary Member" of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1999), Honorary Life Membership Award for 2000 of the International Cytokine Society.

### **6. Publications**

PubMed ([www.pubmed.gov](http://www.pubmed.gov)) lists 562 publications.

ISI, Web of Knowledge (HighlyCited.Com) lists 392 publications for the period 1981 to 2000 in the field of Immunology, Biology & Biochemistry.

## **7. Scientific Citations**

- \* *Publication by Fiers et al. in Nature 273, 113-120, 1978 was the second most highly cited paper in the Life Sciences for the period 1978-1979 (Garfield E., Current Contents, November 24, 5-14, 1980).*
  - \* *Listed among the 100 most cited authors of papers indexed in the 1981-1990 "Science Citation Index" (Garfield E. & Welljams-Dorof A., Theoretical Medicine, **13**, 117-135, 1992; and Garfield E., Current Content, August 31, 3-11, 1992).*
  - \* *Selected by ISI as "Highly cited researcher" in the categories "Immunology" and "Biology & Biochemistry" for papers published in the period 1981 – 1999.*  
[www.isihighlycited.com](http://www.isihighlycited.com)
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