



LAUDATIO

*CU OCAZIA ACORDĂRII TITLULUI DE DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA AL
UNIVERSITĂȚII DE MEDICINĂ ȘI FARMACIE „GRIGORE T. POPA” DIN IAȘI*

ÎN ONOAREA DOMNULUI

FRIEDRICH PAULSEN

Profesor

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Universitat Erlangen - Nurnberg

Prezentat în ședința solemnă de Senat de

Prof. Univ. Dr. Viorel Scripcariu

Rector, U.M.F. „Grigore T. Popa” din Iași

23 mai 2023



**Stimați membri ai Senatului U.M.F. „Grigore T. Popa”,
Stimate Domnule Prof. Friedrich Paulsen,
Stimați Colegi,**

Tradiția recunoașterii contribuțiilor științifice și culturale, a proclamării și promovării valorilor academice este menirea unei Universități.

În spiritul acestei tradiții, oferim astăzi expresia cea mai înaltă a recunoașterii noastre - Titlul de *Doctor Honoris Causa* - Domnului Profesor Friedrich Paulsen, de la Institutul de Anatomie Clinică și Funcțională, Friedrich Alexander - Universitat Erlangen - Nurnberg.

Cu acest prilej , am privilegiul de a rosti

LAUDATIO

Friedrich Paulsen was born in 1965 in Kiel in the very north of Germany on the Baltic Sea and, after graduating from high school in Braunschweig, first trained as a nurse. He then studied human medicine at the Christian Albrechts University in Kiel (CAU). After completing his internship at the University Clinic for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and a period as an assistant physician at the University Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic, he obtained an assistant position at the Institute of Anatomy at Christian Albrechts University in Kiel during the "physician glut" in 1998, where he had already received his doctorate ("Dr. med.") in 1997 with a thesis on the larynx. As early as 2001, he received his postdoctoral qualification in anatomy from the renowned anatomist and biomechanist Prof. Bernhard Tillmann. Afterwards, Friedrich Paulsen spent 7 months as a



postdoc at the Bristol Eye Hospital of the University of Bristol in England in the Mucin Research Group with Monica Berry and Tony Corfield. In 2003, first calls for C3 professorships in anatomy followed at LMU Munich and MLU Halle-Wittenberg. In Halle, Friedrich Paulsen founded an advanced training center for clinical anatomy. This was followed by appointments to full professorships at the universities of Saarland, Tübingen and Vienna/Austria, as well as at the Friedrich Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg (FAU), where he has been full professor of anatomy and institute director since 2010.

Professor Paulsen's research focuses on the ocular surface and ocular surface diseases. Thus, he is an internationally recognized expert in basic research on dry eye, meibomian gland dysfunction, diseases of the lacrimal system and the draining lacrimal ducts. In addition, he is involved in other basic pharmacological scientific questions concerning the eye, the larynx, osteoarthritis in large limb joints and the effect of micro- and nanoplastics on the human body. However, his research group also addresses issues related to the health of medical students and classical anatomical-macroscopic topics.

Based on his research activity, he has been involved in more than 380 articles in PubMed listed journals, including Nature and Nature Neuroscience, he has a Hirsch Index of 45 in Scopus and 56 in Google Scholar, and he is among the top 2% of most cited scientists worldwide according to the Stanford List of 2022. He has received numerous scientific awards for his scientific work, including the Dr. Gerhard Mann Sicca Research Award, the Sicca Research Award of the Professional Association of Ophthalmologists of Germany, the Commemorative Medal of Comenius University Bratislava, the Golden Lion of the German Ophthalmic Surgeons, and the Certificate of Excellence of the Society of Romanian Professors of Medicine. He has also received several teaching awards at both the Christian Albrechts University in Kiel and the Friedrich Alexander University in Erlangen-Nuremberg. Finally, he is an honorary member of the Romanian Anatomical Society and the Anatomical Society (Great Britain and Ireland).



Prof. Paulsen has also authored more than 50 book chapters especially for anatomy, ophthalmology and otorhinolaryngology books and since 2010 he has been the editor of the well-known anatomy atlas "Sobotta", the 25th edition of which was published in 2022 and which is also translated into Romanian. In addition, he edits the Sobotta textbook "Anatomy," has translated Gray`s Anatomy for Students into German, and has contributed to several other anatomy, histology, ophthalmology, and otolaryngology textbooks. A Sobotta head volume specifically for dentists will be published in the fall, explicitly tailored to this group of students.

Professor Paulsen has successfully completed more than 40 doctoral theses of human and dental scientists and 5 doctoral theses of natural scientists, in addition to 6 diploma theses, and 8 habilitations under his supervision. In addition, he has given more than 45 keynote lectures on the international stage.

Prof. Paulsen has raised several million euros in third-party funding over the years. He is currently funded by two EU projects, a priority program of the German Research Foundation and various individual projects through the German Research Foundation, the Fraunhofer Excellence Funding and the German Academic Exchange Service. He is a regular ad hoc reviewer for DFG, ERA-Net Neuron (EU), ANR (F), Israel Science Foundation, MNORC (US), NSC Poland, Volkswagen Foundation, Konrad-Adenauer Foundation and Vanier Canada, etc.

Prof. Paulsen's expertise is also sought after in numerous national and international committees. Among others, he has been Secretary and Board Member of the Anatomische Gesellschaft since 2006 and has just been re-elected for a 5th term. He has served as Secretary General of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists - the international governing body of anatomical societies. He has been involved in the European Federation of Experimental Morphology (EFEM) for many years, serving as Delegate, its Treasurer and as its President since 2021. He has served on the International Advisory Board of the International Society of



Dacryology and Dry Eye and on the Medical and Scientific Advisory Board of the Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society. He was a Group member of the Dry Eye workshop Study group and the Meibomian Gland Disease Workshop Study group, Board member of the International Society of Eye Research, Councilor of the Governing Board of the International Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society and Ambassador of the Bavarian Science Centre. He was Visiting Professor at the University of Khon Kaen/Thailand, the University of Wroclaw/Poland and Sechenov University Moscow/Russia. He is also a member of the Expert Committee of the Institute for Medical and Pharmaceutical Examination Questions (IMPP) and a member of the Expert Advisory Board for Anatomy of the Bavarian Medical Association.

He has also always been a committed member of the university's self-governing bodies, including the election and habilitation committees, the commission for young academics and for internationalization; he is a mentor in the Max Weber Program Bavaria (Elite Network Bavaria/Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes), Erasmus Program Officer and Chairman of the Preclinical Examination Board of the FAU Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. From 2016 to 2022, he was Vice President and thus part of the university management of Friedrich Alexander University, which with about 40,000 students is one of the 10 large comprehensive universities in Germany. In 2020, he was headhunted for the position of president of Christian Albrechts University, but declined the position.

Based on his expertise, Professor Paulsen is a member of the award committee of several foundations and prize committees such as the Waldeyer Foundation of the Anatomische Gesellschaft, the Award Committee of the Ilse and Dr. Alexander Mayer Foundation of FAU, the Brewitt Publication Prize Committee of the Professional Association of Ophthalmologists, the Sicca Prize Committee of the Professional Association of Ophthalmologists and the Young Investigator Prize Committee of the Anatomische Gesellschaft, the Michael Frotscher Prize Committee, and the Somso Teaching Prize Committee of the Anatomische Gesellschaft.



Prof. Paulsen served as member on the Editorial Board of a number of Journals including Current Eye Research, Biomed Research International, Frontiers in Physiology, Seminars in Ophthalmology, Anatomy Research International, European Journal of Anatomy and the International Journal of Medical Dentistry. He is Reviewing Editor for Ocular Immunology and Inflammation and Section Editor in Seminars in Ophthalmology. Since 2006 he is Editor-in-Chief of the Elsevier Journal "Annals of Anatomy" .

Friedrich has been associated with the University of Iasi for many years. When he took over as Secretary of the Anatomische Gesellschaft in 2006, an intensive Romanian-German anatomical connection already existed through Wolfgang Kühnel as former Secretary of the Anatomical Society and Constantin Fatu in Iași. Friedrich Paulsen was able to expand this intensive connection together with Anca Sava. An Erasmus partnership was successfully established between the University of Iași and the FAU, and over the years increasing scientific networking has also been achieved. Currently, a joint doctoral student from Iași is being supervised in anatomy between the two universities in a so-called Cotutell process. Through his honorary membership, Friedrich Paulsen regularly attends the congresses of the Romanian Anatomical Society as much as possible, just as numerous colleagues from Iasi regularly attend the congresses of the Anatomical Society.

"Preparing your own specimens is not only extremely important for the three-dimensional understanding of anatomy and forms the basis for practically every medical subject, in the dissection course you also experience the feel of the body, organs and individual tissues for the first time and, in most cases, also deal intensively with the subject of death and dying and the clinical causes of death for the first time. In the team, you learn not only anatomy, but also how to deal with a special situation. You never have such close contact with your fellow students and with your teachers later on." This is what anatomist Friedrich Paulsen places the utmost importance on in medical teaching.