

Prof. Luis Franco Vera, Ph. D.

*Short curriculum vitae*

Born in Madrid on 8th January 1942

Since 1981, he holds a position of Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Valencia. He formerly was an Assistant Professor (1973-1975) and an Associate Professor of Biochemistry (1975-1981) at the Complutense University of Madrid, where he obtained his Ph. D. degree in Chemistry on 1971. He was the first Director of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of the University of Valencia, Director of the Chemistry Institute of the IVEI (a Research Institution from the local Government of Valencia) and a member of the Spanish University Council.

After working on the metabolism of herbicides in mammals, he went to U. K. for a postdoctoral stay at the Chester Beatty Research Institute, from the Royal Cancer Hospital (London), where he specialized in chromosomal proteins under the supervision of Dr Ernst W. Johns. On his returning to Madrid, he continued working on the structure-function relationships in chromatin. Prof. Franco still works on this line of research, especially in the field of posttranslational modifications of histones. Since 1979, he has led several research groups, developing different projects within that area. He has also worked in collaborative projects with two pharmaceutical companies. Prof. Franco has been the supervisor of 18 Ph. D. thesis.

He has been the author or co-author of 2 books, 3 monographs, 3 review articles and more than 100 original research papers, most of them on chromatin structure and/or function. He has written as well several articles on Bioethics.

Prof. Franco was Chairman to the Workshop "Histone acetylation" (17th International Congress of Genetics, Birmingham, U.K., 1993) and he presided at the Organizing Committee of the 24th Congress of the Spanish Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (Valencia, 2001). He has also participated in the organizing and/or scientific committees of several meetings. He has been invited to lecture in many Universities and research institutes in Spain and abroad.

He is a member of the Spanish Royal Academy of Sciences, of the Spanish Royal Society for Chemistry, of the Spanish Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and a member of the Board of the Valencia Society for Bioethics. He currently evaluates research projects for NATO, ANEP (Spain), TWAS (Third World Academy of Sciences), FWF (Austrian Science Foundation) and has reviewed manuscripts for many international journals.