

Prof. Dr. Rudolf Amann made his MSc Studies of Biology/Chemistry at the Technische Universität München from 1980 to 1986. He made his Ph.D. study under the supervision of Professor K.-H. Schleifer at the Department of Microbiology, TU München entitled "The beta-subunit of ATP-Synthase as a phylogenetic marker of Bacteria". He has been a Postdoc during 1988-1989 at the Departments of Veterinary Pathobiology & Microbiology of the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign with Professor D.A. Stahl. His research has been in the field of the rRNA approach to microbial diversity, in situ hybridization, sulfate reducing bacteria, biofilms. In 1990 he became an Assistant Professor of Microbiology at the Department of Microbiology at TU München. Research areas were molecular ecology, and wastewater microbiology. From 1997 till 2001 he was the head of the Independent Junior Research Group "Molecular Ecology" at the Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology in Bremen. In 2001 he became a full Professor for Molecular Ecology at the University of Bremen, and at the same year became the Director at Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology in Bremen, and simultaneously Head of the Department of Molecular Ecology of the Institute.

He was awarded the Young Scientist Award of German Society of Microbiology, the Koerber Award for European Sciences, the Award of the "Fonds der chemischen Industrie" in Germany, the Bergey's Award for contributions to systematic bacteriology. From 1998 on he is organizer and lecturer of an international Molecular Microbial Ecology course at the University of Zurich (Lago Cadagno, Alpine Biol. Center Piora). From 2002 he became the spokesperson of the International Max Planck Research School MarMic, and from 2004 he is the Head of the Microbial Node of the EU Network of Excellence "Marine Genomics Europe"

He published more than 250 peer-reviewed original publications (Hirsch-Factor 66), he is a reviewer for DFG (elected), NSF, NERC etc; Member of the Editorial Boards of *Environ. Microbiol* and *Syst. Appl. Microbiol*

His professional interests include Analysis of the diversity, quantitative composition and function of marine microbial communities based on nucleic acid techniques including genomics