

Ronald de Vries CV

Dr. Ronald P. de Vries is a full professor at Utrecht University, Netherlands and he is the group leader of Fungal Physiology at CBS-KNAW Fungal Biodiversity Centre. In addition, since 2016 he has been a visiting professor at the University of Helsinki, Finland.

The honorary membership of HSM will be awarded to him due to his outstanding achievements as a fungal metabolite scientist.

His special field is the degradation mechanisms and uptake of the fungal substrates, regulation of their metabolic activity. His research area extends to the fungal degradation and bioconversion of plant biomass, examination of the metabolism of plant pathogenic and sea-related fungi, as well as comparative fungal genomics (he has been the leader or participant of 17 genome annotation consortia so far).

Among many other prizes, he was awarded by the VICI grant, the highest level personal research grant in the Netherlands in 2013, worth 1,5 M €. From 2005 onwards, he has been continuously the principal investigator of numerous research grants. He is the coordinator of international co-operations extending to 5 continents, and he is also involved in several industrial co-operations with biochemical companies. He has ongoing work relationship with the groups in Hungary: with professor István Pócsi in the field of stress responses of fungi, and with Levente Karaffa in the field of the carbon-assimilation of *Aspergilli*. Both working groups are regular participants of the fungal genomic projects, coordinated by Prof. de Vries. Several university students from Debrecen had the opportunity to travel to his laboratory for shorter or longer periods through the Erasmus programme; furthermore he was the supervisor of a Hungarian diploma work. He is the supervisor of 10 PhD students and co-supervisor for 5 additional PhD students in China, Brazil, Finland and Sweden.

Professor de Vries attended the annual meeting of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology in 2003 in Balatonfüred, holding a lecture entitled "*Molecular physiology of Aspergillus niger degrading complex plant cell components*". He returned on several occasions: he gave talks in 2005 ("*Pentose catabolism in saprophytic and pathogenic fungi*"), in 2009 ("*Genome mining to improve bio-ethanol pre-treatments*") and in 2011 ("*Mining fungal biodiversity using the Fung-Growth database*") in the Industrial Microbiology sessions of the conference and at the plenary session in 2015 ("*Novel developments in plant biomass degradation by fungi*"). He was also asked to chair some of these sessions and participated (just as also this year) at the scientific advisory board of the conference.