

Peter Schumann was born 1956. He made his schools from 1962 to 1970 in a polytechnical secondary school and from 1970-1974 in an extended polytechnical secondary school in Burgstädt (Saxony, Germany). He is married, has one daughter.

During 1976-1980 he studied chemistry at the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena (Thuringia, Germany), and obtained a research fellowship at the Department of Organic Chemistry of the University in Jena for three years from 1980-1983. In 1981 graduated, obtaining Master's degree in chemistry. He defended his PhD in 1984, with the thesis: Immobilisation of the microbiocidal compound 3-methylpyrazole by chemical modification of cellulose and cellulose derivatives. As a post-doc he became coworker of the IMET-Culture Collection of Microorganisms at the Central Institute of Microbiology and Experimental Therapy, Jena (Germany), where he worked till 1991. Since 1992 he is coworker of DSMZ-German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures, Braunschweig (Germany).

As a post-grad he had the opportunity to make several Postgraduate visits: in 1986 he visited the Institute of Immunology and Experimental Therapy of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Wroclaw (Poland) (topic DNA-DNA hybridisation); in 1989 the Institute of Microbiology and Virology of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Kiev (Ukraine) (Peptidoglycan analysis), and also in 1990 the DSM-German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures, Braunschweig (Germany) (Chemotaxonomy)

He is head of the group "Maldi-TOF MS and RiboPrinting" at the DSMZ; he is Leader of the Subtask JRA 2.1.3. "Application of a mass-spectrometric method (MALDI-TOF) to the identification of prokaryotes" of the EMbaRC Project (European Consortium of Microbial Resource Centres) European Community Grant agreement. He is the Chairman of the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of the Suborder *Micrococccineae*.

He published 289 articles with 150 co-authors involved (1996-2011) has 4161 citations, his Hirsch-index 31. Peter Schumann coauthors several books in the field of bacterial taxonomy, including the Bergeys Manual, and The Prokaryotes handbook.

Peter Schumann is in extensive collaboration with several Hungarian groups active in the bacterial taxonomy. He has coauthored the description of over 10 new taxa, and is continuously helping with delicate chemotaxonomical studies in ongoing species descriptions.