



Susan M. GASSER

Independent Director

Member of the Board since 1st January 2021

Member of the Scientific Committee

Date of birth: 1955

Nationality: Swiss

Gender: Female

End of term: 2025

Introduction & Professional experience

From 2004 to 2019, Susan M. Gasser was the Director of the Friedrich Miescher Institute (FMI) for Biomedical Research, in Basel, Switzerland, supported by the Novartis Research Foundation. There she continued as an FMI research group leader until the end of 2020. On February 1, 2021, she became the Director of the ISREC Foundation, based in Lausanne, which is dedicated to translational cancer research. She served on the Board of Directors of the Genomics Institute of the Novartis Foundation in La Jolla, California, she is member of the Board of Directors of the ETH Domain in Switzerland, and she served on the Nestlé Nutrition Council from 2008 – 2018. She is currently chairing the Strategic Committee of the Helmholtz Institutes of Health Sciences, Germany, and serves on the Science Council that advises the Department of Research, Education and Innovation in Switzerland.

Susan Gasser studied the role of chromatin and nuclear organization, as well as the inheritance of epigenetic information. The Gasser laboratory optimized live imaging techniques, pioneering the analysis of chromatin dynamics with time-lapse fluorescence microscopy. She was elected to the Académie de France, EMBO, AAAS, the German Academy of Science and the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences. She received the INSERM International Prize in 2011, the FEBS | EMBO Women in Science Award in 2012, the Weizmann Institute Women in Science award in 2013, and honorary doctorates from Universities of

Lausanne and of Fribourg and the Charles University of Prague. She is a member of the strategic board of the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH) of Switzerland, and from 2021, is Guest professor at the University of Lausanne and at the Tokyo Institute of Technology.

Education

Prof. Susan Gasser pursued her studies at the University of Chicago with an Honors thesis in Biophysics and completed her PhD at the University of Basel in Biochemistry in 1982. She studied chromatin and chromosome organization in yeast and *C. elegans*, combining genetics, fluorescence microscopy and biochemical approaches, both at the Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research (ISREC) in Lausanne and as professor of Molecular Biology at the University of Geneva, prior to her move to Basel.

Main external appointments

Director of the ISREC Foundation, Lausanne, Switzerland	since 2021
Member, Scientific Advisory Council, EMBL, Heidelberg, Germany	2015-2022
Member, Gairdner Prize Award committee, Toronto, Canada	2015-2022
Member, Crick Institute Review Board, Scientific Advisory Board, London, UK	since 2016
Member, Swiss Wissenschaftsrat (Swiss Science Council, SSC), Bern	since 2016
Member, ETH Board (Governing Board of the ETH Domain), Switzerland	since 2018
Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Inst. of Quantitative Biology, U. of Tokyo, Japan	since 2018
Chair, Strategic Board of the Helmholtz Society Health Program, Germany	2019-2027
Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Biozentrum der Universität Basel, Switzerland	since 2020
Board of Trustees, IST, Austria	since 2020
Chair, International Review Panel for ONCODE network, NL	since 2020
Member, Scientific Advisory Board of VIB, Belgium	since 2021
Member, Scientific Advisory Board, CABIMER, Sevilla, Spain	since 2022
Member, International Advisory Board of IIMCB, Warsaw, Poland	since 2022
Scientific advisor, VI Partners AG*, Switzerland	since 2021
Chair, Policy Committee of the European Academy of Cancer Sciences (EACS)	since 2022