

Spyros Artavanis-Tsakonas, PhD

Professor Spyros Artavanis-Tsakonas, a molecular biologist and developmental geneticist, is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Cell Biology at Harvard Medical School, which he joined in 1998. He is the founding Director of the Developmental and Regenerative Biology Program at Harvard Medical School. From 1999-2007 he was also the Isselbacher-Schwartz Professor at Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center.

He completed his undergraduate studies in chemistry at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, ETH in Zurich before earning his Ph.D. from Cambridge University for work carried out at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology. After postdoctoral work at the Biozentrum in Basel and at Stanford University, he joined the Yale faculty in 1981. He was appointed Professor in the Department of Biology in 1989 and then, concurrently, Professor at the Department of Cell Biology at the Yale School of Medicine. He also served as the Director of the Biological Sciences Division at Yale.

He was a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator from 1987 to 1998 when he left for Harvard, where he was appointed Professor of Cell Biology. In 1999, concurrently, he was elected Professor at the Collège de France, in Paris, holding the Chair of Biology and Genetics of Development until 2012 when he became Professeur honoraire. He is the Founding Director of the Department of Genetics and Developmental Biology at Institut Curie, Paris, 2007-2009.

From 2012 to March 2017 he served as Chief Scientific Officer and Executive Vice President at Biogen.

His laboratory has been studying cellular interactions in

development and disease and pioneered the use of genetic and molecular approaches to define and analyze the Notch signaling pathway. Currently, at his Harvard Medical School laboratory, he is using genetic tools to dissect neurodegeneration pathways related to human disease and is completing work defining the *Drosophila* Proteome.

Professor Artavanis-Tsakonas is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, an associate member of EMBO, and a corresponding member of the Academy of Athens.