**Dr. Paul A. Fuerst**

Doctor

Academy Professor Emeritus, Department of Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio USA

Population and Evolutionary Genetics - Emphasis on the evolution of microbial systems, especially free living amoebae and their associated endosymbionts. Special attention on the protists in the genera *Acanthamoeba* and *Balamuthia*. Additional interests in obligate intracellualar bacteria, with emphasis on the members of the rickettsiaceae (genera *Orientia* and *Rickettsia*). My lab developed and continues to refine the standardized genotypic classification system currently used to describe isolates of *Acanthamoeba*. Work has also emphasized methods for rapid diagnosis of amoebic keratitis infections. Overall, the research has centered on uses of molecular genetic techniques to determine the patterns of evolution within these unicellular microorganisms. Over time the research has moved from the utilization of protein electrophoresis to RFLP patterns to single gene sequencing to MLST analysis to Nextgen genome sequening. The work that we have done on Acanthamoeba is detailed on a website ( www.u.osu.edu/acanthamoeba ), while our studies on scrub typhus is outlined in a companion website ( www.u.osu.edu/scrubtyphus ).

**Prof. Naveed Khan**

Professor

Sunway University, Malaysia

Following my BSc in Pakistan, I moved to the UK. I completed my MSc and PhD in England and then moved to the USA. After several years of research experience at the Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, and then at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, I moved back to the UK and joined University of London in 2002 as a faculty member. For the next several years, I worked enthusiastically to pursue research, and became a Senior Lecturer; and then joined the University of Nottingham, UK as an Associate Professor of Molecular Microbiology. In 2010, I joined the Aga Khan University as Professor and Chair of the Department of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, and in 2015, I joined the Sunway University as Professor and Head of Biological Sciences, School of Science and Technology, Malaysia campus. Based on academic performance and accomplishments, I was awarded the title of “Distinguished Professor” of the University in 2016.
I have over 17 years of experience of working in leading institutions in North America, Europe and Asia, and currently holds the position of Distinguished Professor and Head of Biological Sciences, School of Science and Technology, Sunway University.
I maintain a broad interest in all aspects of infectious diseases. I am Editor of several journ als and an active reviewer of more than 80 journals and several national and international funding agencies, and review modules and programmes for several Universities as well as d eveloping new programmes. I have published 7 books. My research findings have been publ ished in over 200 peer-reviewed publications, and secured significant grant income (>$2 milli on). I have supervised 40 graduate research students (11 PhDs) to completion and 60 UG r esearch students. Based on high research productivity, I received the prestigious ‘Schwentker Research Award’ by the Johns Hopkins University, USA, Hull Royal Infirmary Fellowship Awar d, UK, Kut Foundation Award, UK, Best research award by Medical Research Society, Royal College of Physicians, UK, Best Speaker’s Award by the Aga Khan University, Pakistan, and t he ‘Best Young Research Scholar Award” by the Government of Pakistan, Higher Education Commission in 2013. Additionally, I have been awarded the A R Shakoori Gold Medal Awar d by the Zoological Society of Pakistan in 2014 for best contributions in Biological Sciences. In 2014, I was selected among the top 10 productive scientists in Pakistan in the field of B iological Sciences (selected from 2,728 productive Scientists of Pakistan). In 2015, I received

the prestigious 'Pakistan Academy of Sciences' Gold Medal Award in Biological Sciences. In 2016, I received Silver Medal Awards by the International Invention & Innovation Exhibition, Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation, Malaysia. Recently, I received Gold Medal in Bio-Innovation award, as well as Research Excellence Award in Pharma-Innovation at the Ph arma+Bio Asia 2016 convention. Based on research accomplishments, I was awarded the titl e of "Distinguished Professor" of the University in 2016. Recently, I received the "Order of Merit" award at the 5th Korea Inventor Award Festival – 2016 held in Seol, Korea. In 2017, I received silver medals at the 28th International Invention, Innovation and Technology Exhibi tion (ITEX), Malaysia. My work on "animals living in polluted environments could be rich sto res of new antibiotics" caught worldwide attention. Several documentaries were made and s hown on leading news channels/websites and peer-reviewed journals. Google search of "Nav eed Khan and Cockroach" yields thousands of web pages.