

Comitato d'Onore: biografie

Contributed by Administrator
 Thursday, 08 February 2007
 Last Updated Sunday, 27 March 2011

Journal of Intercultural and Interdisciplinary Archaeology: Comitato d'Onore (in progress)

- Giordano Antonio M.D., Ph.D. (President and Chairman of the Board of the Sbarro Health Research Organization, Director of the Sbarro Institute for Cancer Research and Molecular Medicine and Director of the Center of Biotechnology at Temple University's College of Science and Technology).

Antonio Giordano, M.D., Ph.D., President and Chairman of the Board of the Sbarro Health Research Organization, Director of the Sbarro Institute for Cancer Research and Molecular Medicine and Director of the Center of Biotechnology at Temple University's College of Science and Technology has been an internationally recognized researcher specializing in the genetics of cancer and gene therapy for twenty years.

At 26, while a post-doctoral fellow at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York, Dr. Giordano discovered the protein p60, later named cyclin A, a substance that regulates growth in the cell cycle. At Temple University, he discovered Rb2/p130, a tumor suppressor gene which has since been found to be active in lung, endometrial, brain, breast, liver and ovarian cancers, and CDK9 and CDK10, guardians of the human genome. Research has subsequently shown that CDK9 plays a critical role in cell differentiation, particularly in muscles; HIV transcription; and the inception of tumors. But Dr. Giordano has not limited his activities to the lab.

Recognizing that scientists often make their most exciting discoveries while they are young, in 1993, while at Thomas Jefferson University, he founded the Sbarro Institute for Cancer Research and Molecular Medicine with the generous help of Mario Sbarro, president of Sbarro Inc., an internationally successful restaurant chain.

In 2002, the Institute forged an exciting alliance with Temple University, forming the Sbarro Health Research Organization (SHRO). Under the agreement, funds from SHRO go directly to the Sbarro Institute for Cancer Research and Molecular Medicine at Temple, where promising researchers from around the globe pursue ground-breaking research in the molecular workings of cancer and other devastating diseases.

The agreement with Temple was renewed in 2005, with the addition of two new research programs in molecular therapeutics and the study of the connections between obesity and cancer.

A native of Naples, Italy, Dr. Giordano earned his medical degree summa cum laude from the University of Naples in 1986 and his doctorate in pathology summa cum laude from the University of Trieste Medical School in 1990.

He was a post-doctoral fellow in the department of microbiology and immunology at New York Medical College in Valhalla (N.Y.) from 1987 to 1988. From 1988 to 1992, he was a post-doctoral fellow at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (N.Y.), which was led by James Watson, the co-discoverer of DNA structure and the father of modern genetics.

Since 1992, Giordano has been awarded nine patents, with six pending. He has published over two hundred papers on his work in the fields of cell cycles, gene therapy and the genetics of cancer and serves on the editorial of a number of professional journals. His work is funded by National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants, as well as individual and program project grants from SHRO. He has received a number of international awards for his work in cancer research. Dr.

Giordano serves on the editorial board of numerous leading professional journals, including *Frontiers in Bioscience*, *Cancer Biology and Therapy*, the *Journal of Cellular Biochemistry* and the *Journal of Cellular Physiology*, of which he is Editor and Reviews Editor. Other professional activities include grant reviewer for the American Cancer Society and the NIH's National Cancer Institute, external reviewer for evaluating research programs for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and ad hoc reviewer for National Science Foundation and Veterans Administration grant programs.

Over the past ten years, Dr. Giordano has been an invited lecturer at more than 200 scientific meetings throughout the United States and abroad. In addition to his work with the Sbarro Institute for Cancer Research and Molecular Medicine, Dr. Giordano has been appointed *chiara fama* Professor of Pathology at the University of Siena, and has trained more than 130 scientists and physician investigators from all over the world.

Dr. Giordano and his wife, Dr. Mina Massaro, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the Scheie Eye Institute of the University of Pennsylvania, live in Radnor, Pennsylvania, USA. They have three children: Maria Teresa, Giovan Giacomo and Luca.

- Ambrosio Luigi Director of the Institute for Composite and Biomedical Materials, National Research Council, and Adjunct Professor of Biomaterials at University of Naples "Federico II".

He received the doctoral degree in Chemical Engineering (1982) from University of Naples "Federico II". From 1983-1985 he was Research Associate at University of Naples, from 1985 to 1988 Research Associate at University of Connecticut, and Visiting Scientist at Kontron Medical Inc., USA. From 1989 to 2002 he has been appointed as Research Scientist at the Institute of Composite Materials Technology, CNR. From September 1997 to 2004 he was Adjunct Professor in Biomaterials at the University of Connecticut, USA and Treasurer of the European Society for Biomaterials (ESB).

He is member of Advisory Board and Guest Editor of International and National Scientific Journals, Council Member of the European Society for Biomaterials (ESB), Vice-President of the Italian Society of Biomaterials (SIB) and President of the Interdisciplinary Biomaterials Group of the Italian Chemical Society.

He has been nominated Fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (March 2001), and

Fellow of Biomaterials Science and Engineering (May 2004). His principal research interest include design and characterisation of polymers and composites for medical applications and tissue engineering, rheology of biological fluids, properties of natural tissue, processing of polymers and composites, hydrogels and biodegradable polymers. He has published over 120 Papers on International Scientific Journals and Book, 12 Patents and about 250 Presentation at International and National conferences.

- Pisanti Ofelia (University of Napoli "Federico II", Physics Department).

Ofelia Pisanti is a researcher at the Physics Department of the University of Napoli "Federico II". She got the Laurea in Physics, cum laude, discussing a thesis on Grand Unified Theories, and the Ph.D. in Physics from the Napoli University. After obtaining the Diploma di perfezionamento on "Relativity, cosmology, and Particle Physics", she got a travel grant from the Italian Foundation "Angelo della Riccia" for a stay as Postdoctoral student at the "California Institute of Technology". She continued her research activity at the Napoli University during the Post-Doc and two research grants, on "Fundamental interactions in the primordial universe" and "Astroparticle Physics". She also got the "Cattedra in Matematica e Fisica" in the Secondary School. Her scientific interest are mainly in the field of Astroparticle Physics, Cosmology, and Cosmic Rays.

- Tammaro Anna Maria (University of Parma).

Since 2000, Anna Maria Tammaro has been teaching at the University of Parma for the undergraduate course "Libraries automation", then "Electronic publishing" and the postgraduate "International Master in Library and Information Studies by distance", a joint Master with the University of Northumbria (UK), of which she is Course Italian Coordinator.

Her actual research interests are: Quality assurance, e-Learning and learning resources, Digital Library.

Her education was: Degree in Philosophy (1971), Specialisation in Librarianship (1976), Master in Information Studies (1999).

Before joining the University of Parma, where she is a researcher, she has had different duties: she was the Director of Firenze University Press and the University Librarian of the Florence University Libraries System (1995-2000), Libraries Coordinator of the Bologna University Center Interfaculties (1992-1994) and Head of Reader Services at the European University Institute Library (1989-1990). Between 1996 and 2000 she was local Coordinator of the European Projects EULER and CANDLE and seconded to the Minister of University and Research as national expert to assist in the implementation of statistics and performance indicators for university libraries at the "Osservatorio per la valutazione". She has been consultant for various governmental agencies and universities in Italy. At the moment she is consultant of the European Minerva Project and delegated to planning a Digitisation Course for partners by distance. She is author of numerous publications and reports in information science, automation of library system and internationalisation of higher education in LIS, between which (together with A. Salarelli.) *Biblioteca digitale* (Bibliografica 2000).

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