



**“Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iasi, Romania**



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### Event

## **DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA TITLE AWARDED TO PROFESSOR FABIO FAVA FROM THE ALMA MATER STUDIORUM UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA, ITALY**

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On 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2014 the Senate of the **Gheorghe Asachi Technical University of Iasi, Romania**, awarded the honorary title of *Doctor Honoris Causa* to **Professor Fabio Fava**, during a celebratory open session.

The proposal for the *Doctor Honoris Causa* award was initiated by the *Department of Environmental Engineering and Management-Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection* as a resultant of the exceptional cooperation with Prof. Fava, in teaching and scientific

research and for his leadership *Industrial and Environmental Biotechnology and, Microbiology in the Frame of the Knowledge-Based Bio and Green Economy*.

The awarding ceremony was held in the Senate Aula of the *Gheorghe Asachi* Technical University of Iasi, in the presence of distinguished guests from University of Applied Sciences and Arts North Switzerland, Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romani, staff members of the host University, PhD and MSc students from the same universities.

**Professor Fabio Fava is Full Professor of Industrial and Environmental Biotechnology** at the Faculty of Engineering (currently School of Engineering and Architecture) of the *Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna*, Italy since 2005. He served the same school as Dean's Delegate for International Relations from 2005 to 2012. Currently, he is the Coordinator of the PhD Programme in Civil, Chemical, Environmental and Materials Engineering of the University of Bologna.

Fabio Fava was born in 1963. He was graduated *Cum laude* in *Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Technologies* at the *Alma Mater Studiorum* University of Bologna and then he earned his PhD in *Applied Microbiology* from the Institute of Chemical Technology of the University of Prague, Czech Republic.





He was visiting scientist at the following US institutions, namely: New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJ, USA); Hazardous Substance Management Research Center (NJ, USA); Rutgers University (NJ, USA) in 1993, 1994 and 1999, respectively. During his stay in USA, he received a fellowship from NATO (Brussels) and has been a scientific consultant of the Hazardous Substance Management Research Center (NJ, USA).

Professor Fava is the coordinator of the FP7 projects *NAMASTE* (on the integrated exploitation of citrus and cereal processing byproducts with the production of food ingredients and new food products) and *BIOCLEAN* (aiming at the development of biotechnological processes and strategies for the bioremediation and the tailored depolymerization of major oil-deriving plastics). He also coordinates the Unit of the University of Bologna participating in the FP7 projects: *ECOBIOCAP* and *ROUTES* (on the production of microbial polymers from different organic waste and food processing effluents); *MINOTAURUS* and *WATER4CROPS* (on the intensified bioremediation of contaminated waste- and ground-water and the integrated valorization and decontamination of wastewater coming from the food processing industry and biorefinery); *ULIXES* and *KILL SPILL* (on the development of strategies for intensifying the *in situ* bioremediation of marine sediments contaminated by (chlorinated) hydrocarbons and the isolation and industrial exploitation of microbes from such contaminated matrices). Professor Fava is Associate Editor of *BMC Microbiology* (IF2013: 2.98), Research Editor of *Microbial Cell Factories* (IF2013: 4.25) and member of the Editorial Board of the international journals *New Biotechnology* (IF2013: 2.106), *Journal of Biotechnology* (IF2013: 2.884) and *Environmental Engineering and Management Journal* (IF2013: 1.258).



Professor Fava is performing R&D in the field of industrial and environmental biotechnology. He published about 220 scientific papers, 110 of which on medium/high impact factors peer-review international journals of industrial and environmental biotechnology. He coordinated the Research Project NATO Science for Peace No. 973720 on the development and assessment of innovative intensified technologies for the bioremediation of (chlorinated) hydrocarbon-contaminated soils. Also, he participated in the a) EU Coordination *Action Eurodemo* (FP VI) on the comparison of verified technologies applied in Europe in the sustainable remediation of contaminated sites, b) Aegean Center of Excellence *BIO-ACE* (FP VI), on the development of innovative biotechnological processes for the (bio)chemical industry and the environment remediation, c) the European Defense Agency (EDA) project *NBC Modeling and Simulation* (ERG1 TA 113-034), d) the COST action FP0602 *Biotechnology For Lignocellulose & Biorefineries (BIOBIO)* and e) the ERA-NET Industrial Biotechnology (as observer).



Dr. Fava was involved in the organization of a *NATO-Advanced Study Institute* on new approaches to the risk assessment and bioremediation of contaminated sites (Prague, CZ, 2001) and was one of the co-organizers of the *NATO-Advanced Research Workshop* on the assessment and remediation of contaminated sediments held in Bratislava (SR) in 2005.



He co-chaired the *European Summer School on the Innovative Technologies for The (Bio)Monitoring and (Bio)Remediation of Contaminated Sites* held in Bologna (Italy) in 2004, two international summer schools funded by FEMS - Federation of European Microbiological Societies on the management, assessment and (bio)remediation of contaminated sediments (Genoa, Italy, 2005) and an *International Summer School on the Industrial Biotechnology Strategies and Tools for the Valorization of Organic Wastes* (Bologna, Italy, 2006). Further, he has been Co-Chair of the 4<sup>th</sup> *European Bioremediation Conference* held in Chania, Greece, in 2008 and of the 5<sup>th</sup> *European Bioremediation Conference* held in Chania, Greece, in 2011. Dr. Fava was the chairman of the 14<sup>th</sup> *International Biotechnology Symposium and Exhibition (14th IBS)* (Rimini, Italy, September 14-18, 2010)(1620 delegates from 72 Nations) promoted by the University of Bologna together with the Italian KBBE Technology Platforms, the European Technology Platforms of the same area, IUPAC, European Federation of Biotechnology (EFB), EuropaBio, International Society of Environmental Biotechnology (ISEB), European Society of Environmental Biotechnology (ESEB) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and

Development (OECD).

Also, he chaired the international conference *Environmental Microbiology and Biotechnology in the Frame of the Knowledge-Based Bio and Green Economy, EMB2012* (Bologna, 2012) (400 delegates from 50 different nationals) promoted by the University of Bologna together with the European Federation of Biotechnology (EFB) and the Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS) an in cooperation with EuropaBio, International Society of Environmental Biotechnology (ISEB), Asian Federation of Bioechnology, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and other international and Italian associations. Finally, Dr. Fava is the Chair of the Scientific/Technical Committee of the annual Exhibition *Ecomondo* (held in Rimini, Italy) on Material and Energy Recovery and Sustainable Development (<http://en.ecomondo.com/>).

Professor Fabio Fava is the Past Chair and the current Deputy Chairman of the *Environmental Biotechnology* section of the *European Federation of Biotechnology (EFB)* and the chairman of the *Industrial & Environmental Biotechnology* section of the Italian Technology Platform on Sustainable Chemistry (SusChem Italy).



He joined the Industrial Biotechnology Expert Group of the European Technology Platform on Sustainable Chemistry (ETP SusChem) from 2005-2011. He is the Italian Government delegate in the *Task Force on Industrial Biotechnology* of the Working Party on Biotechnology of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD, Paris). Further, he is joining the *High Level Group on Key Enabling Technologies* and the *Expert Group on Biobased Products* of the DG-Enterprise and Industry of European Commission (Brussels), as well as the *Expert Group on Eco-Industries* of the JRC Directorate at the European Commission. Finally, he is the Italian Representative in Programme Committee of Societal Challenge 2: *European Bioeconomy Challenges: Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Marine, Maritime and Inland Water Research* of Horizon2020 at the European Commission (DG Research and Innovation). Besides, he is member of several national and international associations and conferences/workshop scientific committees.

He has been project evaluator for a number of different national and international grant agencies, including DG Research in Brussels (FP6 and FP7 projects), and peer reviewer of several international journals in the area of industrial and environmental biotechnology and microbiology.



Professor Fabio Fava is the promoter and the supporter of the cooperation between the *Alma Mater Studiorum* University of Bologna, Italy and the *Gheorghe Asachi* Technical University of Iasi - Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection - Department of Environmental Engineering and Management, addressing teaching and research areas as follows:

- in terms of Erasmus agreements (including Erasmus Plus agreement), joint doctoral supervision, postdoctoral programs

- development of a tight cooperation between the Department of Environmental Engineering and Management: • cooperation with the research group *Chemical and biological processes applied in environmental engineering and management* supervised by Prof. Maria Gavrilescu and Department of Civil, Chemical, Environmental and materials Engineering (DICAM) (in the area of life cycle assessment, waste management, environmental biotechnology, emerging pollutants in the environment), joint publication of research results in international journals; • cooperation with Prof. Carmen Teodosiu in organizing the *7th International Conference on Environmental Engineering and Management* and the special issue of *New Biotechnology* journal dedicated to ICEEM07

- member of the Scientific Advisory Board of *Environmental Engineering and Management Journal (EEMJ)* (<http://omicron.ch.tuiasi.ro/EEMJ/>), and as Guest Editor for several reference numbers of the journal, for which the sponsorship of the publication was ensured by Prof. Fava

- cooperation in the organization of scientific events such as: the Exploratory Workshop *Progress in Environmental Engineering, Biotechnology and Management, in the Frame of Sustainable Knowledge-Based Economy* (19 - 21 September 2012, [www.we62.xhost.ro](http://www.we62.xhost.ro)) in his quality of member of the International Scientific Committee; 7th International Conference on Environmental and Engineering Management, Vienna, 18-21 September 2013 (ICEEM07), as a member of the International Scientific Committee, and chairman of the section *Environmental Biotechnology*; also, he facilitated the sponsorship of the conference by *Ecomondo – the Mediterranean Platform for Sustainable Growth*, and the connection with the Editorial Board of *New Biotechnology* journal in the view of publication of a special issue dedicated to ICEEM07

- joint contribution of *Gheorghe Asachi* Technical University of Iasi and *Alma Mater Studiorum* University of Bologna within the International Scientific Committees of the *5th European Bioremediation Conference* July 4-7, 2011 (Chania, Crete) and the international conference *Environmental Microbiology and Biotechnology in the Frame of the Knowledge-Based Bio and Green Economy*, April 10-12, 2012 (Bologna, Italy).

- Romanian PhD students and postdocs were involved in the organization of the international conference *Environmental Microbiology and Biotechnology in the frame of the Knowledge-Based Bio and Green Economy*, Bologna, April 10-12, 2012;

- as chairman of the *Environmental Biotechnology* Section of the *European Federation of Biotechnology*, Prof. Fava included *Gheorghe Asachi* Technical University in the group of experts who contributed to the statement of the main directions and priorities of environmental biotechnology within Horizon 2020. In this context, it is remarkable the

participation of the Technical University of Iasi in the development of position papers on *R&D needs in the field of biomonitoring, evaluation of the ecological risks, and bioremediation of emerging chemical and biological micropollutants in soils, sediments, groundwater, industrial and municipal wastewaters, aquaculture effluents, freshwater and marine ecosystems*, which were transmitted to the European Commission. These documents were published in a special issue of *New Biotechnology*, the official journal of the *European Federation of Biotechnology*.

- promotes Technical University of Iasi in the context of international cooperation, for a better understanding among members of the international scientific community who share cultural values and different economic situations, to actively participate in exchange and promotion of scientific and

technological exchanges; cooperation in some project proposals in the framework of Horizon 2020 has already been envisaged and some details are already established.

In honouring **Professor Fabio Fava**, the **Senate of the Gheorghe Asachi Technical University of Iasi, Romania** acknowledged the value of his academic activity and the inspiration of his research of exceptional range and power, his distinguished qualities of mind and heart.

**Professor Maria Gavrilescu**  
*Department of Environmental Engineering  
and Management  
Faculty of Chemical Engineering and  
Environmental Protection  
“Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of  
Iasi, Romania*