

Arthur F. Hefti

Education & Professional Career:

In 1974, I completed dental education with a DDS from the University of Zürich (UoZH) in Zürich, Switzerland. In 1980, I completed a dissertation with a doctoral degree from UoZH. In 1987, I was conferred the *venia legendi* (“Habilitation”) from the University of Basel (UoBS).

In 1978, I received my first academic appointment as director, division of Preventive Dentistry & Epidemiology at the UoBS Dental Institute. Twelve years later, I moved to the U.S.A., accepting an offer to join the Department of Periodontology at the University of Florida College of Dentistry (UFCoD). In 1992, promotion to full professor with tenure followed. Three years later, I was appointed to director, Periodontal Disease Research Center. In 1998, I moved to Columbus (OH), accepting an offer to join The Ohio State University College of Dentistry (OSUCoD) as associate dean, research & graduate studies. From 2004 to 2007, I spent a 3-year period as the VP for Clinical & Scientific Affairs at Philips Oral Healthcare (POHC) in Snoqualmie (WA). Later in 2007, I returned to academia and joined the Marquette University School of Dentistry (MUSoD) as associate dean of research and graduate studies, and professor (with tenure) in Surgical Sciences. In 2009, the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) appointed me to adjunct professor in the NIH-funded clinical and translational science institute (CTSI).

Scholarship:

Over the years, my research focus shifted from cell culture (UoZH), animal-based studies, and epidemiology (UoBS), to applied clinical research (UF, OSU, POHC, MUSoD). I have made contributions in various areas, including the alternative pathway activation of the complement cascade, cytotoxicity assessment, fluoride metabolism, caries prevention, drug-induced gingival overgrowth, and the non-surgical treatment of chronic periodontal disease. At POHC, I implemented a web-based clinical database (Phase Forward’s InForm™ GTM) that improved data quality and speed of study execution. My current research interest is in the study of clinical methods, in particular improvements of measurement quality. I have published over 80 original papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals and written many book chapters and educational articles. My research has been funded through numerous grants and awards obtained from industry and NIH.

Service:

I was an executive board member and the treasurer of the European Caries Research Organization (ORCA) from 1979 to 1989. I served the Swiss Society of Periodontology as president from 1987 to 1989, and chaired the committee on “Dentistry 2000” of the Swiss Dental Society from 1984 to 1986. After moving to the U.S., I served on several IADR/AADR committees, and on the IRBs at UF and OSU, where I also chaired the biomedical IRB. I was a member of the Graduate Faculty at UF and at OSU. Currently, I am a member of the Task Force on Design & Analysis, Inc., Marquette University’s committee on research (chair 2010/11), the University’s board of graduate studies, and the Office of Regional Expansion of the CTSI.