

FACULTY

PROGRAM DIRECTORS



Lieven Annemans, MSc, PhD

Senior Professor of Health Economy, University Ghent, Belgium, past president ISPOR. Author of “Health Economics for Non-economists. Principles, methods and pitfalls of health economic evaluations” (Pelckmans Pro) – Revised version released in June 2018.

He has twenty years of experience in health economic research in more than 20 countries and published more than 300 papers on health economic evaluations for medicines, devices and diagnostics. He was advisor to the Belgian Minister of Health from 2001 to 2003 and president of the Flemish health council from 2003 to 2009. He was president of the International Society of Pharmaco-economics (ISPOR) in 2004–2005. He is author of books on health economic evaluations (health economics for non-economists) and on the future of health care systems. He provides international lectures, trainings and advice on health economics, health care systems and health technology assessment (HTA).



Jürgen Raths, MD

Chief Executive Officer of Cordée Consulting, Geneva

Dr. Raths studied medicine and dentistry at the Universities of Heidelberg, Bonn and Cologne. He obtained his doctorate in medicine at the university of Bonn.

He got 30 years of experience in the European and global pharma business, with positions held in clinical research, medical, marketing, sales and general management in Europe and the US. Jürgen served as CEO in assignments in public and private specialty pharma companies. Currently he is managing director of Cordée Consulting in Geneva and supports innoplexus, a German-Indian Big Data and Artificial Intelligence company as Head of Life Sciences.

He has leadership experience in: general management, company creation, M&A, change management and corporate restructuring situations, as well as in global business development.



Anna Bucsics, MD

**Former department Head, Department of pharmaceutical Affairs,
Federation of Austrian Social Insurance Institutions**

Anna has a MD from the Karl-Franzens-University of Graz, Austria, where she did postgraduate research at the Department of Experimental & Clinical Pharmacology. In 1991 she moved to Vienna where she audited pharmaceutical expenditures at the Viennese Social Health Insurance and worked at the Main Association of Austrian Social Insurance Institutions, assessing pharmaceuticals for reimbursement. She was Head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Affairs until 2014. She was an instructor at the Department of Finance, University of Vienna and a member of the European Commission Experts Group on Rare Diseases, and has participated in European projects (EUnetHTA, the Pharmaceutical Forum, and the Platform on Access to Medicines in Europe).

Currently, she is advisor to the MoCA project, (Mechanism of Coordinated Access to Orphan Medicinal Products, www.eurordis.org/content/moca) and Judicial Advisor at the Federal Administrative Court of Austria.



Heinrich Klech MD, PhD
Professor of Medicine, Medical University Vienna, Chief Executive Officer of Vienna School of Clinical Research (VSCR)

Heinrich Klech is an internal medicine specialist by training from the University of Vienna. He is author of more than 200 publications in the field of lung diseases and served on the editorial board of many renowned medical journals in the field of Pulmonology and Internal medicine. After a successful international academic career he changed to executive R&D management positions in the pharmaceutical industry. He held position for Central Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Middle East and Africa for Eli Lilly & Company, and led later Lillys R&D and regulatory activities in a large part of Western Europe. In 2000 he founded the Vienna School for Clinical Research (VSCR), a not-for-profit postgraduate educational institution.

TECHNICAL COURSE DIRECTOR



Margarete Schreiner-Karner, MSc
Chief Operations Officer of Vienna School of Clinical Research (VSCR)

Margarete Schreiner-Karner graduated from the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration specializing in marketing and social policy. She began her career as a biomedical analyst in a medical-diagnostic laboratory for clinical chemistry and hematology, before joining the pharmaceutical industry in 2002. As product and brand manager, she was responsible for product launches, especially in the indications of obesity, diabetes with sanofi and oncology with Takeda, in close cooperation with market access and medicine. Mrs. Schreiner-Karner was able to gather additional expertise in the context of conducting phase III clinical trials in the field of diabetes at MedUni Vienna, University Department of Internal Medicine III, Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism. In 2018 Mrs. Schreiner-Karner joined the VSCR team as operational manager and member of the VSCR management board.

OTHER FACULTY



Heinz Ludwig, MD
Oncologist, Wilheminspital, Vienna

Heinz Ludwig, MD, is Professor of Internal Medicine and Haemato-Oncology and chairs the Wilhelminen Cancer Research Institute at the Department of Medicine I, Centre for Oncology and Haematology, Wilhelminenspital, Vienna, Austria. Areas of specific research and interests: Professor Ludwig's research interests span the field of therapeutics in haematology and medical oncology. His research focuses on the biological and clinical aspects of multiple myeloma (MM), as well as on the analysis of factors associated with anaemia and the treatment of anaemia in cancer patients.

In the early days of his research activities, he was able to show a significant activity of erythropoietin in treating anemia in myeloma (NEJM 1990). He led several investigator sponsored clinical trials in MM and participated in many studies organized by research-oriented pharmaceutical industry. Within the International Myeloma Working Group he has contributed to several position papers and in some of them as lead researcher. Presently, his team is evaluating the role of certain signal transduction molecule inhibitors in MM cell lines and in MM bearing mice. >

Furthermore, he is running academic trials with Ixazomib- and others with Carfilzomib-combination regimen and is participating in several international studies.

Other activities: Professor Ludwig serves as peer reviewer of several international journals and has published a large number of scientific articles. He is a strong supporter of patient's interests and patient's rights. Under his initiative an international charter of cancer patient's rights has been published under the auspices of ASCO, the Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology (CISCO), and ESMO.

Contributions to scientific organisations: Prof. Ludwig has served as President of ESMO and on the board of international directors of ASCO. At present, Prof. Ludwig is a member of the board of the International Myeloma Foundation and President of the Austrian Forum Against Cancer.

Awards: For his scientific contributions he has been honoured with the Robert A. Kyle Lifetime Achievement Award, the Otto Kahler Award, the Golden Cross of Merit from the Republic of Austria, and the Golden Cross of Merit from the City of Vienna.



Wolfgang Wein, MD, PhD
General Manager Merck Austria

Wolfgang Wein, Managing Director of Merck Austria, has more than 25 years of pharmaceutical experience. After studying medicine and philosophy and receiving post-graduate training at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, he gained experience in various areas of the pharmaceutical industry as well as in countries such as England, Japan and Germany.

From 2005, as Executive Vice President Oncology, he led Merck's global oncology business in Darmstadt. From 2005–2011 he was a member of the Executive Board of Merck-Pharma. Since 2013 he has headed the Western Europe region.



Ernst Agneter, MD, PhD, MBA
Head of Center for Pharmacological Medicine, Sigmund Freud Medical University Vienna
Managing Director, Agneter PharmaConsulting GmbH
Chairman of the Association of the Austrian Pharmaceutical Industry Working group
Health Economics & Reimbursement

Ernst Agneter is a specialist in pharmacology and toxicology. After receiving his PhD in 1989, he worked as a doctor of general medicine for the Ministry of Health in the area of drug approvals and as assistant at the Pharmacological Institute of the University of Vienna. In 2000, he obtained the teaching license for pharmacology and toxicology. In 2018 he was appointed to the Chair of Pharmacology of the Sigmund Freud Private University in Vienna.

In addition, he holds a Master of Advanced Studies, a Master of Business Administration and an Examination in Wholesale Medicines and Poisons.

Agneter served as Medical and Marketing Director in an international pharmaceutical company, as well as an external expert of the Federal Ministry for Social Security and Generations, and as a member of the EMEA experts nominated by Austria, as well as peer reviewers. In 2001, he founded the Agneter PharmaConsulting GmbH with a focus on the preparation of preclinical and clinical expert reports, evaluation of pharmaceuticals as well as pricing and reimbursement of proprietary medicinal products. Other key areas include strategic consulting for pharmaceutical companies, training and lobbying.

Agneter is a member of several national and international pharmacological and pharmaceutical associations. Dr. Agneter leads the Working Group on Health Economics & Reimbursement of PHARMIG and is Chief Editor of the Austrian Health Economics Journal "Law & Medicine" (Manz Verlag), and was co-author of the series "Remedies and Reason".



Claudia Wild, MSc, PhD
Director of Ludwig Boltzmann Institut (LBI), HTA

Claudia Wild has been Director of the LBI-HTA since its establishment in 2006. From 1989–2006 she worked as a Senior Researcher at the Institute of Technology Assessment at the Austrian Academy of Sciences and helped developing the research field Health Technology Assessment in Austria. Prior to that, she was Research Associate on “media impact on cognitions” at the Institute for Communications and Political Science at the University of Nuernberg/Germany and worked as a freelancer on media impact research projects. She studied communications & psychology at the University of Vienna and political sciences at the Ohio University in Athens/Ohio/USA and completed her studies with a Graduation at the University of Vienna as Doctor of Philosophy in 1985. In 2009, she habilitated in social medicine (Medical University Graz) on the topic of “resource allocation in health-care systems”. Claudia Wild has numerous peer-reviewed publications and lectures in several universities.



Boris Azaïs, MA
Director Public Policy Europe Canada-MSD, France

Boris Azaïs is currently Director, Public Policy Europe for MSD (a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, N.J., USA).

In his capacity, Boris Azaïs engages with European institutions and governments to promote a policy framework that supports pharmaceutical innovation for European patients. His core interest is at the crossroads of research, health and industrial policy, each playing a critical role in ensuring that science is turned into novel medicines that can help patients live better and healthier lives. As part of his engagement activities, Boris speaks at international conferences, produces studies, and coordinates advocacy activities related to the policy framework that enables pharmaceutical innovation. Boris is also involved in joint advocacy efforts with key stakeholders and patient groups related to specific therapeutic areas, such as Alzheimer’s disease, viral hepatitis, diabetes and HIV/AIDS.

In 2003, Boris Azaïs was seconded for two years to the IFPMA, the association that represents the research-based pharmaceutical companies in Geneva, to support the advocacy work of the IFPMA with Geneva-based governmental and non-governmental organizations. Among various topics, Boris worked on public-private partnerships and R&D for neglected diseases.

Prior to that, Boris Azaïs joined MSD in 1998, as Legal Director for Middle-East & Africa, after a multi-year practice as a corporate lawyer for the firm Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton in Paris.



Vladimir Kopernicky, MD
Vice President, International Medical Affairs, Eli Lilly

Vladimir Kopernicky is Vice President Medical Affairs International at Eli Lilly and Company. He has over 18 years of pharmaceutical industry experience in scientific, operational and managerial roles across multiple therapy areas and geographies. Prior to his current role he served as the Senior Medical Director for Europe, Senior Director for Musculoskeletal and Men’s Health divisions at Lilly USA, Senior Adviser for Australia, Asia, Middle East, Africa, Latin America and Canada. Kopernicky is a medical doctor and graduated from the Comenius University Medical School in Bratislava. He gained clinical experience in Pediatrics and Neonatal Intensive care at the University Children’s Hospital in Bratislava and at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan. Kopernicky has authored several scientific publications and presentations at national and international venues. He speaks five languages.



Stefan Sladeček, PhD
Market Access Manager, Novartis Oncology

Stefan was born in Vienna in 1978 and holds a PhD in biochemistry from the University of Basel. He is currently employed as a Market Access Manager at Novartis Austria, where he is responsible for the oncology portfolio. Before taking over national market access responsibilities in Austria, he was a Senior Analyst/Consultant at Health Advances, a Life Science consultancy based in the US & Switzerland, where he advised global pharma and biotech clients on optimal HTA, pricing, reimbursement and market access strategies for European markets. Prior to that, he worked as an Account Director for medical communication & marketing at Ogilvy Healthworld. Despite working in the pharmaceutical industry, he never lost touch to the academic world and has presented & lectured at conferences and country chapters of ISPOR (International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcome Research).



Flutura Hasa, MD, MPH, MHE
**Health Economics and Market Access Leader 3M Healthcare Business Group,
United Arab Emirates**

Dr. Flutura Hasa is an anesthesiologist and intensive care unit specialist by training from the 'Mother Theresa' University of Tirana, Albania. She also has master degrees in Public Health and Health Economics.

She is a strong advocate of value based healthcare and introducing the essence of Health Care Economics to the various healthcare audiences, such as, doctors, nurses, purchasing officers, dentists etc.

She currently works for 3M Healthcare as the health economics and market access leader. She has an extensive knowledge of medical devices technology. >

She is a visiting lecturer of several medical universities and hospitals in the CEEMEA region, mainly in the field of medical education related to clinical and economic research, quality improvement programs, reimbursement and value-based healthcare.

She has conducted and continues to work on publishing research papers related to public health, health economics and value based healthcare and is member of Medtech, ISPOR, WFSA and Catalyst.



Sebastian Iovan, MD, MBA, MSc
**International Business Unit Pricing, Reimbursement & Access Marketed Products,
Eli Lilly and Company**

Sebastian Iovan is a physician with an MSc in Health Economics from Bocconi University Milan, Italy and an MBA from IE Madrid, Spain. In his 13 years with Eli Lilly, Sebastian has been responsible for Pricing, Reimbursement & Access at Regional and Global level across different products and therapeutic areas. He is now the leading Pricing, Reimbursement & Access for International Region for the entire Diabetes portfolio, Osteoporosis and Oncology.



Robin Rumler, MD
Country Manager Pfizer Austria

Upon earning a degree in medicine from the Medical University of Vienna, Prof. Dr. Rumler gained initial experience as an intern at a GP's teaching practice and then joined the Surgical Research Laboratories of the Medical University of Vienna as resident physician. An opening in the pharmaceutical industry presented itself in mid-1992, and he gladly took this opportunity to pursue a career in business.

In the ensuing years, Prof. Dr. Rumler held positions with various divisions of the major pharmaceutical companies Cilag (a Johnson & Johnson subsidiary), Zeneca, Sanofi and Pfizer. He supervised scientific studies and served as Product Manager, Sales Manager, Business Unit Director and Marketing Director. He has been CEO of Pfizer Corporation Austria Ges.m.b.H., one of the world's premier pharmaceutical companies, since 2009 and CEO of Pfizer Manufacturing Austria GmbH in Orth/Donau since 2014. Moreover, he is head of the department for internal medicine at Pfizer Austria.

Prof. Dr. Robin Rumler is Vice President of Pharmig, the association of the Austrian pharmaceutical industry since 2016. From 2010 to 2016, Prof. Dr. Rumler has held the office of President of Pharmig, where he was responsible for representing the interests of some 120 companies collectively with more than 18,000 employees. Prof. Dr. Rumler is also Vice President of the American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) Austria.



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Ronald Pichler, Dr. iur.
Head of Public Affairs, Austrian Pharmaceutical Industry

Ronald Pichler studied law at the University of Vienna and in Paris and completed the judicial year in Vienna. Born in Vienna, his career began in 1999 at Österreichische Post AG, where he moved to OMV AG in 2007 as Head of Public Affairs. There he took over the Corporate Public Affairs department and also acted as "Counselor to the CEO". He then headed for the pharmaceutical industry.

From 2009 to 2017, Ronald Pichler headed the Corporate Affairs division of the international pharmaceutical company GSK in Vienna. In 2017 he moved to AbbVie GmbH and took over responsibility for the areas Market Access and Government Affairs. In addition, from 2011 to autumn 2018, Pichler became Secretary General of FOPI, the forum of the research-based pharmaceutical industry in Austria. In December 2018 Ronald Pichler took over the newly created department "Public Affairs" of Pharmig.



Helga Thurnher
President of Patient association Colorectal Cancer

Helga Thurnher founded the "Patient association Colorectal Cancer" in 2004 with her husband, who was suffering from colorectal cancer, and took over the management of the patient group after his death. She is strongly committed to the concerns of cancer patients, especially those with colorectal cancer. During the illness of her husband, who was also a doctor, Ms. Thurnher fought with him for his best possible care and against adversity in the health system.