

Paul Christou - Short CV

- BSc. 1st Class Honours (1977). University of London, United Kingdom-Organic and natural products chemistry. PhD (1980), University of London, University College, UK- Biosynthesis of secondary products in plant cell cultures.
- Agracetus Inc., Madison, WI, USA, 1982-1993. Led a group which generated the first commercial GM staple crop (soybean). First inventor on the dominant transgenic soybean patent. Developed variety-independent gene transfer method for rice.
- John Innes Centre (JIC), Norwich UK, 1993-2001. Head, Department of Applied Plant Biotechnology, Director of the Rice and Maize Developing Country Biotechnology Training Laboratory funded by the RF (US\$ 3 million). Most notable scientific contribution at the JIC was the elucidation of the integration mechanisms of multiple transgenes in plants.
- Fraunhofer IME (Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology) (Aachen, Germany, 2001-2004). Full professor & Co-director. Research: molecular pharming and mechanisms controlling expression of complex proteins e.g. antibodies, in plants. Developed the strategic plan and IP strategy of the Institute. Raised funds from the German National Funding bodies (DFG and BMBF), the EU, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and industry, in the order of €7 million. Co-edited The Handbook of Biotechnology.
- ICREA Institución Catalana de Investigación y Estudios Avanzados) professor, University of Lleida, Spain (2004-to-date). Since coming to Lleida his group attracted funding of € 9 million, including an ERC Advanced Grant and a Proof of Concept ERC grant. He was the Editor in Chief of Molecular Breeding (for over 20 years) and Transgenic Research (for 25 years). He served as Founding Director of the CERCA Center Agrotecnio (2012-2015). In 2021 he was granted the Narcis Monturiol medal.

Research programs focus on: Transgene structure and function in genetically engineered crops; metabolic engineering, production of pharmaceutical macromolecules in crop plants; engineering of multiple agronomic traits in cereal crops. Training and technology transfer for developing country biotechnology, intellectual property issues and regulatory and bio-safety issues of transgenic crops, focusing on developing countries. Science policy issues and strategic planning covering the interphase between fundamental and applied research. Trained ca: 150 PhD students, postdoctoral fellows and senior scientists from 26 different countries over the past 35 years. Over 300 peer reviewed papers and over 200 Invited/Plenary lectures at International meetings; 8 issued patents.