Hanna Oksanen

Principal Investigator Molecular and Integrative Biosciences Research Programme Faculty of Biological and Environmental Sciences University of Helsinki Helsinki, Finland

https://researchportal.helsinki.fi/en/persons/hanna-m-oksanen

Biography



Hanna Oksanen is the Elected Member of the Executive Committee of the ICTV, Chair of the *Corticoviridae*, *Pleolipoviridae*, and *Halopanivirales* (families *Sphaerolipoviridae*, *Matsushitaviridae*, and *Simuloviridae*) Study Groups, and Member of the *Halspiviridae* Study Group. She has also contributed to the description of the families *Tectiviridae* and *Finnlakeviridae*. Her work on archaeal tailed double-stranded DNA viruses originating from highly saline environments led to the ratification of a new archaeal virus taxonomy for such viruses in 2022 (14 new families and 3 orders in the class *Caudoviricetes*).

She defended her doctorate in 2004 (genetics) at the University of Helsinki on bacteriophage PM2 biology (family *Corticoviridae*). She is an expert in molecular virology of both bacteriophages and archaeal viruses. Her Molecular Principles of Viruses research group aims to understand the mechanisms of virus-host interactions and her research has extended our understanding of viral diversity and relatedness. In addition to molecular virology research and teaching, she is the Vice-Director of Biomolecular Complex Purification core facility (Biocomplex), Member of Access Committee of the ESFRI Instruct-ERIC (Integrated Structural Biology Research Infrastructure Consortium in Europe), and Coordinator of the Structural Biology Finland (FINStruct) and Instruct-ERIC Centre Finland research infrastructures.

She became a member of the Bacterial and Archaeal Viruses Subcommittee in 2016 and after the division of the Subcommittee into Bacterial and Archaeal Virus Subcommittees, has been a member of both committees. She was elected as an Elected Member of the Executive Committee of the ICTV in 2020 for a three-year term (2020-2023). She has published more than 120 publications including six ICTV Virus Taxonomy Profiles and co-authored 15 Taxonomic Proposals.