



**Kresimir Gjuracic, PhD**

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Currently, R&D Biotech & Chemistry Director at Gnosis by Lesaffre, and Assistant professor at the Faculty of Food Technology & Biotechnology, Zagreb University teaching Evolution and Biotechnology, coordinated by prof. Višnja Bačun-Družina. Initial scientific background in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, he obtained during 1990's, through education at the same Faculty where he's now teaching. As an undergraduate student, he obtained two Rectorship's Awards, given also today at the University of Zagreb to the most prominent students, and at the last two years of studies he was a fellow of the PLIVA d.o.o. From the same Faculty he obtained the PhD degree, mentored by professors Marija Alačević & Zoran Zgaga, and developed an interest in topics of DNA recombination and DNA repair mechanisms in yeast and mammals. This interest grew even more during his first postdoctoral study from 1998-2001 at the ICGEB, AREA Science Park Trieste, headed at the time by professors Arturo Falaschi and Francisco E. Baralle, in the Laboratory of Yeast Molecular Genetics, leaded by prof. Carlo V. Bruschi.

This initial scientific input gave him an opportunity at the PLIVA Research Institute, subsequently acquired by Glaxo Smith Kline, and becoming the Macrolide oriented Centre of Excellence in Drug Discovery, to deepen his interest in Natural Sciences in general. As a Head of Molecular Biology Laboratory, part of Therapeutic group II, headed by MD-PhD Mladen Merčep, his activities were focused in conducting his team for, at the time mainstream Drug Discovery oriented projects. In parallel, he conducted a collaborative scientific project with professors Paolo Bonaldo and Paola Braghetta, at the University of Padua, setting up a Transgenic Facility at home Institute, with aim to develop a proprietary platform to produce Therapeutic Monoclonal antibodies.

Due to a personal reason, and at the time announced downsizing of the GSK R&D, he moved to Trieste, Italy and joined again the prof. Carlo V. Bruschi's team, initially as an external fellow. Subsequently, he got an opportunity to continue his initial research work in the field of Immunology, financed by Crescendo Biologics, Cambridge UK, runned at the time by prof. Mike Romanos.

After concluding the project with Crescendo, he joined the ACIES Bio CRO company, specialized in the Microbial strain improvement, by standard genetic or targeted metabolic engineering approaches, as well as in genomic manipulation methodologies based on Bacterial and Yeast Artificial Chromosome vectors, and Recombineering Techniques. During last two years of his career in the ACIES Bio, he initiated a collaboration with his current home institute, known at the time as the Gnosis S.p.A., today a part of multinational company Lesaffre, with it's Headquarters at Lille, France.

For more details visit his profile at LinkedIn web pages.

