

Curriculum Vitae - Birgit Arnholdt-Schmitt

Born in Hamburg, Germany, 06/03/1951

- 1976 Diploma in Nutritional Sciences and Home Economics (focus on Biochemistry and Human Nutrition) at the Justus-Liebig-University (JLU) of Giessen, Germany
- 1977 to 1980 PhD research in Plant Breeding at the Institute for Applied Biology and Environment, JLU Giessen, Germany; Thesis: Investigations on genotype and phenotype variability in protein and oil seeds of winter and summer rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L. ssp. *oleifera* (Metzg.) Sinsk.) – Dr. agrar. Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Walter Schuster
- 1982 to 1999 Research in the Tissue Culture laboratory of Prof. Dr. Karl-Hermann Neumann (former postdoc scientist in FC Steward's lab), Institute of Plant Nutrition, JLU Giessen, Germany
- 1994 'Habilitation' (Dr. habil.), area: Cell Biology of Plants; Thesis: Hormone sensitivity and variability of genomic DNA in relation to yield production of *Daucus carota* L. ssp. *sativus*. A contribution towards cell biology of plant growth; Venia legendi: Biochemistry of Plant Nutrition
- 1994 – 2003 'Privatdozentin' (PD - independent research and teaching) at the Interdisciplinary Research Center, JLU Giessen, Germany
- 1995 to 1997 Full-Professorship in temporary replacement of Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Konrad Mengel, Institute of Plant Nutrition, JLU Giessen, Germany
- 1997 to 1999 Project Leader of an industrial cooperation project on plant genome characterization with Plantamed/Bionorica, performed at the JLU Giessen
- 1998 Short-term Visiting Professor at the University of Jaipur, Rajasthan, India, within a long-term cooperation through the German Academic Exchange Service 'DAAD'
- 1999 to 2002 Visiting Professorship at the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of the Federal University of Ceará, UFC, in Fortaleza, Brazil, CAPES/DAAD program, area: Molecular Biology and Biotechnology of Plants; Member of Brazilian evaluation panels
- Since 2000 Independent expert for the European Commission as evaluator in diverse excellence programs under FP5, FP6 and FP7 for two panels, Environment and Life Science; Member of Energy expert panels for European and European-Brazilian projects

- Since 2003 'Habilitation' and 'Privatdozentin' at the Department of Biology, Institute of Botany at the University of Hamburg, Germany. Venia legendi: Applied Botany with special focus on Molecular Biology
- 2003/2004 Short-term Visiting Professor at the University of Évora, Portugal (Practical and theory course in Molecular Biology)
- 2005 to 2008: Marie Curie Chair Holder at the University of Évora (ICAAM)
Project: Stress adaptation in plants – a molecular approach of socio-economic interest
- From 10/2008 Coordinating Investigator at the University of Évora; the EU Marie Curie Chair was prolonged by a unique award through the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education via the Presidency of the Portuguese Foundation of Science and Technology (FCT) and by co-financing of the UÉ. A European panel that evaluated the hosting research center in 2008 highlighted the Chair as promoter ("*...has given the whole unit a strong impulse to improve, not only in the specific field of research but for the unit as a whole.*").
- Spring 2010 Selected at the University of Évora as Director of IIFA. She appreciated the honor, but, in final agreement with the head of FCT and the Rector, she did not accept the position in order to stay close to leading edge research and to extend the competence focus at the UÉ – continuing with risk of a temporary position...
- 2013 to 2018 Coordinating Investigator exclusively supported by the University of Évora
- From 10/2018 **Independent Non-Institutional Scientist (INIS)** and Coordinator of the international virtual network '**FunCROP**', a Competence Focus on '**F**unctional **C**ell **R**eprogramming and **O**rganism **P**lasticity', which was created by Birgit Arnholdt-Schmitt in May 2016 as a SMART extension of the EU Marie Curie Chair (www.eu_chair.uevora.pt)