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Peter Gruss

President of the Max Planck Society, Germany

Peter Gruss was born in 1949 in Alsfeld in Germany. In 1968, he began his studies in biology at the Technical University in Darmstadt. After graduating, he went to the Institute for Virus Research at the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg where he wrote his doctoral thesis. In 1977, he earned his Ph.D. in biology from the University of Heidelberg.

The following year he went to the Laboratory of Molecular Virology of the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, (USA). In 1982, he was appointed to Professor in the Institute for Microbiology at the University of Heidelberg. One year later, he was designated to the Board of Directors of the Center for Molecular Biology in Heidelberg. In 1986, he was named to Director of the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Göttingen and to Scientific Member of the Max Planck Society.

Since 1990, Peter Gruss has held the status of honorary professor at the University of Göttingen. He has been President of the Max Planck Society since mid-2002.

