

Biography of Jonathan K.C. Knowles

Director, Glaxo Institute for Molecular Biology, Geneva, Switzerland
Glaxo Wellcome Research Director for Europe

Jonathan Knowles was appointed director of the Glaxo Institute for Molecular Biology in Geneva in 1989. Over the last five years under his leadership, the 180-strong Institute has developed significant expertise in the diverse technologies essential for the discovery and definition of important novel drug targets. It has made a significant contribution to Glaxo's International drug discovery effort, and developed a good scientific reputation in a number of key areas of modern biology. Jonathan Knowles is responsible for the international co-ordination of the Glaxo Human Genetics Initiative. In 1995, in addition to his function as Director of the Glaxo Institute at Geneva, he was appointed as Research Director for Glaxo Wellcome Europe. He is also a member of the Global Research and Development Executive Committee, which oversees all Glaxo Wellcome Research and Development activities world-wide.

Before joining Glaxo, Jonathan Knowles was head of molecular biology at the Technical Research Centre of Finland for 10 years. He directed a multidisciplinary group exploiting molecular biology for the development of new proteins and industrial organisms for biotech applications in the production of food, paper, diagnostics and pharmaceuticals. He has a broad interest in biology and in particular its applications which he has pursued in research organisations in the UK, France, Germany, the US, Finland, Japan, and Switzerland.

Education: BSc, University of East Anglia and PhD, University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

Family: He lives with his wife Kirsti and three children in Geneva.

Hobbies: Sailing, Skiing, Music and Flying.

September 1995

2048225724