

PETER PIOT

Current positions:

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, and
Handa Professor of Global Health (Director until July 2021)
Special Advisor on Covid19 to Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European
Commission (2020-)
Visiting Professor, Rega Institute for Medical Research, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven,
Belgium (2021-)

Education

- M.D., University of Ghent, Belgium, 1974
- Ph.D. (Microbiology), University of Antwerp, Belgium, 1980
- Clinical Virology, Postgraduate Medical School, Manchester, UK, 1977
- Epidemic Intelligence Service, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, USA 1978
- Senior Fellow in Infectious Diseases, University of Washington, Seattle, 1978-1980
- Advanced Training in Biomedical Research Management, Harvard University, 1991

Selected Experience

Research

Initially trained in medicine and medical microbiology, with original contributions in epidemiology, bacteriology, virology, and public health interventions and policy for major health issues, mostly in low-and middle-income countries. .

- Part of the team that isolated Ebola virus, and investigator of the first known outbreak of Ebola Virus infection, with the US Centers for Disease Control, and the Zairian Ministry of Health, (1976-1977).
- Coordinated and led several major research efforts during the Ebola outbreaks in West Africa (2014-2015) and DR Congo (2018-2020), including the conduct of vaccine clinical trials, as well as the current response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Team leader of the first investigation of HIV/AIDS in Africa, with the US Centers for Disease Control, the National Institutes of Health, and Mama Yemo Hospital, Zaire, 1983, leading to the creation of Projet SIDA, the first research program on AIDS in Africa, generating much of the evidence base for our current knowledge on HIV in Africa.
- Co-founder of the International Centre for Training and Research in AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases, University of Nairobi, Kenya, 1981-1992, with the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada, and the University of Washington. This Centre developed original interventions for the prevention of HIV, and in women's and neonatal health.
- Directed a laboratory and a research group of over 75 staff in Belgium, Kenya, and Zaire/Congo, with major contributions on the determinants and control of HIV transmission, including mother-to-child transmission, genetic variation of HIV, the interaction of HIV infection and tuberculosis, and maternal and newborn health.
- Initiated and oversaw long term scenario building on AIDS in Africa and globally - the "aids2031" project.

Strategy, Policy and Leadership

Long term experience of strategy development and implementation; leadership of both a large inter-governmental organization and of academic institutions; and policy advice and development in health, science, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, and international development.

- As *Director of LSHTM*, I provided strategic direction and leadership of a multi-disciplinary global graduate School, one of the world leading institutions in its field.
- As *Special advisor on Covid-19 to Ursula von der Leyen*, President of the European Commission, I am engaged in setting high level priorities and policies for the EU's COVID-19 response.
- I chaired the initial meetings which led to the creation of *CEPI* (Coalition of Epidemic Preparedness Innovation), a public-private partnership to accelerate the development of vaccines against epidemic pathogens, and a very early investor in Covid-19 vaccine development.
- Co-founder of the UK *Vaccine Manufacturing Innovation Centre (VMIC)*, a joint venture between LSHTM, the University of Oxford, Imperial College, Merck, JnJ and GE Health.
- As Chair of the UK *HMG Strategic Coherence of ODA Funded Research Board (SCOR)* I was overseeing coherence of over £2 billion public research funding annually with low and middle income countries.
- My work in 2009 as Senior Fellow at the *Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation* was mainly on strategy for the Foundation.
- I was a member of the *UN Chief Executive Board*, and of the UN Development Group, I actively participated in the overall policy direction of the UN's development activities.
- As co-chair of the Global Health Initiative, I advised the *World Economic Forum* on its health and pharmaceutical agenda.
- As chair of *the European Forum for Forward Looking Activities*, I provided foresight advice to the European Commission on all research and innovation matters for "Horizon 2020".

Executive Management

An experienced manager who values teamwork in a multi-cultural environment, delegation, working by objectives, and accountability.

- Under my 11-year Directorship, LSHTM doubled in size in terms of staffing, revenue and outputs, while its management, policy engagement and communications were modernised, and its global imprint greatly expanded, with now over half of staff based overseas.
- As the founding head of UNAIDS, I developed and led the United Nations response to the AIDS epidemic, built the Programme to 1000 staff in 80 countries, and mobilized \$250 million annually. Early 2009, UK Government's DFID increased its contribution to UNAIDS as one of two "best performers" among UN agencies.

Communications

A frequent speaker at scientific and policy fora, with an extensive global network, and an influential voice on global and public health policies.

- Organized the first ever UN sessions dedicated to a health issue – AIDS. First, at the UN Security Council (2000) followed by the UN General Assembly (2001) - turning points in the global response to AIDS.
- Effective relations at the highest levels of governments, and national and international institutions.
- Addressed several times the UN General Assembly, the UN Security Council, the World Health Assembly, the African Union, the Annual Meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, the Summits of CARECOM, ASEAN, the World Economic Forum, parliaments in the UK, the US, Japan and numerous other countries, and private investor meetings.
- For over 20 years, I have been a participant at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, serving as a "rapporteur" on health for the Forum and former co-chair of its Global Health Initiative.
- Extensive experience with media in three languages, and frequently quoted in the media.
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Governance and Board Experience

- Extensive experience of governance in public and philanthropic bodies, such as the **King Baudouin Foundation USA** (Chair of the board until 2021), the *Africa Health Research Institute*, South Africa (until 2021), and as an executive reporting to a board (at UNAIDS and LSHTM).
- **GHIT**, *Global Health Innovation Technology Fund*, Tokyo (not for profit), Board Vice-Chair: a partnership of 6 Japanese pharmaceutical companies, the Government of Japan, the Gates Foundation and Wellcome, aiming to develop products against neglected diseases. Chair of *Strategy* and *Remuneration* Committees (2013-).
- **CEPI** – *the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovation*, Oslo/London, Founding Member of the Board: a public-private partnership for the development of vaccines against epidemic threats and emerging infections. Member of the *Audit* Committee (2015-2021)
- **Co-chair, AREF** – African Research Excellence Fund, The Gambia (2021-)
- **Biocon Biologics** Ltd, Bangalore: independent non-executive director in producer of biosimilars (2021-).
- **Vestergaard SARL**, Lausanne, independent board member: a private bed nets, and safe water goods (2018-)
- **Novartis Foundation**, Basel (not for profit): independent board member (2015-2022)
- **Biocartis** NV, Mechelen, Belgium, *Independent company board Director: A start up* biotech company focusing on oncology diagnostics (2016-2019)
- **GSK Tres Cantos Open Lab Foundation (not for profit): Chair of the Board (2018-2020)**
- **Takeda** (*Ethics Advisory Board (2020- 2022)*),

Positions

2021-	Handa Professor of Global Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
2020-	Special Advisor on Covid19 to the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen
2021-	Rega Institute for Medical Research, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, Visiting Professor
2010 -2021	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Director, and Handa Professor of Global Health
2009 – 2010	Imperial College, London, Director, Institute for Global Health, and Professor of Global Health,
2009 – 2010	College de France, Paris, Professorial Chair, <i>Savoirs contre pauvreté</i> (Knowledge against poverty),
2009	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, Senior Fellow
1995 - 2008	United Nations, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, Executive Director, and Under Secretary-General of the United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
1992 - 1994	World Health Organization, Geneva, Director, Division of Research and Intervention Development, and Associate Director, Global Programme on AIDS.
1987 - 1992	Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium Professor of Microbiology and Chair, Department of Microbiology, Director, National AIDS Reference Centre,
1986 – 1987	University of Nairobi, Kenya Associate Professor, Department of Medical Microbiology

1980 – 1986	Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Associate Professor of Microbiology, and Head, Division of Microbiology
1978 – 1979	University of Washington, Seattle, USA, Senior Fellow, Division of Infectious Diseases, and Department of Microbiology,
1974 – 1978	Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Research Associate, Department of Microbiology

Selected Honours and Awards

- Ennobled **Baron** by King Albert II of Belgium, 1995
- **UK Knighthood KCMG**, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George, by Queen Elisabeth II, UK, 2017
- Grand Cordon of the **Order of the Rising Sun**, by Emperor Akihito, Japan, 2018
- **A Time Person of the Year** as one of “The Ebola Fighters”, 2014
- **Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize** for Medical Research, Tokyo, 2013
- **Prince Mahidol** Award for Public Health, 2014
- **Canada Gairdner Global Health Award** 2015
- **Robert Koch Gold Medal**, Berlin, 2015
- **Bloomberg Hopkins Centennial Award**, 2016
- **Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award**, National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, 2017
- **Nelson Mandela Award for Health and Human Rights**, 2001
- **Frank A. Calderone Prize in Public Health**, Columbia University, New York, 2003
- Doctor Honoris Causa of 8 universities.
- Civil awards from 10 countries in Africa, Asia and Europe
- NATO fellow, 1978-1979
- Thomas Parran Award, American Sexually Transmitted Diseases Association, 1998
- Congressional Black Caucus Leadership Award, Washington, DC, 2001
- Gold Medal, Royal Academy of Sciences and Arts, Brussels, 2002
- A. Vlerick award for Excellence in Management, Belgium, 2004
- Prix International, INSERM, France, 2016
- Edinburgh Medal, 2017
- Manson Medal, Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 2018
- Honorary Medal, KU Leuven, Belgium, 2019
- Galen Medal, The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London, 2021
- Honorary Fellow, Royal Society of Medicine, London, 2021
- Distinguished International Fellow, American Society for Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 2021

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Scientific Societies

- Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium (1989)
- National Academy of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, USA (2000)
- Academy of Medical Sciences, UK (2011)
- Académie Nationale de Médecine, Paris (2010)
- Academia Europea de Yuste, Spain, Socrates Chair (2005)
- National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, Germany (2018)
- Royal College of Physicians, London, UK (2001)
- International AIDS Society, President (1992-1994)

Selected Past Committees and Boards

- Medical Research Council UK Strategy Board, Member (2012- 2018)
- European Forum for Forward Looking Activities, EC, Brussels, Chair (2011-2014)
- International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, New York, (1996-2004)
- Chief Executive Board of the United Nations, New York (2000-2008)

- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, Board of Directors, Geneva (2002 – 2008)
- World Economic Forum, Global Health Initiative, Switzerland, co-chair (2005) and Rapporteur on Health (2010)
- King Baudouin Foundation, Brussels, Chair (2007-2011)
- Oxford Martin School (2013-2018)
- Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore, Advisory Board (2012-2020)
- GSK Open Lab Tres Cantos Foundation, Chair (2017-2020)
- Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation, Seattle, WA (2009-2013)
- MTV Staying Alive Foundation, London, Board of Directors (2006-2018)
- Biocartis NV, Belgium (2016-2019)
- UK HMG Strategic Coherence of ODA funded Research Board, Chair (2018-2020)

Publications (*List of >600 scientific publications available*)

16 books, including my memoir ***No Time to Lose*** (*WW Norton, translated into French, Dutch, Japanese, Korean and Chinese*), and ***AIDS between Science and Politics*** (*Columbia University Press, New York, and Odile Jacob, Paris*) also in French and Japanese.

Languages

Dutch (mother tongue), English, French, Spanish (understanding, reading), German (fair),

Personal data

Born: Leuven (Belgium), 17 February 1949

Dual Nationality Belgium and UK .

