



Ole Petter Ottersen

Contact information

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| ▶ M.D. University of Oslo | 1980 |
| ▶ Ph.D. (Neuroscience), University of Oslo | 1982 |
| ▶ Former President University of Oslo (2009-2017) | |
| ▶ Former President Karolinska Institutet (2017-2023) | |
| ▶ Chair Lancet Commission on Global Governance for Health | 2014 |
| ▶ Chair Lancet Commission on Global Governance for Health 2.0 | 2024 |

Current positions

- ▶ Professor, University of Oslo
- ▶ Visiting Professor Charité, Berlin (Global Health Institute)
- ▶ Affiliated to the Department of Neuroscience, Karolinska Institutet
- ▶ Affiliated to the Department of Global Public Health, Karolinska Institutet
- ▶ Vice President, Virchow Foundation

Previous positions

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| ▶ Research Fellow, Anatomical Institute, University of Oslo | 1978-1983 |
| ▶ Associate Professor (Prosektor), Anatomical Institute, University of Oslo | 1983-1992 |
| ▶ Professor of Medicine, Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, UiO | 1992- |
| ▶ Head of the Department of Anatomy, Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, University of Oslo | 1997-1999 |
| ▶ Dean of Science, Faculty of Medicine, University of Oslo | 2000-2002 |
| ▶ Head of EMBIO (Interfaculty Unit for Molecular Biology, Biotechnology and Bioinformatics at the University of Oslo) | 2001-2002 |
| ▶ Chairman of the Board of FUGE (National Program for Functional Genomics in Norway) | 2003-2007 |
| ▶ Director, Centre for Molecular Biology and Neuroscience (Center of Excellence sponsored by the Norwegian Research Council; www.cmbn.no) | 2002-2009 |
| ▶ Coordinator, Nordic Centre of Excellence in Molecular Medicine (WIRED) | 2005-2009 |
| ▶ Chief Editor of Neuroscience (Official Journal of the International Brain Research Organization) | 2006-2009 |

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| ▶ President of the University of Oslo | 2009-2017 |
| ▶ President of Karolinska Institutet | 2017-2023 |
| ▶ Acting Secretary General of The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities | 2023-2024 |

Teaching experience

- ▶ Educator of medical students since 1976, taught a number of fields, including neurobiology, histology, gross anatomy and functional anatomy.
- ▶ Member of committee for planning 7th semester in “Oslo 96”
- ▶ Educator of physiotherapists and postgraduate students
- ▶ Taught anatomy for medical students and dental hygienists at Karolinska Institutet 2017-2023

EU grants/other major grants

Partner or coordinator of several current or previous EU projects including:

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| ▶ Co-ordinator of EU Biomed project <i>Kainate and AMPA receptor trafficking</i> (KAR-TRAP) | 2003-2005 |
| ▶ Co-ordinator of EU project <i>Glutamate Receptor Interacting Proteins as Novel Neuroprotective Targets</i> (GRIPANNT) | 2005-2008 |
| ▶ Norwegian representative to European Cooperation in Scientific and Technological Research, COST | 2001-2005 |
| ▶ Partner of EU training network CORTEX | 2006-2009 |
| ▶ Partner of EU project NEUROIMAGE | 2006-2009 |
| ▶ Principal investigator of numerous other national or international grants | |

Major grants (in addition to the EU grants) include:

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| ▶ Center of Excellence (Norwegian Research Council): Coordinator/director | 2002-2009 |
| ▶ Grant from the Nordic Council (Nordic Centre of Excellence Program in Molecular Medicine): Coordinator. | 2005-2009 |
| ▶ Grant from the Norwegian Research Council (STORFORSK): Coordinator. | 2005-2008 |

2007: Founding partner (together with the Biotechnology Centre) of the Norwegian node of the Nordic Partnership of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)

Positions of trust – international

(the list is not exhaustive)

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| ▶ Board Member of Wallenberg Consortium North | 2002-2006 |
| ▶ Member Expert Advisor Group, Brain Power, Sweden | 2004-2006 |
| ▶ Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board for Helsinki Neuroscience Center | 2002-2007 |
| ▶ Panel leader, European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grants | 2008-2012 |
| ▶ Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Lundbeck Foundation | 2007-2013 |
| ▶ Chairman, Lancet – University of Oslo Commission on Global Governance for Health | 2011-2014 |
| ▶ Member of the board of Nordforsk | 2013-2016 |
| ▶ Leader of the Det Nordiske Universitetssamarbeidet (NUS) | 2013-2015 |
| ▶ Chairman of the Kavli Prize Committee (Neuroscience) | 2013-2017 |

▶ Chairman, Advisory Board for Academic Monitoring Panel on Global Governance for Health	2014-2017
▶ Member of the Strategic Advisory Board for Biocenter Finland	2012-2015
▶ Chairman of the prize committees of the Olav Thon Prizes (national and international)	2014-2021
▶ Strategic Advisor for EAT	2014-2017
▶ Founding Chair, Guild of European Research Intensive Universities	2016-2017
▶ Panel leader Synergy Grants, European Research Council	2017-2019
▶ Chair Scientific Council, Helsinki Institute of Life Science HiLife	2017-2022
▶ Board member of the African Population and Health Research Center	2017-
▶ Member of the Brain Prize Committee (Lundbeckfonden)	2020-
▶ Council member, Virchow Foundation	2021-
▶ Chair Virchow Prize Committee	2024-
▶ Committee member, Else Kröner Fresenius Prize	2022-
▶ Founding member / cofounder, One Europe for Global Health	2022-
▶ Member World Health Summit Council	2023-
▶ Member Scientific Advisory Board of RIKEN	2023-
▶ Member Scientific Advisory Committee AI-Mind	2021-
▶ Member One Sustainable Health Forum Scientific Committee	2022-
▶ Vice President, Virchow Foundation	2024-
▶ Governing Board, EBRAINS	2024-
▶ Board of Directors, Global Virus Network	2024-
▶ International Advisory Board, Chalmers	2024-
▶ Member of Stakeholders' group Global Health EDCTP3	2024-
▶ Chair Lancet Commission Global Governance for Health 2.0	2023-

Served as ad hoc expert advisor/evaluator for a number of organizations, institutions and research councils.

Participated in several university evaluations and other onsite evaluations including:

▶ University of Uppsala (panel member)	2007
▶ University of Göttingen (panel member)	2007
▶ University of Oulu (panel head)	2007
▶ University of Kuopio (panel member)	2008, 2013
▶ Evaluator in the German Universities Excellence Initiative	2011-2012
▶ University of Turku	2015, 2022
▶ Biocenter Finland	2016
▶ RIKEN, Tokyo	2023
▶ University of Eastern Finland	2023
▶ HUN-REN – Hungarian Research Network	2024
▶ Boltzmann Foundation	2024

Positions of trust – national

(the list is not exhaustive)

▶ Chairman of the Jahre Prize Committee	1996-2003
▶ Chairman of Interim Board of CONNECT Norway	2000-2002
▶ Member of Senior Advisory Board for Nordic CONNECT	2000-2002

▶ Member of Interim Board of Norwegian Biotechnology Forum	2000-2001
▶ Panel leader of the EVA Project (Committee for evaluation of the University of Oslo as research institution)	2001-2002
▶ Member of the Advisory Board of Institute of Neuroscience, Norwegian University of Science and Technology	2006-2008
▶ Chairman of the board of University of Oslo	2009-2017
▶ Board member Universitetsforlaget	2009-2017
▶ Member of the board of Oslo University Hospital (OUS)	2012-2017
▶ Chairman of the board of The Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR)	2013-2015
▶ Member of the Business for Peace Advisory Board	2013-2017
▶ Member of the board of Partnership for Change	2013-2017
▶ Chair, Samarbeidsorganet (joint council) of the Regional Health Authority and University of Oslo (Chair alternating with the Director of the Regional Health Authority)	2014-2017
▶ Dr Åke Olsson Foundation, Board member	2018-2023
▶ Petrus and Augusta Hedlunds Foundation, Board member	2018-2023
▶ Ruth and Rickard Julins Foundation, Board member	2018-2023
▶ Partnership group for Health and Life Sciences, Swedish Government	2018-2022
▶ Board Chair of SUSTAINIT, Unit for Sustainable Health, University of Oslo	2023-
▶ Board member, Nansen Neuroscience Network	2023-

Research Council Responsibilities

▶ Member of Scientific Advisory Panel	1992-2000
▶ Research Supervisor of MEDKAP	2000-2001
▶ Chairman of the Board of FUGE (National Program for Functional Genomics in Norway)	2003-2007

Honors and Awards

▶ Anders Jahre's award for medical research to younger researchers	1990
▶ The University of Oslo Prize for Scientific Research (Universitetets forskningspris)	1994
▶ The Lundbeck Foundation Nordic Award for Outstanding Research (shared with Jon Storm-Mathisen)	2005
▶ Anders Jahre's award for medical research (senior prize)	2008
▶ Member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters	1993
▶ Member of Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina (now German Academy of Sciences)	2001
▶ Member of The Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters	2006
▶ Member of Scanbalt Academy	2006
▶ Honorary Doctor University of Kuopio	2010
▶ Honorary Doctor École Normale Supérieure, Lyon	2015
▶ Honorary Doctor Strömstad Academy	2017
▶ Member Finnish Academy of Science and Letters	2017
▶ Member Academia Europaea	2017

- ▶ Ordre national du Mérite (ordre honorifique français) 2019
- ▶ The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star (Japan) 2023

Professional memberships

- ▶ Member of the European Neuroscience Association (FENS)
- ▶ Member of the Society for Neuroscience (USA)

Editorial Board Service

- ▶ Neuroscience (Official Journal of the International Brain Research Organization)
Associate Editor 2002-2005
Chief Editor 2006-2009
- ▶ European Journal of Neuroscience 2000-2009

Member of editorial board of the following journals (prior to 2009)

- ▶ Amino Acids
- ▶ Anatomy and Embryology (Managing Editor)
- ▶ Brain Research Protocols
- ▶ Journal of Brain Research
- ▶ Journal of Chemical Neuroanatomy
- ▶ Journal of Neurocytology
- ▶ Neuroscience
- ▶ Protocols in Neuroscience
- ▶ The Cerebellum

Publications and Citations

389 research papers listed in PubMed (October 2024). In 2002 Professor Ottersen was included in the Institute of Scientific Information list of Highly Cited scientists. Ottersen has an h factor of 118 (Google Scholar, December 2024) with more than 52 700 citations (Google Scholar). Included in Stanford rankings of Scientists <https://elsevier.digitalcommonsdata.com/datasets/btchxktzyw/3>

Editor/co-editor of international book volumes/special Issues

- ▶ Glycine Neurotransmission (Wiley 1990)
- ▶ Understanding the Brain through the Hippocampus (Elsevier 1990)
- ▶ The Glutamate Synapse as a Therapeutical Target (Elsevier 1998)
- ▶ Glutamate (Elsevier 2000)
- ▶ Water transport in brain (Elsevier 2004, Neuroscience Special Issue)
- ▶ DNA repair and genome homeostasis in brain (Elsevier 2007, Neuroscience Special Issue)

My blog archive as KI president

- <https://blog.ki.se/rektor/>

Co-organizer of Seminar Series (April to August 2024) on building ecosystem for vaccine production in Africa (with Charité, Karolinska Institutet, and Africa CDC:

Some recent articles on Global Health

1. [Prepared for the polycrisis? The need for complexity science and systems thinking to address global and national evidence gaps.](#)
Kwamie A, Causevic S, Tomson G, Sie A, Sauerborn R, Rasanathan K, Ottersen OP.
BMJ Glob Health. 2024 Sep 11;9(9):e014887. doi: 10.1136/bmjgh-2023-014887.
PMID: 39266018 **Free PMC article.**
2. [Life Science 2.0: reframing the life science sector for 'the benefit on mankind'.](#)
Vallin M, Tomson G, Kampmann B, Engebretsen E, Swartling Peterson S, Wanyenze RK, Ottersen OP.
Glob Health Action. 2024 Dec 31;17(1):2330758. doi: 10.1080/16549716.2024.2330758. Epub 2024 Apr 5.
PMID: 38577884 **Free PMC article.**
3. [Digital twin for pandemic monitoring and prevention: Urgent need for agreements for global data sharing.](#)
Ekström AM, Ottersen OP.
Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2023 Oct 3;120(40):e2311969120. doi: 10.1073/pnas.2311969120. Epub 2023 Sep 25.
PMID: 37748071 **Free PMC article.**
4. [The EU must step up its actions and leadership on global health.](#)
Ottersen OP, Wanyenze R, Miribel B, Nishtar S, Ganten D.
BMJ. 2023 Jun 15;381:1359. doi: 10.1136/bmj.p1359.
PMID: 37321618
5. [Teaching sustainable health care through the critical medical humanities.](#)
Engebretsen E, Sharma R, Sandset TJ, Heggen K, Ottersen OP, Clark H, Greenhalgh T.
Lancet. 2023 Jun 10;401(10392):1912-1914. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(23)00809-7. Epub 2023 May 12.
PMID: 37187196
6. [Tackling the politics of intersectoral action for the health of people and planet.](#)
Buse K, Tomson G, Kuruvilla S, Mahmood J, Alden A, van der Meulen M, Ottersen OP, Haines A.
BMJ. 2022 Jan 26;376:e068124. doi: 10.1136/bmj-2021-068124.

PMID: 37462013 **Free PMC article.**

7. [Addressing production gaps for vaccines in African countries.](#)

Ekström AM, Tomson G, Wanyenze RK, Bhutta ZA, Kyobutungi C, Binagwaho A, Ottersen OP.

Bull World Health Organ. 2021 Dec 1;99(12):910-912. doi: 10.2471/BLT.21.287381. Epub 2021 Nov 17.

PMID: 34866689 **Free PMC article.**

8. [Europe and the world: boosting international academic cooperation in a time of geopolitical tension and polarization.](#)

Vallin M, Gaunt A, Tomson G, Ottersen OP.

Eur J Public Health. 2021 Oct 26;31(5):929-930. doi: 10.1093/eurpub/ckab133.

PMID: 34436554 **Free PMC article.**

9. [Vaccine Inequities, Intellectual Property Rights and Pathologies of Power in the Global Response to COVID-19.](#)

Engelbrechtsen E, Ottersen OP.

Int J Health Policy Manag. 2022 Dec 6;11(11):2773-2775. doi: 10.34172/ijhpm.2021.57. Epub 2021 May 26.

PMID: 34124871 **Free PMC article.**

10. [The battle for COVID-19 vaccines highlights the need for a new global governance mechanism.](#)

Ekström AM, Berggren C, Tomson G, Gostin LO, Friberg P, Ottersen OP.

Nature Med. 2021 May;27(5):739-740. doi: 10.1038/s41591-021-01288-8.

PMID: 33707776

11. [Solidarity and universal preparedness for health after covid-19.](#)

Tomson G, Causevic S, Ottersen OP, Swartling Peterson S, Rashid S, Wanyenze RK, Yamin AE.

BMJ. 2021 Jan 22;372:n59. doi: 10.1136/bmj.n59.

PMID: 33483301 **Free PMC article.**

12. [COVID-19 puts the Sustainable Development Goals center stage.](#)

Ottersen OP, Engelbrechtsen E.

Nature Med. 2020 Nov;26(11):1672-1673. doi: 10.1038/s41591-020-1094-y.

PMID: 33037423

13. [The Sustainable Development Goals: ambiguities of accountability.](#)

Engelbrechtsen E, Heggen K, Ottersen OP.

Lancet. 2017 Jan 28;389(10067):365. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(17)30152-6.

PMID: 28137691

14. [The political origins of health inequity: prospects for change.](#)

Ottersen OP, Dasgupta J, Blouin C, Buss P, Chongsuvivatwong V, Frenk J, Fukuda-Parr S, Gawanas BP, Giacaman R, Gyapong J, Leaning J, Marmot M, McNeill D, Mongella GI, Moyo N, Møgedal S, Ntsaluba A, Ooms G, Bjertness E, Lie AL, Moon S, Roalkvam S, Sandberg KI, Scheel IB.

Lancet. 2014 Feb 15;383(9917):630-67. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(13)62407-1. Epub 2014 Feb 11.

PMID: 24524782