



Sir Gustav Nossal AC CBE, Professor Emeritus, The University of Melbourne, 2008 ASMR Medallist

Sir Gustav was born in Bad Ischl, Austria in 1931 and came to Australia with his family in 1939. He studied Medicine at The University of Sydney and, after two years' residency at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sir Gus moved to Melbourne to work as a Research Fellow at The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute (the Hall Institute). Sir Gus was knighted in 1977 and made a Companion of the Order of Australia in 1989. He has won many awards both locally and overseas for his work. Over the years, Sir Gus has served on dozens of community committees and boards, was Deputy Chairman of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation and was named as Australian of the Year in 2000 for his achievements in the fields of science and the community.

His world-renowned work helped build the foundations of modern immunology - an exacting field of science that he helped define for more than 30 years. His confirmation of Burnet's theory of antibody formation was a turning point in the medical profession's understanding of the immune system. Between 1986 and 1989 he was President of the International Union of Immunological Societies. Sir Gustav has been in the front lines in the global battle against disease through his direct involvement with the World Health Organization since 1967. Closer to home Sir Gus has helped shape the scientific affairs of Australia for three decades. As President of the Australian Academy of Science he has provided government with valuable input to policy making. As a public commentator about scientific and medical issues he has inspired continued popular and political interest in science and its application for the betterment of our lives and our country.

As a communicator of science he is unparalleled - inspiring future generations of scientists through lectures, radio and television.

Professor Nossal is a life member of ASMR.