



Biosketch

Annamma Spudich, PhD (biological sciences/biochemistry)

Spudich is a cell biologist (PhD, 1988, Biology Dept, Stanford University), and was awarded the Frances Lou Kallman Award for Excellence in Science and Graduate Study upon graduation. She did postdoctoral work with Professor Lubert Stryer in the Department of Structural Biology, Stanford University School of Medicine, and in 1990 received the McCormick Fund Award for Women. From 1992-1994, she served as Associate Director of the Cell Sciences Imaging Facility, Beckman Center, Stanford University School of Medicine. She was a Senior Research Associate in the Department of Biochemistry, Stanford University School of Medicine, from 1994-1998. From 1998-2000, Spudich was a Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology, University of California, San Francisco.

Spudich's scientific career has been focused on the role of the actin/myosin cytoskeleton in non-muscle cells, specifically on early stages of fertilization, cell division, cell migration and cell shape changes. She has published several seminal papers on the actin-myosin cytoskeleton in non-muscle cells, and she has been an invited speaker at the American Society for Cell Biology Annual Meeting, the Gordon Research Conference on The Cytoskeleton, the National Institutes of Health, the Max-Planck Institute, Munich, Germany, and the Workshop on the Cytoskeleton and Cell Signaling, International Congress of Cell Biology, Madrid, Spain.

For the last 20 years, Spudich has been a Visiting Scholar and then Visiting Professor at the National Center of Biological Sciences (NCBS)/TIFR, Bangalore, and also at Trans Disciplinary University, Bangalore, focusing on the contributions of traditional medical systems to contemporary biomedical sciences. Along with scholars of traditional medicine, she has published several seminal papers on the potential of traditional knowledge systems for biomedicine, and has organized conferences, at Stanford University and the NCBS in Bangalore, and was a keynote speaker at a Conference in Leiden in 2018 on the subject.

Spudich also has significant biotech experience. She took a 1-year sabbatical leave from Stanford to work at Genentech as a Visiting Scientist on a project related to the actin cytoskeleton. She also served as Senior Advisor, India Operations, for Calyx Therapeutics, California from 2002-2004, and served on the Scientific Advisory Board of Cimed, Bangalore, India from 2018-2019.

Annamma Spudich was born in Kerala, South India and has first-hand experience with and has developed keen interest in diseases endemic in tropical areas. She brings significant experience in cell biology, biochemistry of the cytoskeleton, and interest in global health and drug discovery to Kainomyx.

