

Antonio Ventosa is PhD in Microbiology (1981, University of Granada, Spain) and currently is Professor at the University of Sevilla, Spain. He is the Head of the Department of Microbiology and Parasitology of the University of Sevilla, Spain. He has been Vice –Dean (1993-1997) and Dean (1997-2001) of the Faculty of Pharmacy, and Vicerrector of Postgraduate Studies (2003-2006) of the University of Sevilla, Spain. He has published more than 200 research articles in books and journals. He has supervised 20 Doctoral Thesis and has been involved in a large number of research projects. Currently is Editor of the International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology and member of the Editorial Boards of the journals: Systematic and Applied Microbiology, Extremophiles, International Microbiology and Archaea. Member (currently is Secretary for Subcommittees) of the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes (ICSP) and Chairman of the ICSP-Subcommittees on the Taxonomy of Halobacteriaceae and Halomonadaceae. In 1991 received the award Jaime Ferran from the Spanish Society of Microbiology (SEM) and in 2008 the Price FAMA of Research from the University of Sevilla. Is a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology (2004) and the European Academy of Microbiology (2009). His research is focused on the study of extremophilic microorganisms, especially halophiles; he has interest in the microbial diversity of hypersaline environments, using both classical and molecular approaches (metagenomics), the taxonomy and phylogeny of halophiles and their biotechnological applications.