

## Biographical details

### Elke Schneider

Senior project manager at EU OSHA, since 2002, on a variety of topics, involved in setting up the Agency's European risk observatory and in charge of the "Occupational Safety and Health in figures" project combining OSH statistics at the EU and national level and OSH research information. She has also coordinated activities related to the topic of dangerous substances, incl. biological agents, at EU-OSHA.

Elke Schneider has a degree in technical chemistry/ biochemistry and a doctorate in technical sciences from the Technical University of Vienna, Austria.

Before joining EU-OSHA in 2002, Elke Schneider worked as deputy head of unit for European and International Affairs at the central authority of the Austrian Labour Inspection within the Ministry of Economics and Labour, now Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection. She has been a national delegate to the EU Commission and Council and involved in cooperation with SLIC (the Senior Labour Inspectors' Committee) and many other stakeholders. She has also been a member to the Austrian Association of Toxicologists.

### Valeria d'Agostini



Legal Officer and coordinator of Infringement Procedures in my Unit, follows closely the work related to the Commission Communication 'Safer and Healthier Work for All – Modernisation of the EU Occupational Safety and Health Legislation and Policy', adopted on 10 January this year.

### Suzanne Spaan, PhD.

Dr. Suzanne Spaan is research scientist at the department of Risk Analysis for Products in Development at TNO. Her main fields of interest are exposure assessment in epidemiology and exposure assessment for risk assessment / risk management. She has extensive experience in measuring and assessing (occupational) exposure (amongst other to biological agents at the workplace) and statistical modeling, and is involved in a wide variety of projects on this subject. She is involved in studies on measuring exposure in different (work) situations, designing exposure / risk assessment models, and intervention studies. She has ~20 publications in the areas of risk assessment, occupational exposure assessment and epidemiology. Before starting to work at TNO, she worked at the Institute of Risk Assessment Sciences (IRAS) of Utrecht University, where she conducted several research projects investigating exposure to organic dust and biological agents and related health effects at the workplace, that resulted in the thesis "Endotoxin exposure assessment - measurement and characterization".

## Nicole van Kesteren, PhD



Dr. Nicole van Kesteren is research scientist at the department of Child Health. Her main expertise concerns systematic development, implementation and evaluation of health promotion interventions in various fields. This includes: (1) a theory and evidence-based approach to explain and predict (health) behavior; (2) application of behavior change methods that are appropriate to the context and target audience; and (3) anticipating adoption and implementation within diverse organizational and contextual settings. Additionally, she has extensive expertise in qualitative research (mixed methods designs, action research, formative and process evaluations) and user involvement in innovation development. She is involved in studies on self-management, cultural sensitivity, (target group) participation and innovative qualitative research methodologies.

Moreover, she is involved in projects and advise on use of qualitative research and mixed methods designs for evaluation and innovation development and translating research into policy and practice.

## Gabriela Förster

Medical studies in Erlangen, worked as an assistant physician in the department of Internal Medicine in the clinics of Bamberg and Nürnberg.

On her way to become a specialist for occupational and environmental medicine she worked in the waste and sewage management, energy plants, water supply, public transportation for the city of Nürnberg.

In 1993 she became head of the occupational health department with the municipal utilities of Wuppertal.

Since 2001 Dr. Förster has worked with different tasks at Volkswagen AG, currently she is part of the Health International Team at the Volkswagen Health Department.

Since 1996, Dr. Förster has been deputy member of the committee on biological agents. Moreover she is delegated to the committee of hazardous substances and since 2009 delegated member of the committee on occupational health.

## Prof. Gérard Lasfargues



French Agency for food, environmental and occupational health & safety (ANSES)

Gérard LASFARGUES is currently the Managing Director General for “Science for Expertise” Division in ANSES as well as a university hospital physician and professor of medicine and occupational health.

For the last 20 years, Dr. Lasfargues has directed clinical, teaching, research and assessment work in the occupational and public health fields. Beginning in 2007, he set up and directed the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment of the French Agency for Environmental and Occupational Health Safety (AFSSET), before being appointed in 2009 as the Deputy Director General for Scientific Affairs of AFSSET, then of ANSES, and since August 2017 as Managing Director General for the “Science for Expertise” Division.

## **Kyösti Louhelainen**

M Sc 1979, Kuopio University, environmental Sciences

1991 Specialised Occupational Hygienist, FIOH (Finnish Institute of Occupational Health)

PhD. 1997, Kuopio University, environmental Sciences

### **1.1.1 CAREER at FIOH, Kuopio**

- 2010- 2016 Project Manager, (Chemical Safety)
- 2006-2010 Project Manager, (Small and Micro Enterprises)
- 2004-2005 Project Manager, (Research in Agriculture)
- 2002-2003 Project Manager, (Chief of Ergonomics Unit, Research in Agriculture)
- 2000-2002 Quality/ project Manager , FIOH HQ
- 1986-2000 Occupational Hygienist, (service work, agriculture, food industry)
- 1983-1986 Researcher, (agriculture)
- 1981-1982 Associate Researcher (agriculture), Kuopio University

### **1.1.2 TRAINING**

About 35 years of experience of training on courses, mainly for Occupational Health Care Experts, and also at universities, other training institutes and other institutes, authorities and private firms.

### **1.1.3 Professional activities**

Chairman of Finnish Occupational Society in 2007-2015

Nordisk Jordbruks Förening, member

Member of board of Annals of Agricultural and Environmental Medicine in 2007-2016

### **1.1.4 THESIS**

Louhelainen K: Farmers' exposure to dusts and gases in dairy farms. Kuopion yliopiston julkaisuja C. Luonnontieteet ja ympäristötieteet 69. Väitöskirja, Kuopion yliopisto 1997.