

NIKI J. AGNANTIS, MD, PhD, FRCPath, AGE

After graduating from the Medical School of Athens University in 1965, I went on to specialize in Pathology in 1970 and Cytology in 1974. I earned a Master's degree in Pathology in 1973 and Philosophy degree in Pathology in 1981 from the Medical School of Athens University. I was named an Assistant Professor of Pathology of the Athens University Medical School in 1983 and a Full Professor of Pathology of the Ioannina University Medical School in 1990. I worked as a resident and fellow in the Department of Pathology of the Hellenic Anticancer Institute of Athens, St. Savvas Hospital, from 1966 to 1973. Also, in the same Department of Pathology, I served as an Attending Pathologist from 1974 to 1979, Associate Director and Chief of the Breast Division in 1979 and from 1984 to 1991 I was the Director of the Department. I worked for one year, beginning in March 1973 as Director in the General Hospital of Larissa (a town north of Athens) where I established the Department of Cyto-Pathology. In 1978, I visited the Department of Cyto-Pathology of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (S.K.C.C.) in New York, USA where I stayed for six months supported by a grant from the Hellenic Anticancer Institute. Since then, I've been visited Memorial S.K.C.C. about every two years. From 1991 to the present, I've been the Director of Pathology of the University Hospital at Ioannina Medical School. Since 1996, I've been organizing and teaching in the postgraduate courses in Ioannina (up to now 33) on different topics of Pathology-Oncology. These courses are granted officially under the auspices of the European Society of Pathology, within the frame of the European Institute of Continuing Medical Education and in collaboration with the European School of Oncology. On May 1997, I organized the VII EUROCELL PATH in Metsovo-Ioannina.



I hold membership in thirty-four (34) Greek and Foreign medical societies. In many of these societies I served as a president or active board member.

In my academic career, I have presented more than 450 studies and have published more than 339 of these, in Greek and foreign literature. I have participated in more than 350 national and international medical meetings and have been an invited lecturer as a visiting Professor numerous times, in Greece and abroad. During the last 36 years I have contributed in the organization of several scientific committees, on the occasion of various scientific events, participating either as a president, secretary general or member. In these scientific events, I have contributed as a speaker, chairperson, coordinator or commentator.

My concern was always to study the multistep process of carcinogenesis in different organs (such as the breast, GYN, colon and rectum, bladder, prostate, liver, stomach and skin) and find out which of the so-called borderline, or premalignant or precancerous lesions are expressed with the different tumor markers. Interestingly, in almost all organs studied a considerable percentage of the above lesions showed an elevated expression to oncoproteins, similar to the one observed in well-differentiated carcinomas. Our findings proved the important role of oncoproteins in the development of the malignant phenotype. I do hope that in the near future all our efforts will contribute to the establishment of valuable prevention markers, which will detect the real candidates for cancer development.

Out of my 357 publications in peer-reviewed international journals, the total Impact Factor is 810.478 according to the SCI 2018 edition. The total number of my Citations in the ISI and in International Books, amounts to 6224 (until October 2018).

In 1995, I was appointed by the European Society of Pathology as co-editor of the Europath News, with Professor Sir Colin Berry (U.K), and Chief-editor, in 2003. Co-editor (2003) in the Gastric-Breast Cancer (GBC) Network Center website and electronic journal. Member of the Editorial Board and Reviewer in 21 Journals.

Throughout my career, I have been actively involved in the community. I was active with the Girl Scouts (all degrees) from 1951 to 1963. From 1983 until the present, I have been a volunteer worker and health lecturer in the Hellenic Cancer Society. Since 1978, I have participated with Soroptimist International of Europe (all degrees) and I was Health Coordinator of Europe from 1989 to 1993.

I have received multiple diplomas, honors and awards, from Medical Societies, Institutions and Universities (Greek and Foreign). The most important of these are the following: Diploma of Emerite Member, Medical Balkan Union (1985); Honorary Diploma and Gold Medal, European School of Oncology (1985); Honorary Diploma from European Society of Pathology (1985) and from Hellenic Anticancer Institute for 25-years contribution (1995); Certificate of Appreciation, Saitama Medical School, Tokyo, Japan (1994); Honorary Diploma and Medal of Corresponding Member (1996), Honorary Diploma and Plaque of Titulary Member (2001), Romanian Academy of Sciences; Honorary Medal, National Academy of Medicine, Paris, France (1998); Diploma of Fellow, based on published work, Royal College of Pathologists, London, U.K. (1999); UNESCO Praise of the Programme, Women in Science, selected as one of the final nominees along with thirty-one other female scientists out of 400 applicants worldwide, Paris, France (2000), Certificate of the International Biographical Centre Leading Health Professionals of the World, Cambridge, England (Feb 2005).

My biography has been included in the Dictionary of International Biography (1997). I was the recipient of the Illuminated Diploma of Honor in recognition of outstanding achievements in the field of Oncogenes and the 20th Century Award for Achievement (1995) -all from the International Biographical Centre, U.K. From the American Biographical Institute I have received the International Cultural Diploma of Honor (1995), the Twentieth Century Achievement Award (1995), the Commemorative Medal of Woman of the Year with a Certificate of Authenticity (1995), ABI Life Fellowship (March 2005).

My biography has been included in the Five Hundred Leaders of Influence (1996) and I have received an Honorary plaque for Outstanding Contributions to Continuing Medical Education (2001), the Certificate of Dedication of the International Directory of Distinguished Leadership (September 2002). In addition, I have been nominated by the ABI as an "Ambassador of Grand Eminece", (November 2002). Member of the Serbian Scientific Society (November 2002) and Certificate of Nomination (April 2003).

I have been the Dean of the Medical School at the Ioannina University (1999-2003). On May 7th 2003 I was elected Vice Rector of the Ioannina University. On May 20th, 2003 I was nominated and December 22th, 2003 elected President of ESP for the period 2005-2007 by the Executive Committee and by the ESP (by secret vote, 72% of the members) respectively. Honorary Member of ESP (August 2010)

On April 16, 2013, I was nominated Honorary Member (Pleni Iuri) of the Roumanian Academy of Sciences . Associate Member of The French Academy of Medicine (March 2016).

I was born 12 December 1940, to Antigone and Nicolas Gyras, famous GYN Doctor, and married to John C. Agnantis, an internationally known Orthopaedic Surgeon, in 1964. We have spent a dynamic and enjoyable life until October 30th 2005, when he passed away