

Curriculum Vitae

Name: **Ameur** Family Name: **CHERIF**

POSITION TITLE: **Professor, Head of Research Laboratory, President of the University of Manouba**

EDUCATION/TRAINING

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Lycée 2 Mars 1934, Menzel Bourguiba, Tunisia	Baccalaureate	06/1991	Experimental Sciences
Faculty of Sciences of Tunis, University Tunis El Manar	Bachelor	06/1995	Natural Sciences
Faculty of Sciences of Tunis, University Tunis El Manar	Master	12/1997	Genetics and Molecular Biology
Faculty of Sciences of Tunis, University Tunis El Manar	PhD	07/2001	Microbiology
Faculty of Sciences of Tunis, University Tunis El Manar	University Habilitation	05/ 2007	Microbiology

A. Personal Statement

Prof. Ameur CHERIF graduated in Natural Sciences at the Faculty of Sciences of Tunis (FST), University of Tunis El Manar in June 1995. Following his Master degree in Genetics and Molecular Biology in 1997, he obtained in 2001, his PhD degree in Microbiology. He was recruited as Assistant in 2001 and then Maître Assistant. He obtained his "Habilitation Universitaire, HU" in 2007 and passed as Associate Professor (2008) and then Full Professor (2012) in Microbiology at the Higher Institute for Biotechnology of Sidi Thabet (ISBST), University of Manouba (UMA), where he was elected twice as Director of the Institute (2010-2014). Since 2011, he is the head of a research laboratory BVBGR "Biotechnology and Bio-Geo Resources valorization" at the ISBST. In December 2017, he was elected as Vice-President of the University of Manouba in charge of scientific research for two mandates (2017-2020 and 2020-2023) and in 2024, he was elected as president of the university of Manouba.

Research activities of Prof. Ameur CHERIF focused on several aspects of Molecular Microbial Ecology and systematic; this includes: (i) Ecology of extreme environments and extremophiles, particularly in arid lands, saline systems (Chott and Sebkh) and desert ecosystems; (ii) Microbial ecology of Arthropods symbionts, commensal and pathogen bacteria and development of symbiotic biological control approach; (iii) Biotechnological applications of active substances such as antimicrobials, esterase, biosurfactants, bioplastics and microbial resources management for plant growth promotion and bioremediation, and (iv) Microbial resistance, Microbiome and Cancer.

Prof. CHERIF has coordinated/been involved in several academic support and capacity building projects (Development of the Strategic Management of Universities, Higher Education Modernization to Support Employability). He represented Tunisia in European Cost Actions, partner member in several EU FP7, Tempus, Erasmus, H2020 and bilateral projects, and serves on various review and editorial committees. In his research career, Prof. Cherif has published over 180 peer reviewed articles and several book chapters (183 publications with IF, 5004 total citations, h-index 37, Scopus, January 2025).

B. Positions and Honors

Positions and Employment (chronological order, concluding with the present position)

10/2001 – 05/2004	Assistant in Biological Sciences at the University of Tunis
06/2004 – 11/2007	Assistant Professor in Microbiology at the University of Manouba
12/2007 – 11/2012	Associate Professor in Microbiology at the University of Manouba
12/2012 – at present	Professor in Microbiology at the University of Manouba
12/2017 – July 2024	Vice-president of the University of Manouba, in charge of scientific research
08/2024 – July 2027	President of the University of Manouba

Other Experience, Professional Memberships and Honors

(Include any Government/ public/advisory committee(s))

07/2010 – 07/2011	Election and nomination as Director of the ISBST (UMA)
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08/2011 – 07/2014	Election and nomination as Director of ISBST (UMA)
11/2011 – at present	Creation (2011) and direction of the Research Laboratory LR11ES31 “Laboratory of Biotechnology and Valorization of Bio-Geo Resources” at the ISBST (UMA)
07/2014 – 09/2014	Temporarily appointed as General Director of the “National Institute of Research and Physico-Chemical Analysis, INRAP” (INRAP, Biotechpole Sidi Thabet)
06/2009 – at present	Associate Editor of the scientific journal “Annals of Microbiology”
10/2009 – 09/2010	National Contact Point (Tunisia) in Biotechnology (KBBE) for the European Commission 7 th Framework Program (FP7)
2007 – at present	Scientific evaluator for national scientific projects for the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific research (Tunisia, calls CMCU, ENVI, IRESA, UTIQUE, VRR, bilateral...)
2012 – at present	Scientific evaluator for research projects for the University of Milan and University of Bolzano, Italy
2010 - 2011	Election and appointment in the National Committee for the recruitment of Assistant in Biological Sciences (Tunisia)
2014 - 2017	Election and appointment in the National Committee (2014-2015 and 2016-2017) for the recruitment of Associate Professors in Molecular and Cellular Biology (Tunisia)
01/2013 – 05/2014	Lead Guest Editor and Guest Editor for the scientific journal “BioMed Research International”
01/2012 – at present	Creation and board member of the Tunisian Society for Microbial Ecology (ATEM)
11/2017 – at present	Creation and board member of the Tn Association Sciences and Horizons (ASH)
06/2017 – at present	Member of the European Federation of Biotechnology board (EFB), section Environmental Biotechnology
2018 – at present	Scientific evaluator for UGP Promesse (Higher Education Modernization Project to Support Employability) financed by the World Bank (PAQ-DGSU, PAQ-DGSE..)

C. Contribution to Science

Academic supervision: PhD scientific supervision: 16 PhD defended, 3 PhD planned for 2025, 3 PhD in progress ; Master degree supervision: 33 Master projects (defended) ; Final Year Projects (FYP): supervision of more than 40 projects (FYP, defended)

Publications in peer-reviewed journals (with impact factor) : 183 (h-index 37, Scopus, January 2025)

Publications in peer-reviewed journals (without impact factor) : 10

Book chapters : 15

Patents : 5

D. Capacity building and academic projects

Erasmus-EDU-2022-CBHE project **Pythagoras** (PI), 2023-2025, Development of a system for High level digital transformation of engineering education in Mediterranean countries; **PAQ-DGSU** (Development of the Strategic Management of the University) project 2019-2023 (coordinator), **Clever4Huma**: Supporting cleverness for humanity: Community linked with Ethics and Values of Excellence and Responsibility through Human-Centered Training and Research (University of Manouba Capacity Building for tomorrow citizens training); **PAQ-COVID19** project 2021-2023, **MIFRASS**: From crisis management to digital transformation: Upgrading, Interconnection, Training, Reinforcement, Support, Securing Systems; **VRR-COVID-19** project, 2020-2022, **Choufli-PSY**: Affective Platform for Support in the Management of Societal & Individual Psychological Impact: case of the Covid-19 pandemic.

E. Research Support and Projects

Ongoing Research Support: **PRIMA** project **CIRQUA**, GA N°2321 (2024-2026), Integrated Approaches at Local Scale for Enhancing Water Reuse Efficiency and Sustainable Soil Fertilization from Wastewater’s Recovered Nutrients; **European COST Action** (CA23104, OC-2023-1-26368) (2024-2027), Mainstreaming water reuse into the circular economy paradigm; **PRF2019-D6P2**, project 2019-2023, **Ceracontrol** : Gestion intégrée contre la Céraitite pour la promotion d’une agriculture durable (Co) ; **PAQ Collabora** PAR&I-Tk project 2019-2023, **Hp. Asta**: Optimisation of the production process of *Haematococcus pluvialis* (microalgae) in order to increase the yield and stability of Astaxantine (antioxidant) (Co);

Completed Research Support: **Horizon 2020** RIA 688320 project 2016-2020, **MAD4WATER:** Development and application of integrated technological and management solutions for wastewater treatment and efficient reuse in agriculture tailored to the needs of Mediterranean African Countries (PI); **INCO – Capacity – FP7**, Call JC NEXUS-2014, **ERANETMED** – NEXUS 035, 2016-2019, **WE-MET:** Sustainable wastewater treatment coupled to energy recovery with microbial electrochemical technologies (PI); **Tuniso-South African** project RPPB14060668438, Grant N° 95356, 2015-2017, **ADMEN:** An African Desert Soils Microbial Ecology Research Network (PI); **EU-FP7 program**, Collaborative project, call FP7-KBBE-2010-4, GA N° 266473, 2011-2014, **ULIXES:** Unraveling and exploiting Mediterranean sea Microbial diversity and ecology for xenobiotics' and pollutants' clean-up (PI); **EU- FP7-REGPOT-2009-2**, CSA GA N° 245756, 2010-2012, **BIODESERT:** Biotechnology from desert microbial extremophiles for supporting agriculture research potential in Tunisia and Southern Europe.