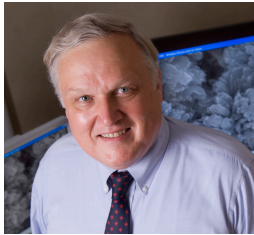


David Birk



David Birk, Ph.D. is currently Professor in the Department of Molecular Pharmacology & Physiology; and Professor of Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine at the University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine. He completed a Ph.D. in Anatomy and Cell Biology at Wayne State University in 1981 followed by a post-doctoral fellowship at the Boston Shriners Burns Institute and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He remained at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School as an Assistant/Associate Professor of Pathology before moving to the Department of Anatomy and Cellular Biology at Tufts University where he was promoted to Professor. He moved to Thomas Jefferson University in 1998 and to his current position in 2007. Dr. Birk received a NIH Career Development Award in 1984-1989. He was a member of the local organizing committee for the first ISMB meeting, the organizing committee for the 12th International Symposium on Basement Membranes (2005), ASMB program committee (2010) and vice-chair/chair of the Gordon Research Conference on Collagen for 2005/2007. Dr. Birk has served on numerous editorial boards as well as review and advisory panels. He is currently and Associate Editor of *Matrix Biology* and *Connective Tissue Research*. He has published over 150 peer-reviewed articles in matrix biology and numerous reviews and book chapters. Dr. Birk's research focuses on the tissue-specific regulation of collagen fibrillogenesis and matrix assembly; matrix macromolecule interactions in regulation of matrix assembly; development of connective tissue structure and function relationships; and the molecular basis of connective tissue diseases.