

Biography



Professor Volker Mosbrugger, born 1953 in Konstanz, Germany, has been the Director of the Senckenberg Research Institute and Natural History Museum with headquarters in Frankfurt am Main. since 2005. He is also is Professor of Historical Geology and Palaeontology at the University of Frankfurt am Main.

He studied Biology, Marine Biology and Chemistry at the University of Freiburg, Germany and Montpellier, France, and obtained his PhD in Geology and Palaeontology at the University of Freiburg in 1983. After his Habilitation at the University of Bonn in 1989 with the thesis "*The tree habit in land plants: A functional comparison of trunk constructions with a brief introduction into the biomechanics of trees*" (published in 1990 in Lecture Notes in Earth Sciences 28), between 1990 and 2005 he held a chair in Palaeontology at the Institute of Geoscience, University of Tübingen, Germany.

He is a member of several Scientific Advisory Boards, and elected member of several Academies of Sciences. In February 1999 he received the Leibniz-Award of the German Research Council (DFG) (750.000 €). Since 2002, he is head of the Commission of the DFG-Senate on "Geowissenschaftliche Gemeinschaftsforschung" ("Collaborative Research in Geoscience"). The Jilin University, Changchun, China awarded him a honorary professorship in 2001. In 2005 he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Lyon, France.

To the present he has supervised more than 15 successful doctoral thesis. His scientific area of expertise is palaeontology, palaeobotany, and palaeoclimatology, with special interests in evolution and construction of land plants, evolution of terrestrial ecosystems and the biosphere, and terrestrial palaeoclimatology.

