



RÉTHELYI, MIKLÓS, Chair, Hungarian National Commission for UNESCO

Miklós Réthelyi, emeritus Professor, Semmelweis University, former minister of the Human Resources Ministry, chair of the Hungarian National Committee of UNESCO

Miklós Réthelyi received his M.D. degree at Medical School, Pécs, in an era when Pécs Medical School was the leading medical education and training site in Hungary with professors as János Szentágothai, György Romhányi, Szilárd Donhoffer, Ödön Kerpel-Fónius, István Környei and many others. He started to work in Department of Anatomy at Budapest Medical School, later named Semmelweis University. His research activity focused on the structural, synaptological aspects of the medial basal hypothalamus and the spinal cord. He held an adjunct professorship (1974-1988) in Edward Perl's laboratory at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He served as the chair of the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology (1994-2004) at Semmelweis University, founded the Health Sciences Management Institute, was elected and appointed Rector of the Semmelweis University for two terms (1991-1995), served as director of the János Szentágothai Neuroscience Postgraduate School (2002-2009), was elected as member of the Szent István Academy of Sciences (2010) and served as the minister of the Human Resources Ministry including health care, education, social care, culture and sport departments (2010-2012). Dr. Réthelyi is the author of a major textbook of anatomy, histology and embryology (Funkcionális anatómiai, 9th edition, 2013). Since 2012 he has been the chairman of the Hungarian National Committee of the UNESCO.

With his wife of 50 years, Klára, he has three children, nine grandchildren and his favorite pastime is gardening.