

The International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses

Taxonomy Proposal Form, 2024

**Part 1a: Details of taxonomy proposals**

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| **Title:** | Nomination of Stuart Siddell as a Life Member of the ICTV | |
| **Code assigned:** | 2024.003G |

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| **Author(s), affiliation and email address(es):** | | | |
| **Name** | **Affiliation** | **Email address** | **Corresponding author(s)** |
| Lefkowitz, EJ | University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama, USA | [elliotl@uab.edu](mailto:elliotl@uab.edu) | X |
| Zerbini, FM | Dep. de Fitopatologia/BIOAGRO, Universidade Federal de Viçosa, Viçosa, Brazil | zerbini@ufv.br |  |

**Part 1b: Taxonomy Proposal Submission**

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| **ICTV Subcommittee:** | | | |
| Animal DNA Viruses and Retroviruses |  | Bacterial viruses |  |
| Animal minus-strand and dsRNA viruses |  | Fungal and protist viruses |  |
| Animal positive-strand RNA viruses |  | Plant viruses |  |
| Archaeal viruses |  | General | **X** |

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| **List the ICTV Study Group(s) that have seen or have been involved in creating this proposal:** |
| N/A |

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| **Optional – complete only if formally voted on by an ICTV Study Group:** | | | |
| **Study Group** | **Number of members** | | |
| **Votes in support** | **Votes against** | **No vote** |
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| **Submission date:** | 10/10/2024 |

**Part 1c: Feedback from ICTV Executive Committee (EC) meeting**

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| **Executive Committee Meeting Decision code:** | **X** |
| A – Accept |  |
| Ac – Accept subject to revision by relevant subcommittee chair. No further vote required |  |
| U – Accept without revision but with re-evaluation and email vote by the EC |  |
| Uc – Accept subject to revision and re-evaluation and email vote by the EC |  |
| Ud – Deferred to the next EC meeting, with an invitation to revise based on EC comments |  |
| J - Reject |  |
| W - Withdrawn |  |

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| **Comments from the Executive Committee:** |
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**Part 1d: Revised Taxonomy Proposal Submission**

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| **Response of proposer:** |
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| **Revision date:** | DD/MM/YYYY |

**Part 2:** **GENERAL PROPOSAL**

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| **Abstract for General Proposal:** |
| Given Dr. Stuart Siddell’s long service as a member of ICTV Study Groups, Subcommittees, and the Executive Committee, given his key role in helping to define and modernize the guiding principles used to create the virus taxonomy, and given his calm demeanor, comforting presence, and unwavering friendship to members of the EC over many years, we hereby nominate Stuart Siddell as a Life Member of the ICTV. |

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| **Text of General Proposal:** |
| During its 56th annual meeting in August 2024, the ICTV Executive Committee (EC) considered the nomination of Dr. Stuart Siddell as a Life Member of the ICTV. In support of his nomination, this proposal provides a brief summary of Dr. Siddell’s career and outlines his service to the ICTV. Stuart received his BSc. degree from the University of Liverpool, UK in 1972 and in 1973, a BSc. degree (Hons, Class I) in Botany. He was awarded a PhD in Biological Sciences from the University of Warwick, UK in 1976 and a Dr. rer. nat. habil. degree (Biochemie) from the University of Würzburg, Germany. After positions at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, UK and the University of Würzburg, Germany, Stuart continued his career at the University of Bristol as a Professor of Virology from 1992 until his retirement in 2015 when he became an Emeritus Professor of Virology. His research focused on the study of coronaviruses and included playing a role in the discovery of coronavirus discontinuous transcription, the development of reverse genetic systems for human, avian and murine coronaviruses, the elucidation of coronavirus protein structures and constructing a genetic map of coronavirus replicase protein function.  Stuart began his work with the ICTV in 1982 on the *Coronaviridae* Study Group, serving as chair and subsequently as a member until 2000. He also served as an ICTV National Member for the United Kingdom from 1996 to 2011. Stuart served on the Executive Committee as an Elected Member from 2008-2014, Chair of the Animal dsRNA and ssRNA- Viruses Subcommittee from 2014-2017, and then as Vice-President until 2023. Stuart was also Editor-in-Chief of the ICTV 10th Report, helping to guide the transition of this key product of the ICTV from a hard copy book to an online web-based resource. Overall, Stuart provided over 40 years of service to the ICTV, including 16 years on the Executive Committee.  During his tenure on the EC, Stuart was a key participant in several significant changes to the processes, methods, and intellectual underpinning of the approaches used by the ICTV to guide the classification of viruses and name the resulting taxa. These changes included the creation of higher rank taxonomic categories that support the deeper evolutionary classification of viruses; the use of complete genomic sequences of viruses assembled from metagenomic samples as the basis for taxonomic classification; and the establishment of evolutionary history as a key, guiding principle underlying the ICTV taxonomy.  Given Stuart’s long service as a member of ICTV Study Groups, Subcommittees, and the Executive Committee, given his key role in helping to define and modernize the guiding principles used to create the virus taxonomy, and given his calm demeanor, comforting presence, and unwavering friendship to members of the EC over many years, we hereby nominate Stuart Siddell as a Life Member of the ICTV. |

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| **References:** |
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| **Tables, Figures:** |

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