

Dr. Jacqueline Fletcher

Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology

Dr. Jacqueline Fletcher, Regents professor of plant pathology at Oklahoma State University, received a bachelor's in biology from Emory University, a master's in botany from the University of Montana and a doctorate in plant pathology from Texas A&M University. She served as a postdoctoral associate at the University of Illinois before joining OSU in 1984, where she was appointed Sarkeys Distinguished Professor in 2001 and Regents professor in 2008. She was named a fellow of the American Phytopathological Society (APS) in 2005 and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 2007.

Fletcher is director of the National Institute for Microbial Forensics & Food and Agricultural Biosecurity, a multidisciplinary OSU initiative that addresses high priority national issues in research, teaching/education and outreach, and serves as a spoke laboratory for the DHS-affiliated National Bioforensic Analysis Center in the area of plant pathogen forensics. Recently invited to lead a federally mandated initiative to assess U.S. capabilities in the area of plant pathogen forensics, Fletcher was named to the FBI's Scientific Working Group on Chemical, Biological, Radiation and Nuclear Threats, the Oklahoma Bureau of Investigation's Agricultural Bioterrorism Working Group, and several federal biosecurity advisory panels.

Fletcher served on the APS council for ten years, including the 4-year APS presidential sequence. In the months following September 11, 2001, Dr. Fletcher led APS responses and input to national biosecurity initiatives. Currently, she is director of the APS Public Policy Board and serves on the APS Threatening Pathogens Advisory Committee.

Dr. Fletcher's research focuses on mechanisms of virulence and insect transmission of plant pathogenic bacteria; the relationships between human pathogens, such as *Escherichia coli*, and plants; and on the emerging disciplines of microbial forensics and agricultural biosecurity.



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