

# Dr. Wouter Hoff

Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics

Dr. Wouter Hoff joined the Oklahoma State University faculty in 2005 as an associate professor of microbiology and molecular genetics. He earned his bachelor's and doctorate degrees from the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. He completed post-doctoral programs at the University of Texas in Houston (biochemistry) and at Oklahoma State University (biophysics).

Hoff received the award for best biophysics Ph.D. thesis in the Netherlands for 1995 and 1996. In 1999, he received the Cancer Research Foundation's Young Investigator Award. His work has been quoted more than 2,000 times in international scientific literature.

Hoff utilizes a wide range of research approaches, from genomic studies to molecular genetics, protein biochemistry, protein spectroscopy, and biophysics. In his OSU lab, Hoff and his group focus on photoreceptor proteins as model systems for studying protein folding, function, and signaling. The correct functioning of these processes is essential to human life. Hoff's protein folding experiments look at individual molecular paths in signaling proteins. When signaling pathways go awry a range of diseases can result, including cancer. The Hoff lab has started to explore biotechnological applications for these proteins. Their long-term goal is to uncover fundamental principles in these processes and develop biosensors with useful applications.



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