



David Brown

David joined the School of Biosciences at the University in October 2011 where he still has an Honary Chair, he is still currently Chair of CCP4 and also currently Head of Structural Biophysics and Modelling at Servier in France.

He obtained his first degree in Biophysics at the University of Leeds in 1998 and then went on to study for his PhD in Structural Biology at the Institute of Cancer Research studying drug/DNA interactions. David then was awarded an SERC personal fellowship to focus on drug discovery at Kings College University of London where he worked on structural studies of complexes of inhibitors of Thymidine Kinase from Herpes Simplex Virus.

He then spent 15 years at Pfizer working on a large number of drug discovery programmes for a wide range of disease areas including Cardiovascular, Tissue Repair, Sexual Health, Allergy and Respiratory, Antifungals, Antivirals. David became Director of Structural Biology and Biophysics Group which utilised techniques such as NMR, X-ray crystallography, Mass Spectrometry, ITC and SPR to investigate protein structure and function and elucidate mode of action of ligand binding. During his time at Pfizer David solved the first structure of a Phosphodiesterase (PDE5 – the biological target of Viagra) which was a novel enzyme class to understand the function, mechanism and modes of inhibition. David has been involved with an number of advisory boards and committees for Large scale synchrotron facilities for over 20 years.

David formed his own CRO company in 2012 which was then acquired by Argenta which in turn was acquired by Charles River Ltd where he worked for 4 years as Director of Structural Sciences before Joining Servier in 2019.