

**Michael Heinrich, Dr. rer. nat. habil., MSc (Biology),  
MA (Anthropology), FLS**



■ **Position/Affiliation/E-mail**

He is a Professor of Ethnopharmacology and Medicinal Plant Research (Pharmacognosy) at the UCL School of Pharmacy (School of Pharmacy – Univ London from 1999 – 2011) and since 2022 he has been a Yushan Fellow at China Medical University (Taichung) funded by the government of Taiwan

Until 2017 he was the head of the research cluster ‘Biodiversity and Medicines’ at the UCL School of Pharmacy. From 2017 to 2023 he served as the joint chair of UCL’s Research Ethics Committee (with Dr. L. Ang, Institute of Education, UCL).

■ **Biography**

He obtained his Masters of Arts in anthropology from Wayne State University, USA (1982), his ‘MSc’ in Biology (1985) and Dr. rer nat. habil. (1989/1997) from the University of Freiburg, Germany.

For many years the group (currently eight PhD students and two postdocs, one part time) has worked on understanding local uses of plants in indigenous communities, most notably in México, Guatemala, Spain, but also other regions as well as on anti-inflammatory natural products. More recently my group’s research has centered on value chains of herbal medicines in a globalized context (incl. their impacts on livelihood and quality of products) and on the use of herbal medicines in the management of chronic diseases. Since 2000 he has developed diverse research collaborations in China, Thailand and other Asian countries focusing on the pharmacological effects and quality of herbal medicines. In both cases the use of plant metabolomics proved to be a very successful tool for analysing the complexity of these products.

He has many years’ research experience in transdisciplinary aspects of medicinal and food plant research (especially bioactive natural products), as well as more broadly at the interface of cultural and natural sciences.