Joachim Frank is a Professor of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, and the Department of Biological Sciences at Columbia University. He received his Ph.D. from the Technical University in Munich and, in 1975, joined the Wadsworth Center in Albany as a Senior Research Scientist. In 1985, he joined the faculty of the Department of Biomedical Sciences of SUNY Albany. In 2008 he moved to New York to assume his current positions. Dr. Frank's lab has developed techniques of single-particle reconstruction of biological macromolecules, specializing in mathematical and computational approaches. He has applied these techniques of visualization to explore the structure and dynamics of the ribosome during the process of protein synthesis.

Dr. Frank is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and of the American Academy of Microbiology. He is also a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 2014 he was honored with the Franklin Medal for Life Science. In 2017 he shared the Wiley Prize in Biomedical Sciences with Richard Henderson and Marin van Heel. He was awarded the 2017 Nobel Prize in Chemistry together with Jacques Dubochet and Richard Henderson.

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