



**Cathie Martin**

She has been a group leader at the John Innes Centre, Norwich UK since 1983. The John Innes Centre is the leading Research Institute in Plant Sciences in Europe. She is Professor at the University of East Anglia and she holds a chair as Niels Bohr Visiting Professor in the Faculty of Life Science, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. Her research has focused on cellular specialisation in plants and she was the first to identify genes regulating cell shaping in plants. While there has been an explosion of research in the EvoDevo area on floral morphogenesis, very few have taken forward research into the evolution of determinants of cellular form and function in flowers, or are studying the importance of these traits with respect to function; pollinator attraction. She is a recognised authority on MYB transcription factors in plants as evidenced by an enormous number of requests to review manuscripts and grant proposals on all aspects of *MYB*-gene function in plants. She lists 144 publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals including publications in *Nature*, *Nature Biotechnology*, *Cell*, *EMBO Journal*, *EMBO Reports* and *PNAS* as well as more specialized journals. Her scientific expertise extends to the transcriptional regulation of secondary metabolism, in general. She also conducts research in plant biotechnology. She has been a plenary speaker and session organiser at several international biotechnology meetings, and She has been asked to present the work she co-ordinates on the European Union-sponsored FLORA project at many international biotechnology meetings. She is inventor on seven patents and she recently co-founded a spin-out company (Norfolk Plant Sciences) with Professor Jonathan Jones FRS, to bring the benefits of plant biotechnology (improving both producer and consumer traits of potato) to Europe and the US. She has been involved in setting up the Centre for Preventative Medicine in Norwich which is supported by a unique combination of internationally leading researchers who are developing the scientific understanding of how diet can help to maintain health, lead to healthy ageing and reduce the risk of chronic disease. Her interests span the entire spectrum of plant biology, and in biological questions from the fundamental right to the applied ends of plant science. It is for these qualities that she is Editor-in-Chief of *Plant Cell*, the highest ranking international journal for research on plants sponsored by the American Society of Plant Biologists. She is the first woman and the first non-American to hold this post.