

25th-27th October, 2023

Meet the Speakers

Agnès Robin

Head of the Research Infrastructures Sector, of the ERA & Innovation, DG for Research and Innovation of the European Commission



Agnès Robin has a long experience in research infrastructure policy at the Commission, initially in the field of Environmental and Earth Science. Before joining the Commission, she worked in the technology department of an oceanographic research centre. She is Engineer by education.

Alessia Zamborlini

Principal Investigator (PI) of the CREX4HIV project



I obtained a M2 in Chemistry and pharmaceutical technologies at the University of Padova in Italy, then obtained by a PhD in Virology. Since then, my research activity has focused on the interplay between HIV and the host cell. During my PhD training I worked in the laboratory of H. Gottlinger at Harvard Medical School, where I studied the mechanisms of HIV budding. My project focused on the regulation of the activity of the cellular proteins that assemble the ESCRT complexes required for both the maturation of the late endosomes, and viral budding. I then joined the lab of Ali Saib in Paris where I investigated the mechanisms underlying the persistence of unintegrated HIV genome in quiescent immune cells as well as the influence of post-translational modifications, particularly SUMOylation; on the integration process. I am currently Professor in Virology at Paris Saclay University, and group leader at IDMIT-INSERM U1184 directed by Roger Legrand. My group investigates how post-translational modifications regulate the activity of antiviral proteins in infected macrophages, using HIV-1 and HIV-2 viruses as models, and the consequences for immune activation.

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Anne-Sophie Beignon

Principal Investigator (PI) of the IMMIDENT project



Anne-Sophie Beignon is the head of a research group on Immune memories induced by vaccines within the team Infection and Transmission within the research unit U1184 CEA, INSERM, UPSaclay IMVA-HB/IDMIT at CEA, Fontenay-aux-Roses, France. She is a vaccine immunologist and a CNRS research director. During her thesis in Strasbourg, France, she explored the skin as a non-invasive route of vaccine administration. During her postdoc at NYC, USA, she studied adjuvants for dendritic cell-based vaccines and the activation of plasmacytoid dendritic cells by HIV-1. At Institut Pasteur, she participated in the preclinical development of HIV-derived lentiviral vectors as vaccine vectors against HIV-1/AIDS and malaria. She co-discovered new malaria antigens for pre-erythrocytic vaccines. She now studies the dynamics and interactions between innate and adaptive immunity to vaccines after one or more immunizations to optimize vaccine schedules at IDMIT. She also investigates the mechanisms of trained immunity induced by certain vaccines/adjuvants. In collaboration with Joana Tavares from i3S, U.Porto, she is currently deciphering the modes of action of RIG-I and TLR3 agonists used as adjuvants of candidate malaria vaccines.

Anne Wulf

Core Facilities Manager, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE)



Since 2010, Anne Wulf has been the Core Facility Manager at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE). Since 2012, Anne Wulf has also served as the Team Manager in the Dean's Office of Research at the medical faculty. Anne's educational background includes a PhD in Biology and a Master's degree in Business Administration and Health Care Management.

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António Portela CEO, BIAL



António Portela holds a degree in Economics from the Faculty of Economics at the University of Porto and an Executive MBA from the Porto Business School. He began his professional activity at Roche pharmaceuticals in the United Kingdom, where he was a Medical Sales Representative and a Market Analyst. He also launched a Hepatitis C drug at Roche in the UK before returning to Portugal to join Bial. In 2004 he

joins the BIAL team as Deputy Director of Marketing for Portugal. A member of the Board of Directors since 2007, he assumed the General Management of the International Department for three years, having been responsible for the expansion of the business, for the entry of the BIAL group into new countries, and for the coordination of new product launches internationally.

In January 2011 he became CEO of BIAL, marking the arrival of the fourth generation of the family at the head of the company founded in 1924 by his great-grandfather Álvaro Portela.

Among his other roles, he is

- Chairman of the General Board of COTEC Portugal (since May 2022);
- represents BIAL at the Business Roundtable Portugal (since May 2021);
- Member of the Board of Founders of Serralves (since May 2021);
- Trustee of the University of Porto Foundation (since December 2018);
- Member of EFPIA's Board - European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Association (since June 2017).

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António de Sousa Pereira

Rector, University of Porto (U.Porto)



Rector of the University of Porto since June of 2018 and President of the Council of Rectors of Portuguese Universities since November 2020. He holds a Medical Degree from the Institute of Biomedical Sciences (ICBAS), University of Porto (UP), as well as Ph.D. in Medical Sciences and Aggregation in Anatomy. Full Professor in Human Anatomy and Neuroanatomy. Prior to becoming Rector, he served as Director of ICBAS, where he was also Director of the Department of Normal Anatomy, President of the Pedagogical Council, and President of the Board of Directors. He has developed research projects in several areas focusing on studying morphological changes caused by exposure to environmental stresses. He was a Consultant to the Government of the Dominican Republic for the evaluation and reform of Medical Schools and a member of the National Council of Ethics for the Life Sciences (CNECV).

Axel Imhof

Professor at the Faculty of Medicine, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU Munich)

Professor Axel Imhof initiated his prominent career in protein analytics and molecular biology at the University of Regensburg. Subsequently, he embarked on a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) before transitioning to a pivotal role as a group leader at the Molecular Biology Section of the Adolf-Butenandt-Institute. Since 2005, he has been Professor of Protein Analytics at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich, significantly influencing fields like PLOSone through his engaging editorial roles. Throughout his career, Professor Imhof has gathered recognition and commendations, such as his election as an EMBO Member in 2018, and his contributions to various esteemed awards and fellowships. His leadership and proficiency in coordinating Core Facilities have been exemplified by coordinating EU-funded projects and contributing to numerous scientific networks and excellence clusters, including the EU-funded STREP, SMARTER, and the EpiGeneSys EU Network of Excellence, while also holding pivotal positions in

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entities such as the Biomedical Center Munich. Joakim Esbjörnsson is an Associate Professor in Virology at the University of Lund. He is the coordinator of the Lund University Virus Centre, an expert at the Swedish Research Council's national research programme on viruses and pandemics, coordinates the cooperation initiative Pandemics and alertness, and acts as the work package 2 leader of EUGLOHRIA.

Benedict Opong Asamoah

Senior lecturer at Social Medicine and Global Health, Lund University (LU)



Benedict Opong Asamoah is a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine and an associate professor in Global Health within the division of Social Medicine and Global Health (SMGH) at Lund University. SMGH is an internationally recognized public health research group that conducts research, training, and capacity development, both nationally and internationally, in the field of public health. SMGH's work in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) spans several countries in Africa, Asia, and Europe, including Sweden. The group has substantial experience in capacity development, training, research, and policy formulation. Benedict Opong Asamoah has several years of experience working on research, education, and capacity development in sexual and reproductive health and rights in multiple countries in Africa, Asia, and Europe, including Sweden. Currently, he serves as the Programme Director for the International Masters Programme in Public Health at Lund University.

Bertrand Sergot

Professor at RITM - the Research Centre in Economics & Management, Université Paris-Saclay (UPSAclay)



Bertrand Sergot is assistant professor in management and organization studies in the RITM research team of the University of Paris-Saclay, France. He is researching the spatial dimension of organizations (companies, associations, public administrations) and the way this spatial dimension

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affects and is affected by management. To this end, he uses the concepts of place and spatial mobilities.

Bich-Liên Doan

Deputy Dean of Research, Université Paris-Saclay (UPSaclay)



Bich-Liên Doan is a full professor in Computer Science at CentraleSupélec and LISN (University Paris-Saclay and CNRS). She is specialized in Information Retrieval and Artificial Intelligence, and her current research is related to machine learning models for news recommendation, financial applications or anomaly detection. She is interested in new models from NLP, deep learning, semiotics and quantum mechanics that can help in representing information.

She co-organized several workshops and conferences between 2005 and 2010 (ECIR, Context). She was deputy dean of research at CentraleSupélec from 2008 to 2021. She is now academic leader in the Work Package 4 in the European Alliance EUGLOH. She has organized several training activities on entrepreneurship and global health, and promotes innovation and research at CentraleSupélec, Université Paris Saclay and EUGLOH.

Catarina Araújo

Councillor at the Department of Health and Quality of Life, Youth and Sports and Department of Human Resources and Legal Services and Civil Protection, Porto City Hall



Graduated in Law, Legal and Political Sciences from Portucalense Infante D. Henrique University. Completed the Intensive Management Program at Católica Porto Business School. Postgraduate degree in Planning, Urban Planning and Environmental Law from the Faculty of Law of the University of Coimbra. Postgraduate degree in Public Contracts from the Portuguese

Catholic University - Porto Regional Centre. Specialization course in Taxation for Lawyers from ISAG - European Business School and the Portuguese Association of Lawyers. Porto City Councillor since

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October 2017. Currently is responsible for the following areas: Health and Quality of Life, Youth, Sports, Human Resources, Legal Services and Civil Protection.

Dušan Palić

Principal Investigator (PI) of the AQUAMRBIOM project



Dr Dušan Palić, D.V.M., MVSc, Ph.D., Dipl. ECAAH, CertAqV. Professor and Chair of Fish Diseases and Fisheries Biology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich. Professor Palić efforts are focused on improving global seafood security and safety by increasing resource capacities in Aquatic Animal Veterinary Medicine.

Eric Cassan

Deputy Vice-President for European Affairs at the Université Paris Saclay (UPSaclay)



Professor Eric Cassan, after obtaining his doctorate in 2000, has made substantial contributions in the field of optoelectronics and photonics research, and held various academic and coordinating positions at Paris-Sud University and subsequently Paris-Saclay University. He has been involved in managing research teams, doctoral schools, and has actively contributed to scientific networks, such as the Franco-Chinese Photonet. Professor Cassan has also supervised approximately 20 PhD theses, participated in over 30 research projects, and co-authored around 280 articles and invited oral presentations at international conferences. In 2020, he became Deputy Vice-President for European Affairs at Paris-Saclay University, and in 2021, coordinator of the SwafS EUGLOHRIA project.

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Florence Law

Professor at RITM - the Research Centre in Economics & Management, Université Paris-Saclay (UPSaclay)



Florence Law is an Associate Professor at Université Paris-Saclay. Her research and teachings focus on strategy and entrepreneurship. She first carried out research on back sourcing which consists in recalling outsourced activities back in-house. She now focuses on the transformation of organizations and more specifically on the evolution of business models of business incubators. Her research work was published in French and international academic journals such as *Revue Française de Gestion*, *European Management Journal* and *European Journal of Work and Organizational Psychology*. She also coordinates and delivers Strategic management, Entrepreneurship and Accounting courses and workshops for graduates and undergraduates at Université Paris-Saclay. She was the Scientific Director of the Student-Entrepreneur Diploma (D2E) for Pepite PEIPS for four years. She now coordinates student entrepreneurship at Université Paris-Saclay/IUT de Sceaux. In these roles, she oversees various entrepreneurial projects by helping students define the business models best suited for their start-up companies. She also provided strategic management courses to executives at CNAM and ESCP Europe.

Francisco Javier de la Mata

Vice-Rector for Research and Knowledge Transfer, Universidad de Alcalá (UAH)



D. F. Javier de la Mata de la Mata (Madrid, 1965) has a Bachelor (1990) and a Doctor (1992) degrees in Chemical Sciences from the University of Alcalá. Professor of Inorganic Chemistry since 2016. He carried out a postdoctoral stay at the California Institute of Technology, CALTECH (1993-1994), under the supervision of Prof. Robert H. Grubbs (Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2005). In recent years, he has been Vice Dean of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences at the UAH (2002-2010), Director of the Chemistry Research Support Center at the UAH (2010 – 2018) and currently

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Vice President for Research and Transfer since 2018. In the last 10 years, his activity has focused fundamentally on the development of dendritic nanosystems for their application in biomedicine. Within this line of research, he has participated in more than 30 research projects funded by local, regional, national or international organizations, acting as PI or co-PI in each of them. He has also directed 25 research contracts and is the author of more than 200 scientific publications in high-impact international journals. He has participated as co-author in 9 book chapters and in more than 200 communications at national and international conferences and is also co-author of 20 patents, 8 of which were licensed to different companies. Has directed 18 PhD Thesis. He was a founding partner of two technology-based companies, Dendrico S. L. and Ambiox Biotech, S. L., and CEO of the latter of them since its foundation in 2010 until 2016.

Ildikó Csóka

Director General for Strategic Planning, University of Szeged (USZ)



project management at the institutional level.

Prof. Ildikó Csóka is professor and head of the Institute of Pharmaceutical Technology and Regulatory Affairs at the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Szeged, Hungary. Her main research area is pharmaceutical technology, she participates in various applied research and R&D activities. She is also Director-General for Strategy, leading the management of strategic investments, R&D&I, clinical research, and

Joakim Esbjörnsson

Professor at the Medical Faculty, Lund University (LU)



Joakim Esbjörnsson is an Associate Professor in Virology at the University of Lund. He is the coordinator of the Lund University Virus Centre, an expert at the Swedish Research Council's national research programme on viruses and pandemics, coordinates the cooperation initiative Pandemics and alertness, and acts as the Work Package 2 Leader of EUGLOHRIA.

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Joana Resende

***Vice-Rector for Strategic Planning, Knowledge Valorisation and Entrepreneurship,
University of Porto (U.Porto)***



Joana Resende is Vice-Rector at University of Porto and Full Professor at the School of Economics and Management. She is the President of the University's Science and Technology Park (UPTEC) and the local coordinator of the European Alliance for Global Health (EUGLOH) at University of Porto. She holds a PhD in Economics and Management Science from Université Catholique de Louvain (joint degree with U.Porto). Her main research areas are industrial organization and digital economics. She is particularly interested in investigating business models and competitive dynamics allowed by new generation digital technologies. She has taken part in multiple national and international scientific projects and her research has been published in journals such as The Rand Journal of Economics, Management Science or Marketing Science. Over time, she has acted as consultant for both private and public entities, in the areas of competition policy, regulation and energy markets.

José Bastos

CEO, Knok Healthcare



José Bastos is an experienced senior manager and a digital health entrepreneur with a mission: to provide universal healthcare to the world. As co-founder & CEO of Knok Healthcare, his goals include empowering every person on the planet to have access to quality and affordable health care. José has a degree in Management from the University of Porto and a Mergers and Acquisition Programme from the University of Chicago - Booth, and he is fluent in Portuguese, English, French, Italian, and Spanish. Before knok, he worked for 17 years in Finance and Strategic Planning at a multinational. He has worked in finance and strategy, developing businesses, and helping companies grow. He has managed international and

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multicultural teams and developed businesses in a global context. In 2015, he co-founded Knok Healthcare, growing it from zero to market leadership in telemedicine in Portugal, and clients in 10 other countries.

Judit Danis

Principal Investigator (PI) of the PRINS project



Judit Danis from the University of Szeged and Jean Christophe Cintrat from Paris Saclay University are among the pioneering researchers who have identified the functions of non-coding RNAs. Targeting these RNAs with small molecules is a collaborative project supported by EUGLOHRIA funding, which helps them to collaborate closely on this project, leveraging their shared research interests.

Katrin Schöning-Stierand

Research Associate at the House of Computing and Data Science, Universität Hamburg (UHH)



Katrin Schöning-Stierand is employed as a research associate and consultant at the House of Computing and Data Science (Universität Hamburg). She studied medicine and bioinformatics and received her doctorate in cheminformatics. Since then, she has developed and coordinated scientific software as part of small and large projects in various research institutions.

Krisztina Buzás

Principal Investigator (PI) of the EVIND project



Krisztina Buzas graduated in physics and molecular biology at the University of Szeged and defended her PhD thesis at the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School. She spent her postdoctoral years in the USA under the supervision of Dr. Joost Oppenheim at the National Cancer Institute. From the beginning, her research has focused on cytokine- and chemokine-driven intercellular communication.

During her postdoctoral years, she became familiar with the role of extracellular vesicles in cell-cell

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communication; since then her research focused on this topic. She currently heads the Department of Immunology at the University of Szeged, teaching medical, pharmacy, dentistry and biology students. Her research group works at the Biological Research Centre in Szeged. Her main research topics are extracellular vesicle driven intercellular communication in the tumour microenvironment, the use of vesicles as diagnostic tools and 3D tumour models.

Maria José Cardoso Oliveira

Principal Investigator (PI) of the SENSITISE project



- Principal Researcher at INEB/i3S, Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, Porto, Portugal (since 2018);
- Group Leader of the Tumor and Microenvironment Interactions Group, i3S, Porto, Portugal (since 2017);
- Investigator FCT, Portuguese Science Foundation (2013-2018);
- Invited Associated Professor, ICBAS, U.Porto (since 2010);
- Invited Auxiliary Professor, Faculty of Sciences, U.Porto (2012-2013);
- Junior Investigator at INEB, Ciência2007, FCT – Portuguese Science Foundation, Portugal (2007-2012);
- Ipatimup – Institute of Pathology and Molecular Immunology, U.Porto, Portugal (Post-Doc; 2004-2007);
- Ghent University Hospital, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Ghent University, Belgium (PhD; 1998-2004);
- Faculty of Sciences, U.Porto, Portugal (BSc; 1992-1996).

Academic Positions (current):

- Since September 2018: Invited Associated Professor, ICBAS – Institute of Biomedical Sciences Abel Salazar, U.Porto, Portugal;
- Since January 2019: Member of the Scientific Commission of the BiotechHealth PhD Program, ICBAS – Institute of Biomedical Sciences Abel Salazar, U.Porto, Portugal;

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- Since October 2008: Invited Affiliated Professor, Faculty of Medicine, U.Porto, Portugal.

Other Positions:

- Since March 2020: Editor of Cancers Journal, MDPI Publishing Group;
- Since January 2018: Editor of Frontiers Immunology;
- Since October 2015: Scientific Coordinator of Cell Culture Unit of INEB-Institute of Biomedical Engineering and i3S – Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, U.Porto, Porto, Portugal.

Max Pöhlmann

Cluster Development Lead, BioM Biotech Cluster Development GmbH



Dr. Max Pöhlmann is a distinguished professional with a career that spans the realms of academia, research, consultancy, and industry. He conducted his studies Ludwig Maximilian University (LMU) in Munich, where he pursued his undergraduate studies and a master's degree in biology. Dr. Pöhlmann undertook his doctoral studies at the Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry, focusing on the field of stress resilience research.

During his doctorate, Dr. Pöhlmann embarked on a path that combined academia, research, and international experiences. He brought his expertise to institutions of global repute, including Boston College, Harvard Medical School, and the University of Amsterdam. After his PhD, Dr. Pöhlmann transitioned to the corporate world, working at a consultancy specializing in the biopharmaceutical industry. In 2021, he joined BioM and assumed the role of leading networking and cluster activities for the Bavarian Biotech ecosystem. Here, he plays a pivotal role in connecting and fostering collaboration among professionals and organizations in the dynamic and ever-evolving biotechnology and life sciences sector.

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Miguel Sousa

Professor at the School of Economics and Management, University of Porto (U.Porto)



Professor Miguel Sousa, with degrees in Management and Finance, and a PhD in Financial Economics from the University of Oxford, has been teaching at the School of Economics and Management (FEP - University of Porto) since 1996, where he also holds leadership positions. He is an Assistant Professor at FEP and Guest Professor at several international institutions. Sousa has previous corporate experience as a controller and CFO and has published various academic papers on SPACs, IPOs, and Private Equity in top finance journals. He has also presented at numerous finance conferences and held various academic and corporate leadership roles.

Nabila Seddiki

Principal Investigator (PI) of the NEONATE project



Nabila Seddiki is an immunologist with over 25 years of experience in infectious diseases and translational research. She discovered a new means to accurately identify human Tregs. She has an established track-record with major contributions in the field of human immunology and infectious diseases research, unravelling novel ways to accurately study T-cell immunity. She relies on her discoveries to study the balance between antigen-specific effector and regulatory immune responses in physiology, natural infections and after vaccination/immunomodulation. She currently holds a position of research director at CEA where she co-leads the pediatric immunology program (PIP) implemented at IDMIT since her arrival in 2021. Before that she was a Senior Lecturer at UPEC/VRI (Créteil) holding an INSERM “Chaire d’Excellence en Immunologie et Maladies Infectieuses” for 10 years, and a Senior Scientist at the National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (University of NSW, Australia) for 10 years. Her current research interest aims at understanding early life immunology with a focus on how an “immature” immune system develops and faces infectious diseases.

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Nikola Jorgovanovic

Vice-Rector for Science and Art, University of Novi Sad (UNS)



Scientific field of study: Control system engineering, Biomedical engineering, Electronics.

Education: Graduated from the Faculty of Technical Sciences in Novi Sad, study program Electronics and telecommunications in 1992. He received his master's degree in Control system engineering in 1996 and acquired his doctoral degree

in 2003 in Electrotechnical and computing engineering at the Faculty of Technical Sciences.

Professional career: Employed in the Department of computing and control engineering at the Faculty of Technical Sciences University of Novi Sad in 1992. He has held teaching positions since 2004 (Assistant professor 2004-2009, Associate professor 2009-2014, Full professor since 2014) in the field of Control system engineering and Biomedical engineering. He is the Vice Rector for Science and Art of the University of Novi Sad since 2021.

President of the Biomedical engineering section of the Society for electronics, telecommunications, computing, system control and nuclear engineering of Serbia (ETRAN); Member of the international professional society The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

Pål Vegar Storeheier

Head of Research Administration and Quality Education Section, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway



Pål Vegar Storeheier has a PhD in Arctic mammal physiology from UiT. He has been the head of a research centre in the Northern Norway Regional Health Authority, and has the last 15 years had various administrative leader-positions within research, education and innovation at UiT The Arctic University of Norway. Storeheier is currently head of Section for Research and Education quality at UiT.

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Petter Hartman

CEO, Medicon Village Innovation



Petter Hartman is the CEO of Medicon Village Innovation since November 2021. He previously served as CEO of the Swedish-Danish cluster organization Medicon Valley Alliance and has a background in the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) where he worked to support cross-border research collaborations at a Nordic level. At Medicon Village Innovation, Petter is responsible for the development of future strategies, innovation projects, funding strategies and key stakeholder management. Petter also serves as member of several boards at a regional and national level.

Rodrigo Silva

Orgavalue CEO and PhD student at the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (ICBAS), University of Porto (U.Porto)



I have a fervent passion for healthcare innovation, entrepreneurship, and the forefront of regenerative medicine. I am DMD, MDS, and a medical candidate from both the University of Porto and University of Minho, I am currently advancing my research through a PhD in Regenerative Medicine at ICBAS/University of Porto in partnership with the EIT Health PhD Ageing Program. At i3S/INEB, I delve into regenerative medicine and tissue bioengineering research. My entrepreneurial journey led to the inception of Orgavalue, a startup dedicated to breakthroughs in tissue bioengineering therapies. As its Founder and CEO, I've fostered pivotal collaborations with academia, stakeholders, and industry leaders. Under my stewardship, Orgavalue has navigated complex business challenges, driven by innovative solutions and resulting in significant company growth and the nomination as the Forbes 30 Under 30. My academic pursuits were enriched with a focus on entrepreneurship and technology from esteemed institutions like Stanford University and U.C. Berkeley. I am particularly interested in healthcare innovation, merging medicine's nuances with

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art, science, and technology, especially within Global and Public Health contexts. This is accentuated by a keen emphasis on socio-cultural empowerment. My dedication to excellence has seen me work on developing therapies based on the incorporation of decellularized matrices, harnessing their biological factors with regenerative and immunotherapeutic potential. Throughout my journey, I have consistently bridged the gap between academia and industry, driving translational research strategies to address clinical and healthcare needs. This has resulted in fostering new solutions within the Translational Research & Industry Partnerships Office and spawning new ventures characterized by economic growth and notable social impact. In addition to my core competencies, I am an ardent advocate for continuous learning and professional development. I am proud to represent students in the Research and Innovation sector and serve as an Executive Board Member of the European University Alliance for Global Health at the University of Porto.

Sandra García Gallego

Director for Internationalization of Research, Universidad de Alcalá (UAH)



Sandra García Gallego is a distinguished researcher in Chemistry at the University of Alcalá, working in the design of different nanomaterials for biomedical applications. Since 2022, she is also the Director for Research and its Internationalization in this Institution.

Sónia Pereira

Head of Research and Projects Office, University of Porto (U.Porto)



After working as a project manager at an innovation consultancy company, Sónia joined the University of Porto in 2007 as R&D funding manager at the KTO - U.Porto Inovação. Between 2013 and 2016, she was in charge of the International Projects Unit at the Project Management Office (U.Porto Shared Services). She is the director of the Research and Projects Office (Vice-Rectorate Research and Innovation). Her work revolves around research management and

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administration, including fundraising activities for research. She has been involved in several national and international projects.

Zoltán Kónya

Vice-Rector for Scientific Affairs & Innovation, University of Szeged (USZ)



Zoltán Kónya is a professor at University of Szeged since 2011. His research field is materials chemistry and environmental science. He is co-author of more than 400 research papers, and so far he received ~11000 citations (H-index 58). He is the head of the Department of Applied and Environmental Chemistry and the Environmental Science Doctoral School and since 2018 he is Vice-Rector for Scientific Affairs & Innovation.