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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Colleagues and EuPA Members,

It is a real pleasure for me to launch a new issue of the EuPA Newsletter, and I would like to start by sincerely thanking all contributors!

In this first issue, you will find a message from our EuPA President (Lennart Martens), activities of EuPA's Committees, an update of the EuPA initiatives, activities of our young proteomicists (YPIC), highlights from the last GC event, a synopsis of the HUPO ReConnect meeting, details on upcoming events in 2022 (EuPA, EuBIC, HUPO, *etc.*), a tenure track position at the University of Groningen, and details on the new content that will be coming to the EuPA Newsletter soon (See page 33). Regarding the latter, please do not hesitate to contact me if you are interested in contributing to a future EuPA Newsletter. Don't miss your chance to contribute to the literal story of EuPA!

In addition, the Newsletter team is looking for volunteers to help out in a variety of ways. Again, feel free to contact me if you are interested in contributing to making these Newsletters happen!

The EuPA Newsletter will be disseminated every quarter, and the next issue is planned for March 2022. So go ahead and contact me today, so we can make this next Newsletter together!!!

Enjoy reading and wishing you all a happy New Year!

Nicolas Desbenoit, EuPA Newsletter Editor (n.desbenoit@cbmn.u-bordeaux.fr), on behalf of the EuPA Conference and Communication Committee.

MESSAGE FROM THE EUPA PRESIDENT

Welcome to the first edition of our revamped EuPA Newsletter! I am particularly proud and honoured to be given the opportunity to lead you into this collection of updates on EuPA's activities, and of the European proteomics community at large! As you will see as you read on in this Newsletter, much work has been done, and many things have been moving forward, even as another year was dominated by the ongoing pandemic that has been shaking up all of our lives.

However, I know that I speak for the entire EuPA Executive Committee when I express my heartfelt hope that 2022 will see us come together in real life again as a community, to exchange ideas, tips and tricks, and to have a few drinks, a good meal, or just a hearty laugh together! And there will likely be no finer opportunity for this coming together than the Proteomic Forum/EuPA 2022 Conference in Leipzig, Germany from 3 to 7 April 2022. So be sure to mark your calendars for this unmissable event, and I look forward to meeting very many of you there!

To sustain its momentum and drive, EuPA is always seeking to engage its members in shaping its activities, so please do not hesitate to contact the Executive Committee members with any thoughts, ideas, or proposals you may have. You can find their contact details on the EuPA website, alongside all current members of EuPA's Committees.

In addition, while you're on our website, have a look at EuPA's various Initiatives, which all offer superb opportunities for networking, collaboration, and which are always looking for enterprising scientists to join their exciting projects.

Moreover, if you are an early career researcher, make sure you add YPIC membership to your to-do list! As EuPA's 'youth division', YPIC has been a key driver for many highly visible and successful activities over the past years, and early career researchers from YPIC's ranks have very successfully taken on leadership roles at various levels of EuPA's operations.

So, if you have some energy or inspiration to share with EuPA, we will provide you with ample opportunity and support to do so, and we very much look forward to hearing from you!

EuPA: engaged – inclusive – transparent.

With warmest regards,

Lennart Martens, EuPA President (president@eupa.org).

ACTIVITIES OF EUPA'S COMMITTEES

CONFERENCE AND COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

The Conference and Communication Committee is composed of twelve members from different European geographical regions. Membership includes both junior and senior researchers, with a good gender representation. The committee members have online meetings on alternating weeks, dealing mainly with either conference or communication-related tasks.

While challenging for the committee members to find some time to do this community-serving work, their active participation in the meetings and in moving the Committee forward is greatly appreciated!

In the Conferences and Communication Committee we all have a common goal: we aim to increase the visibility of EuPA among researchers in the field of proteomics and beyond (life scientists, clinical scientists, biostatisticians, bioinformaticians). As a first example of such broader outreach, we have organized a scientific session in the 32nd European Congress of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases (<https://www.eccmid.org>). Moreover, we aim to tighten already existing bonds, and form new ones, with other scientific societies.

We are aware of the importance of information-sharing, and we are therefore continuously updating our Facebook and Twitter feeds. We are also well on our way to creating a new, more modern and easier to use website for EuPA. As we are aware that our readers are a very rich source of information, we would like to raise a call to share any ideas you have with us, especially those regarding the format or the content of our website and social media pages. Please send us an email at communication@eupa.org with subject “**idea box**”.

To ensure transparency in EuPA's operations, we contributed to the institutional memory of EuPA by creating the documents that describe the bid selection procedure for EuPA conferences and for joint EuPA-HUPO conferences. We have also created informative documents for National Societies who are considering to organize an EuPA or EuPA-HUPO conference. These documents are available for all National Societies on our main online operations platform, Basecamp.

The Conferences and Communication Committee is also helping the German Proteomic Society organize the EuPA2022 conference, and together we are making this conference the key meeting place for all European proteomics researchers. So, let's meet each other in Leipzig!

Our committee members are devoted to generate an appealing image of EuPA which can be disseminated among members and non-members alike. Don't forget that your ideas on how to achieve this can be sent through our Idea Box, thus ensuring that EuPA's image will also reflect your vision!

We also need to thank the Presidents of the National Societies, as they are truly critical to disseminate EuPA's information among their members, as the nature of EuPA's organisational rules does not provide have a direct route to its members.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your contributions and I would like to encourage you to participate in our work. No matter how small your contribution is, it is important for you're your contributions make the community vital and functional and this is how we can continue to ensure that EuPA is engaged, inclusive, and transparent!

Wishing you a successful and happy 2022,

On behalf of the Conferences and Communication Committee

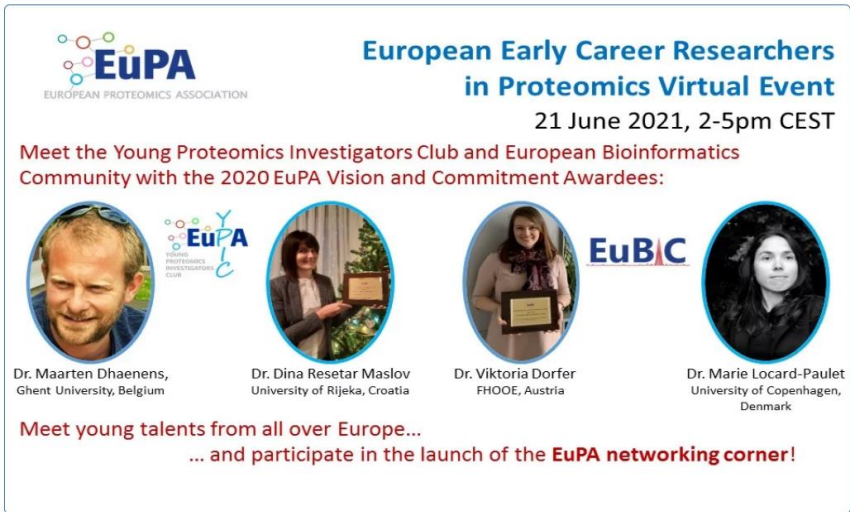
Éva Csósz, Conferences and Communication Committee Chair

conferences@eupa.org, communication@eupa.org)

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

On 21 of June 2021, the EuPA education committee organized an online event dedicated to Early Career Researchers (ECRs) in Proteomics in which we also launched *Proteopolis*, a virtual city specifically built to host the event on the online platform Gather.town. During this event, we first honoured the four 2020 EuPA awardees for vision and commitment, and developments in bioinformatics for mass spectrometry: Maarten Dhaenens, Dina Resetar Maslov, Viktoria Dorfer, and Marie Locard-Paulet. They each gave inspiring talks on both their scientific achievements and their engagement in EuPA activities, especially in YPIC and EuBIC. Then, we made a grand tour across Europe by listening to fourteen national nominees who each gave a flash talk. Following these flash talks, we inaugurated *Proteopolis*, where each nominee had their private space to welcome and answer questions from the more than hundred participants. YPIC and EuBIC also each had their dedicated palaces, where they promoted their activities. Some senior guests were also present for speed dating with interested participants.

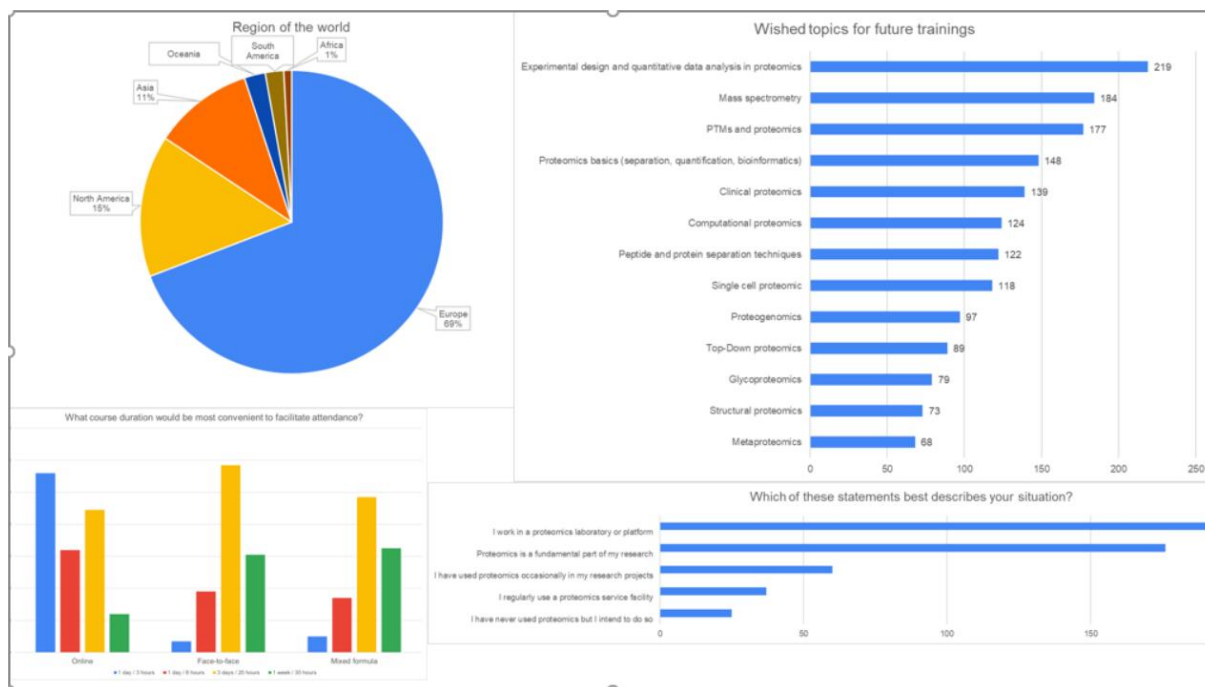
Because of the event's great success, we will turn on the lights in *Proteopolis* again next year, and who knows, maybe also for other occasions throughout 2022? ;-) Allow us to surprise you!



The poster features the EuPA logo at the top left. The main title is 'European Early Career Researchers in Proteomics Virtual Event' with the date '21 June 2021, 2-5pm CEST'. Below this, it says 'Meet the Young Proteomics Investigators Club and European Bioinformatics Community with the 2020 EuPA Vision and Commitment Awardees:'. There are four circular portraits of the awardees, each with their name and affiliation: Dr. Maarten Dhaenens (Ghent University, Belgium), Dr. Dina Resetar Maslov (University of Rijeka, Croatia), Dr. Viktoria Dorfer (FHOOE, Austria), and Dr. Marie Locard-Paulet (University of Copenhagen, Denmark). The EuBIC logo is also present. At the bottom, it says 'Meet young talents from all over Europe... and participate in the launch of the EuPA networking corner!'.



During the summer, we prepared and distributed a survey to identify and collect training needs and to source general opinions on education actions that would help promote and enhance the spread of high-quality proteomics skills and knowledge. We thank the national societies' Presidents and representatives for their help and support in spreading the survey. As a result, we hold a very valuable piece of information with more than 350 answers collected, information that will be useful for all of you who are involved in organizing training and/or education events. Please don't hesitate to contact us, or your national society representative, if you are interested in access to the complete results.



Also, if you are interested in organising an EuPA-supported course, please don't hesitate to contact us! We have prepared a general template to complete, which will help organizers summarize the key information for their project: the core theme of the course, the target audience, the expected learning outcomes, the programme, speakers, location, social program/networking opportunities, the course duration, dates, format, and the price. Three upcoming courses are already scheduled: an EuBIC Winter School in March 2022 in Portugal (<https://eubic-ms.org/events/2022-winter-school>), an EuPA Summer School in June 2022 in Italy, and an EuBIC Winter School in 2023 in Switzerland.

To support young members (students and ECRs) who wish to attend these courses and EuPA-supported conferences, EuPA will continue to provide travel grants (up to 500 euros per grant). A generic form has been created to apply for one of these, and it is published on the EuPA website, and will be spread via social media. This form is also continuously updated as new grants become available: <https://forms.gle/6ojF33VhNsjGCK467>

At the time of writing, travel grants are available for the EuBIC 2022 winterschool and the EuPA/Proteomic Forum congress in April in Leipzig. Don't miss the opportunity to apply!

Last but not least, an EuPA Awards committee was constituted following an open call for volunteers among all EuPA Committee members. Four Committee members volunteered and we warmly thank them:

- **Dina Resetar Maslov**, Conference and Communication Committee Member
- **Mariette Matondo**, Funding Committee Member
- **Montserrat Carrascal**, Education Committee Member
- **Aysel Ozpinar**, Conference and Communication Committee Member

Moreover, the EuPA Awards committee is headed by YPIC representative Maurine Fucito. Six awards for 2021 will be awarded during the Leipzig congress closing ceremony: 3 early career researchers (ECR) awards, 1 mid-career scientist award, 1 industry award, and the Juan Pablo Albar (JPA) award. While the national societies will be solicited to nominate candidates for two of the ECR awards and the JPA award, open calls will be run for the best PhD thesis, the mid-career scientist, and the industry awards. Watch out for these as you will soon receive detailed information on the application criteria and conditions.

On behalf of the entire Education Committee, I hope to meet you at one of our training events, or at the 2022 EuPA Conference. And don't forget to send us your ideas and thoughts, and don't hesitate to get in touch!

On behalf of the EuPA Education Committee,

Christine Carapito, EuPA Education Committee Chair (education@eupa.org)

EUPA INITIATIVES COMMITTEE

The EuPA initiatives committee was constituted in April 2021. It is composed of, in alphabetical order, **Maria Hernandez-Valladares** (Norway), **Lydie Lane** (CH, Chair), **Frederique Lisacek** (CH), **Karl Mechtler** (Austria), **Oxana Trifonova** (Russia), **Yasemin Ucal** (Turkey), **Richard Unwin** (UK) and **Franck Vandermoere** (France).

The mission of this committee, which meets once a month, is to:

- support existing European proteomics initiatives by providing funding and infrastructure and promoting their scientific and educational activities in a fair and transparent way.
- encourage the creation of new initiatives that value scientific excellence, equality, inclusion and diversity.
- foster links between initiatives and stimulate interdisciplinary exchanges to favor scientific innovation.

With the aim to increase the transparency of decisions relative to European proteomics initiatives, the committee drafted (i) a Memorandum of understanding between EuPA and initiative chairs, (ii) standardized forms for activity reporting and budget submission, and (iii) a formal procedure for terminating inactive initiatives.

In order to stimulate exchanges within and between existing initiatives and to encourage the creation of new ones, the committee has set up new intra- and inter-initiatives communication channels. In addition, the chairs of all active initiatives are regularly invited to join the committee meetings for open discussions.

The Metaproteomics, EuBIC, and Food and Nutrition initiatives are growing fast and have been highly productive in 2021. They organized international workshops and educational activities and published a number of outstanding scientific papers and reports. We are delighted that the Standardization initiative and the Initiative on Model Organism Proteomics will restart their activities in 2022 after a period of reduced activity. It should be noted that these five initiatives are also highly complementary and that avenues for future collaboration have already been identified.

As novel technologies develop in the proteomics field and new challenges are raised, there is room for new European proteomics initiatives to emerge. The Committee will be happy to support any effort in that direction and welcomes all suggestions from EuPA members!

Lydie Lane, EuPA Initiatives Committee Chair (initiatives@eupa.org)

EuBIC

The European Bioinformatics Community for mass spectrometry (EuBIC-MS) is the EuPA initiative for mass spectrometry (MS)-related bioinformatics. Its aim is to improve bioinformatics for MS-based research through the setup of community-driven dynamics, thereby improving collaboration, funding, publication, and training activities. Through its different activities, EuBIC tries to raise awareness for the benefits of open science and continuously supports open software. It was started in November 2015 to bring together the MS and bioinformatics communities in an open, collaborative and constructive environment. The initiative is carried enthusiastically by the bioinformatics community and welcomes everyone willing to help.

EuBIC-MS organizes a dedicated yearly conference, bringing together researchers in the fields of mass spectrometry and bioinformatics, junior scientists and industry partners from across Europe. Every year, this conference alternates between a Winter School with keynote talks and workshops, and a Developers' Meeting consisting of collaborative project sessions with the participants (hackathons). Additionally, EuBIC-MS actively contributes to bioinformatics hubs, and provides various workshops and presentations during international MS (e.g. annual conference of the American Society of Mass Spectrometry) and proteomics (e.g. Human Proteome Organization congress, EuPA congress) conferences.

Here is the report of our activities and achievements between September 2019 and October 2021.

Winter Schools and Developers' Meetings

The EuBIC-MS Winter Schools on computational MS are sponsored by the European Proteomics Association (EuPA) and several MS companies. They bring together scientists from both academia and industry to present and discuss their research in workshops, keynote lectures, flash talks and poster presentations. We hosted two Winter Schools, the first one in Semmering, Austria in 2017 and the second in Zakopane, Poland in 2019. Due to the Corona pandemic, there was no Winter School organised in 2021 but we are currently planning the next one in 2022.

The Developers' Meetings is an event dedicated to computer scientists and developers, in the field of bioinformatics applied to MS, where they can discuss and work together in an open and constructive spirit. The program is split between keynote lectures and multiple hackathon sessions where the

participants develop bioinformatics tools and resources that address outstanding needs in the bioinformatics community and among biologists using MS data. Our first Developers' Meeting took place in Ghent, Belgium in 2018.

The EuBIC Developers' Meeting 2020 took place in Nyborg (Denmark) January 13th to 20th. The first day was educational. Then, six keynote speakers gave lectures that were followed by 3.5 days of collaborative work. The keynote speakers were: Eric Deutsch (Institute for Systems Biology, Seattle, WA, USA), Ole N. Jensen (University of Southern Denmark, Odense, DK), Andy Jones (Institute of Integrative Biology, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK), Lydie Lane (Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, CMU, Geneva, CH), Alexander Peltzer (Quantitative Biology Center, University of Tübingen, Tübingen, GE), and Olga Vitek (Northeastern University, Boston, MA, USA). These lectures were recorded and are available on our website and on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL_6fafgzU1nHd13qqjm3uNvyHh62JpPcB).

Six workshop projects were selected by the community (abstracts available at <https://github.com/EuBIC/EuBIC2020/issues>). These resulted in concrete outputs for the community:

- Updated version of ThermoRawFile parser with two additional modules: (i) an automated creation of extracted ion chromatograms (XICs) from raw files, and (ii) retrieving individual spectra from a raw file and reporting these in PROXI format.
- Development of automated workflows to facilitate more reproducible proteomics data analysis in Cytoscape.
- Development of MegaGO, a tool to assess functional (gene ontology) similarity across meta-omics data sets.
- Development of Universal Spectrum Explorer (USE), an online tool to compare predicted spectra with experimental spectra from proteomics repositories, including the possibility to extract these spectra via the Universal Spectrum Identifier (USI).
- Development of PhosFake, a tool to simulate the full experimental data acquisition of a phosphoproteomics experiment (<https://github.com/veitveit/PhosFake>).
- Development of a workflow to benchmark different algorithms for assembling consensus spectra (<https://github.com/statisticalbiotechnology/representative-spectra-benchmark>).

The EuBIC Developers' meeting 2020 was thus a great success, and the next one is currently in preparation. It should take place in Locarno (Switzerland) in 2023. Before that, a Winter School is in preparation for March 2022.

Community achievements

Special issue perspective in Rapid communications in Mass Spectrometry

We published an article that provides an overview of EuBIC-MS's achievements and perspectives in a Special issue of Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry.

The SDRF-Proteomics format

The EuBIC-MS community worked together with the Human Proteome Organization Proteomics Standards Initiative (HUPO-PSI) to define a standard for metadata annotation of proteomics data: The Sample and Data Relationship Format for Proteomics file format (SDRF-Proteomics). This should increase data interpretability, as well as facilitating data reuse in an automated fashion. We remain very active in the development of this format (github.com/bigbio/proteomics-metadata-standard) and intend to promote it through presentations and workshops (for example at the Proteomic Forum/EuPA 2022 Conference).

EuBIC seminars 2021

EuBIC-MS organised a series of seminars that took place at the University of Copenhagen on 6 October 2021. It was supported by the Center for Health Data Science (HeaDS - heads.ku.dk/) and the Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Protein Research (CPR). Five speakers were selected to present their work and promote EuBIC-MS to Copenhagen researchers and students. The information regarding this meeting can be found here: eubic-ms.org/events/copenhagen-2021-seminar/.

Our website and resources

In partnership with the EuPA Educational Committee (EC), the Proteomics Academy web resource (<https://www.proteomics-academy.org>) has become the central communication portal for EuBIC since its creation in 2015. To increase the visibility of EuBIC itself, we also maintain a website dedicated to the initiative at <https://eubic-ms.org>. There, you can find all information regarding past and upcoming EuBIC-MS activities, including this annual report.

We recently also made a short video that promotes EuBIC-MS that you can also find on our website.

How to get involved?

The EuBIC community is open to anyone working in computational proteomics and mass spectrometry. You can join us by sending an email to info@eubic-ms.org or by using the contact form available from the eubic-ms.org website. We will then send you an invitation to join our Slack workspace (<http://eubic.slack.com>), which is our extensively used platform to interact with other EuBIC members. Additionally, you can follow and retweet our latest activities from our Twitter account ([@EuBIC_ms](https://twitter.com/EuBIC_ms)). By joining us, you will be part of a community effort, and will thus contribute

to the sustainability of these scientific activities, which we expect to foster the development of the computational MS field.

Acknowledgments

The EuBIC organizing committee would like to thank the European Proteomics Association for its support and funding since the creation of the initiative. We would also like to underscore the remarkable work accomplished by all organizers of the previous Winter Schools and Developers' Meetings.

Veit Schwämmle (Associate Professor, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark).

FOOD AND NUTRITION INITIATIVE

The proteome analysis is expected to play an important role in solving major nutrition-associated problems in humans and animals, such as obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer, aging, and intrauterine fetal retardation. EuPA community, in different way respect to HUPO, have a lot of competence that include also veterinary medicine, plants, and food, all these things related to the very important field of microbiome, with metaproteomics approaches. We could talk of One Health Proteomics. Principal aim is to increase community and possibility to apply in different fields of research projects, especially for ESR; dissemination of proteomics in food and nutrition environments, creation of synergies with food industries, and also with regulatory agencies to set up new test based on proteomics. This initiative was born in 2017 and it is also part of the B/D-HPP in HUPO (starting in 2016).

The initiative, despite the pandemic, managed to be present in two events in 2021. The first was from 15 to 18 June 2021, organized by Tanja Cirkovic Velickovic as part of the FoodenTwin symposium, a European project she leads and of which Paola Roncada is scientific advisory board. During the meeting, the FaN action was presented and there was also a moment of dissemination to the general public with a press conference at Madja Center to illustrate collaboration inside the Initiative.

The second event was organized in Rome as part of the joint international congress of the Italian, Greek and Serbian Proteomic Societies, from 7 to 10 of September 2021.

We had a total of 128 attendees and we had 15 people from Serbia, Greece and Russia.

We had 3 poster sessions dedicate to activities of FAN. On 33 total posters we had 12 poster related to FAN arguments. We had also 7 oral communication of FAN related argument (Session 2 and part of Session 4), the final program is available to the link www.itpa.it.

FAN members:



Chair: **Prof Paola Roncada** (University Magna Græcia of Catanzaro, Italy).

Core Group:

Co-Chairs: **Prof. Tanja Cirkovic Velickovic** (University of Belgrade, Republic of Serbia), and **Prof. George Tsangaris** (Biochemical Research Foundation Academy of Athens, Greece).

Svetlana Murzina (Institute of Biology of the Karelian Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia); **Alessio Soggiu** (Department of Biomedical, Surgical and Dental Sciences - One Health Unit, University of Milano, Italy); **Viviana Greco** (Chatholic University of the Sacred Heart, Rome, Italy); **Bruno Tilocca** (University Magna Græcia oif Catanzaro, Italy); **Enza D' Auria**

(Pediatric Department, Vittore Buzzi Children's Hospital, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy); **Pedro Rodrigues** (Centro de Ciências do Mar, Universidade do Algarve, Faro, Portugal); **Maya Zachut** (Institute of Animal Sciences, Agriculture Research Organization, Volcani Center, Rishon Lezion, Israel); **Prof. Angeliki Katsafadou** (Faculty of Public and One Health University of Thessaly, Greece).

EXTRA -EU INTERNATIONAL LIASON (FAN- HUPO)

- **Daniel Figeys**, Ottawa Institute of Systems Biology and Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.
- **Adriano Brandelli**, Laboratório de Bioquímica e Microbiologia Aplicada, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil.
- **Subhra Chackaborty**, National Institute of Plant Genome Research, new Dehli, India.

iMOP

The iMOP (Initiative on Model Organism Proteomics) re-assessed its overall research agenda and therefore was renamed from “Initiative on multi-organism proteomics”, back to its original name.

The term “model organism” thereby includes standard as well as emerging models, across all kingdoms of life.

The initiative aims to use proteomic methods on model organisms to identify and quantify protein regulations as well as to determine, where possible, new protein functions.

The major goal of this “comparative biology at proteome level” is to discover general principles which will improve the understanding of key molecular processes involved in human health and disease.

Two major **fields of action**, closely linked to each other, were identified:

- Support the functional annotation of human genes without known function by research on conserved genes in any kind of model organism
- Expand on the emerging field of alternative and short open reading frame encoded peptides/proteins (altProt; SEP) in these organisms as well as in the human proteome.

Technologies such as bottom-up and top-down proteomics, as well as bioinformatic approaches to create more comprehensive databases, and proteogenomic applications to allow an evidence-based annotation of protein coding sequences, will be applied to drive forward research in these fields of action.

The iMOP is going to organize online sessions to discuss and develop the two fields of action mentioned above at the beginning of 2022. Please contact us if you are interested to take part in these discussions!

Andreas Tholey (AG Proteomics & Bioanalytics - Institut für Experimentelle Medizin, Kiel, Germany).

METAPROTEOMICS INITIATIVE

Since February 2021, the Metaproteomics Initiative is officially recognized under the EuPA umbrella. Our community is convinced that metaproteomics is an essential approach for understanding how microbiomes function in space and time, and we're therefore delighted to receive the support from EuPA to structurally tackle the challenges in this field. More specifically, the Metaproteomics Initiative (www.metaproteomics.org) promotes the dissemination of metaproteomics fundamentals, advancements, and applications through collaborative networking in microbiome research. We aim to be the central information hub and open meeting place where newcomers and experts interact to communicate, standardize, and accelerate experimental and bioinformatic methodologies in this field. We hereby invite the entire EuPA community to join, discuss potential synergies, and to collectively promote innovative approaches to gain deeper insights into microbiome functions and dynamics.

Tim Van Den Bossche (VIB, Ghent University, Belgium).



STANDARDIZATION INITIATIVE

The EuPA Standardization Initiative was initially launched in 2016 with the aim to produce SOP and reference materials for selected proteomics workflows. The working schema is based on the organization of proteomic multi-laboratory experiments (PME), where a reference sample is designed, prepared and analyzed by the participants under given controlled conditions. The final goal is to deliver guidelines and recommendations on the analytical method tested, making them accessible to the broad proteomics community. The EuPA Standardization initiative aims to integrate proteomic strengths across Europe by promoting the consolidation of a common space based on the easy exchange of information according to normalized protocols and standardized data formats. Besides improving the efficiency within the proteomics environment, standardization is crucial to increase the impact and relevance of proteomics in other scientific disciplines since the translation of analytical results into relevant biological knowledge and practical applications is often hampered by the lack of standardized protocols.

Recently the Standardization Initiative has been revamped and a new coordination team has been recently constituted with the following participants (great thanks to all for getting onboard): Marina Gay (IRB Barcelona, Spain), Félix Elortza (CIC bioGUNE, Spain), Odile Burlet-Schiltz (IPBS, CNRS, UPS, France), Sarah Cianférani (IPHC, CNRS University of Strasbourg, France), Ferdinando Cerciello (Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, Switzerland) and Fernando Corrales (CNB-CSIC, Spain). The plan for the near future is to start discussions to prepare the next PME, that expected to be launched in the last quarter of 2022. This is an open initiative that aspires to have the input from the community to identify the most relevant questions in proteomics that would need standardization as well as to count on laboratories willing to participate in the PMEs. All information related to the initiative will be available at the EuPA webpage (www.eupa.org).

During 2020-21 we have prepared a manuscript that has been recently accepted for publication in the Journal of Proteomics (DOI: [10.1016/j.jprot.2021.104409](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jprot.2021.104409)). The paper describes the results of PME11, whose goal was to evaluate the performance and reproducibility of phosphopeptide enrichment procedures and to test the usefulness of phosphopeptide mixture standards to set up, monitor, and troubleshoot phosphopeptide analysis pipelines. In brief, under the coordination of ProteoRed-ISCIII, a reference sample consisting of a yeast protein extract spiked in with different amounts of a phosphomix standard (Sigma/Merck) was distributed to 31 laboratories across Europe -Spain, France, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and Sweden- and USA. Data analysis was performed on 36 datasets that were received from 23 laboratories. The first conclusion of the experiment was the relevance of having a reference sample to benchmark protocol variants and to evaluate the analytical capacities of individual platforms. Besides the expected variation associated to the use of different instruments and enrichment procedures for phosphopeptide shotgun analyses, the operator experience emerges as one of the key factors increasing the observed interlaboratory variability. However, the phosphomix peptide standards are in general readily observable, even at the lowest concentration assayed, with some minor exceptions, and so can be useful for quantitative purposes to measure the yield of a particular enrichment experiment.

M. Gay (Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona), BIST (Barcelona Institute of Science and Technology), Barcelona 08028, Spain). **F. Elortza** (Proteomics Platform, CIC bioGUNE, BRTA (Basque Research and Technology Alliance), CIBERehd, ProteoRed-ISCIII, Bizkaia Science and Technology Park, 48160, Derio, Spain). **O. Schiltz** (Institut de Pharmacologie et de Biologie Structurale, IPBS, Université de Toulouse, CNRS, UPS, Toulouse, France and French Proteomic Infrastructure ProFI – FR2048 CNRS CEA, 67087 Strasbourg). **S. Cianférani** (Laboratoire de Spectrométrie de Masse BioOrganique (LSMBO), IPHC, UMR 7178, Université de Strasbourg, CNRS, 67087 Strasbourg, France and French Proteomic Infrastructure ProFI – FR2048 CNRS CEA,

67087 Strasbourg). **F. Cerciello** (Department of Medical Oncology, Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland). **Fernando J. Corrales** (Functional Proteomics Laboratory. Centro Nacional de Biotecnología- CSIC, Proteored-ISCI, Madrid, Spain.).

ACTIVITIES OF THE YOUNG PROTEOMICS INVESTIGATORS CLUB



At HUPO ReCONNECT 2021, we teamed up with HUPO ECR to organise three mentoring sessions, the Graduate Student Poster Competition, a networking hour, and the well-established manuscript competition. We hope some of you had a chance to participate in these sessions. The panel series with HUPO ECR aiming to give ECRs an open discussion forum has successfully taken place twice and the next one is planned for January 2022.

So, watch out for coming announcements!

Over the last months, our YPIC webinar series has featured Maarten Dhaenens and Alexandra Freeman sharing insights on industry partnerships and alternative publishing strategies. Recordings of these can be found on our YouTube channel in case you missed them (links to the recordings can be found on the YPIC pages at eupa.org). The next webinar “From Proteomics to Careeromics” will be on the 8th December at 11 AM CET featuring Sarah Blackford and as always this will be free of charge. More information as well as the registration link can be found on the flyer.

For the upcoming EuPA2022 conference in Leipzig, YPIC is working together with the SoGS and the organising team to set up the educational day with scientific intro, “Meet the expert”, and some mentoring sessions as well as workshops based on input from the ECR community on twitter. Additionally, the successful career session will be back during the conference.

If you want to be the first to know about upcoming YPIC events as well as ECR related events, follow us on social media and/or sign up to our mailing list (connection details at www.eupa.org/ypic/). You want to actively participate in organising future YPIC events, contact us through email ypic@eupa.org.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

The most recent EuPA General Council meeting was held online on Tuesday 23 November 2021. A richly filled agenda served to highlight the progress made by the various Committees over the past few months, and a few highlights amongst these have been selected here.

The Education Committee, led by Dr. Christine Carapito (FR), organised a survey on education needs, which had tremendous success, amassing more than 350 answers from participants worldwide (70% of which from Europe), and providing a treasure trove of data on the various education needs that exist in our community. The raw results have been shared with the General Council, so feel free to contact your National Society Representative to obtain a copy if you're interested in obtaining some inspiration for your next course, workshop, or Summer School!

The Education Committee, together with the Conferences and Communications Committee, led by Dr. Éva Csősz (HU), have announced a generic Google form to apply for EuPA travel grants. This form, which will be continuously updated as new grant opportunities arise, can be found online here: <https://forms.gle/6ojF33VhNsjGCK467>.

EuPA has installed an Awards Committee, headed by Maurine Fucito (IT). This Awards Committee has developed an exciting new EuPA Awards plan, comprising a variety of EuPA Awards: three early career researcher awards (EuPA Vision and Commitment Award; EuPA Bioinformatics for Mass Spectrometry Award; and EuPA Best Doctoral Thesis Award), one mid-career 'EuPA Breakthrough in Proteomics' award, one 'EuPA Technology' award for industry, and, of course, the long-running Juan Pablo Albar 'Proteomics Pioneer' Award.

Finally, congratulations were extended to Prof. Uwe Völker (DE), who was confirmed as Vice-President of HUPO, to Dr. Juan Antonio Vizcaíno (UK), Dr. Yves Vandembrouck (FR), and Prof. Lennart Martens (BE) who were elected to the HUPO Council, to Dr. Wei Wu (NL) who was confirmed as diversity candidate for the Central Region to the HUPO Council, and last but not least, to Prof. Charles Pineau (FR) who will start his term as President of HUPO's HPP in 2022.

Patricia Lefèvre, EuPA Secretary, and

Lennart Martens, EuPA President.

SYNOPSIS OF THE HUPO RECONNECT MEETING

Responding to the needs of an unprecedented public health environment, the HUPO 2021 world congress went again fully virtual from November 15-19. A newly interactive virtual platform *Gather.Town* provided delegates with the opportunity to talk directly to presenters and other delegates via video chats. Participants were able to wander around, meet other delegates and join hallway conversation and mingle between groups. The 2021 edition of the HUPO congress was quite a success with 1336 registrations from 47 countries and 390 abstracts submitted. European participants represented 34% of attendees.

Feedback on HUPO Reconnect 2021 was generally very positive. The quality of sessions, speakers and topics was again appreciated. Mentoring sessions were a huge success, which highlights that Early Career Scientists are asking for support and advice. Pre-congress courses were well attended and the demand for training courses is increasing. With virtual international events, only the management of the different time zones remains challenging to organize sessions and satisfy a maximum of participants. For those who have had to make a difficult choice between going to bed and following a session, **recordings will be available until February 25, 2022** through the HUPO website.

After two virtual HUPO congresses in a row, we could feel that the participants are missing the social experience and are eager to meet for a real event which will allow them to rediscover the many and often productive informal scientific exchanges that are only possible with in-person congresses. Let's hope next year's congress can be held on site. **HUPO2022 is scheduled for Cancun from December 4 to 8, 2022.**

Charles Pineau, EuPA Representative, HUPO 2021 Organising Committee

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PROTEOMIC FORUM / EUPA 2022 MEETING.

The Proteomic Forum / EuPA 2022 conference will be organized in Leipzig, Germany between April 3-7, 2022. The German Proteomic Society and the EuPA are inviting you to register and to participate on the most important European conference on the field of proteomics.

The interesting scientific program, the various topics and the invited speakers ensure a meeting of high scientific level. The Educational Day, along with Mentoring sessions and Meet the expert can provide with useful information for early carrier researchers.

EuPA is providing 4 Travel Grants for students and ECRs for participation on the conference and three poster presenters will be awarded with EuPA Poster Prize. The EuPA Poster Prize consists of travel grant for the upcoming HUPO conference in Cancun, Mexico or for EuPA 2023 Newcastle, UK. The application for the EuPA Travel Grant will be done *via* Google Form (<https://forms.gle/6ojF33VhNsjGCK467>). Deadline for application is January 31, 2022.

Detailed information on registration and the planned scientific programme can be found on the conference website: <https://www.proteomic-forum.com/>

It is important to emphasize that members of the National Societies can get a discounted registration fee, and students can participate at discounted rates as well.

Hope to see you in Leipzig!



<https://www.proteomic-forum.com/eupa2022-final-abstract-deadline?type=300>



EuPA and EuPA Awards Committee are looking for nominations and applications of candidates for 2021 EuPA awards in the following categories:

A. Early Career Scientists category, 3 awards:

1. EuPA VISION AND COMMITMENT AWARD (VACA)

EuPA intends to honour an early career researcher (ECR) for his/her remarkable networking of young European scientists in Proteomics initiatives.

For VACA and BMSA awards, an ECR is a researcher who has no more than 7 years of work experience since completion of a MSc or PhD degree.

2. EuPA BIOINFORMATICS FOR MASS SPECTROMETRY AWARD (BMSA)

EuPA intends to honour an ECR for his/her outstanding contribution to Bioinformatics developments for mass spectrometry.

EuPA National Societies will be invited to nominate candidates for VACA and BMSA. For more information please contact your local proteomics Society.

3. EuPA BEST DOCTORAL THESIS AWARD

EuPA intends to honour a person who presented an outstanding PhD thesis in any field of proteomics in 2020 or 2021.

The application is not limited to PhD manuscripts written in English. The PhD thesis can be in any language as soon as the Google form with all the details is provided in English.

Application is open to any ECR who defended a PhD thesis in 2020 or 2021. Therefore, if a student defends in 2021, he/she should choose whether to apply in 2021 or in 2022 as it will not be allowed to apply twice for the award.

Supervisors can also fill the application form instead of their PhD students.

B. Mid-Career Scientist category, 1 award:

EuPA BREAKTHROUGH IN PROTEOMICS AWARD

Awarded for a breakthrough in proteomics, a discovery that transformed the knowledge frontier and has a major impact on science, technology and society.

Application is open to mid-career researchers from academia who have from 7 to 12 years work experience since completion of PhD.

C. Industry category, 1 award:

EuPA TECHNOLOGY AWARD

Awarded to one private company for outstanding contribution in commercialization of a new proteomics technology.

Application is open to private companies (developer of technology), users of technology and others.

D. EuPA JUAN-PABLO ALBAR (JPA) PROTEOME PIONEER AWARD

EuPA intends to honour a person with a leading and long-standing involvement in the promotion of the principles of sharing and integration of resources for the development of excellent research in the Proteomics field. Therefore, EuPA is looking for a candidate who has made longstanding contributions to EuPA, and thus has been integral to the success of its mission. In addition, this is a scientist or technologist who has demonstrated a deep interest in sharing resources and has achieved significant contributions to the EuPA organization.

EuPA National Societies will be invited to nominate candidates.

Only ONE (1) candidate may be nominated by each EuPA Member Society and this candidate must be from a FOREIGN Society.

Application deadline for all awards: January 15th 2022

For A1, A2, A3, B and C awards, the EuPA Awards Committee members will collect all applications and score them. The application/nomination with highest score will be designed as the laureate for each category.

For D award, based on nominations gathered from the EuPA Member Societies, the EuPA Awards Committee and the Executive Committee (EC) will draft a shortlist of the 3 highest ranking candidates (release of the short list on February 1st 2022). The shortlisted candidates will be asked for their availability for receiving the award during the 2022 EuPA Conference in Leipzig, Germany.

A formal support letter from the candidate's home Society will be gathered, such a letter should outline the commitment of the nominees in the development of community based activities within their National proteomics organization.

Shortlisted candidates will be presented for a second round within the EuPA General Council (GC).

The winner will be the person with the most votes. In the event of a tie, the candidates with the most votes will enter one additional round of voting. In the event of a second tie the EuPA EC will vote for a winner.

Laureate announcement date: February 15th 2022

All 2021 EuPA Awards will be handed out personally at the PROTEOMIC FORUM/ EuPA 2022, Leipzig, Germany during the congress awards ceremony at the closing event.

UPCOMING EVENTS

EuBIC 2022

The EuBIC Winter School will take place on 21-23 March 2022 in Oeiras (Portugal).

Website: <https://eubic-ms.org/events/2022-winter-school/>



PROTEOMIC FORUM / EuPA 2022

The Proteomic Forum / EuPA 2022 will take place on 3-7 April 2022 in Leibzig (Germany).

Website: <https://www.proteomic-forum.com/>



PROTEOVILAMOURA 2022

The second joint congress of Portuguese (ProCura), Spanish (SEProt) and French (FPS) Proteomics Societies will take place on 11-13 May 2022 in Vilamoura (Portugal).

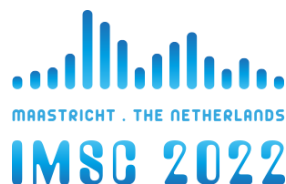
Website: Site on build.



IMSC 2022

The International Mass Spectrometry Congress (IMSC) will take place on 27 August-2 September 2022 in Maastricht (Netherlands).

Website: <https://www.imsc2022.com/>



HUPO 2022

The HUPO will take place on 4-8 December 2022 in Cancun (Mexico).

Website: Site on build.



Tenure track Assistant/Associate Professor Mass Spectrometry for Analytical Biochemistry (1.0 fte).

Job description:

We are looking for an academic scientist who is interested in embarking or continuing on an academic career path as a tenure track assistant or associate professor in the area of *Mass Spectrometry for Analytical Biochemistry*. The successful candidate will join the research group [Analytical Biochemistry](#), a dynamic, multidisciplinary group of researchers stemming from the fields of mass spectrometry, proteomics and metabolomics. We are looking for candidates working in the area of spatial-flux-omics investigating spatial location and dynamic changes of proteins and/or metabolites, but applicants from other research area of mass spectrometry-based proteomics and metabolomics with innovative and unique topics are encouraged to apply.

In addition to developing your own research line, you are expected to further build on the scientific knowledge generated by GRIP's (Groningen Research Institute of Pharmacy) preclinical and clinical research groups (e.g. Molecular Pharmacology, Drug Design, Pharmaceutical Analysis, Nanomedicine and Drug Targeting, Chemical and Pharmaceutical Biology) and complement the research portfolio of these groups with novel mass spectrometry methods in various application areas, such as biopharmaceutical development, new drug target, single cell proteomics/metabolomics, pathology driven small sample proteomics and metabolomics and biomarker discovery for cancer and respiratory diseases.

In this position, you will:

- develop an independent, world-class, multidisciplinary research programme, focussing on analytical chemistry, and specifically mass spectrometry, in the context of biomedical/clinical projects.
- teach in the degree programmes of Pharmacy (both BSc and MSc) and the Master, Medical Pharmaceutical Sciences (MPS);
- supervise BSc, MSc, and PhD students in the research group;
- contribute to the organisation and management within the research group and institute, for example by participating in working groups and committees in the fields of teaching, research and management.
- contribute to the management of the Interfaculty Mass Spectrometry Center.

At the stage of Assistant Professor, 60% of your time will be devoted to research activities, 30% to teaching, and 10% for organizational tasks. After five years you will be assessed for tenure and promotion to the level of Associate Professor.

As an Associate Professor, 40% of your time is for research activities, 40% for teaching, and 20% for organizational tasks. You can choose to apply for a promotion to Full Professor anywhere between 4 to 7 years after your appointment.

The criteria for assessment for both positions are described in detail in the career development program of the Faculty of Science and Engineering, known as [Career Paths in Science](#).

Qualifications:

We offer the opportunity to work in a multidisciplinary position on an academic career path, and we look forward to receiving your application if you have:

- a PhD degree in the pharmaceutical or biomedical/life sciences, with a strong background in mass spectrometry;
- excellent research qualities in relevant specific areas, such as analytical chemistry and mass spectrometry-based proteomics and/or metabolomics, as evidenced by a publication record in international peer-reviewed journals, attendance at world-class conferences, and a relevant (inter)national network;
- experience in running an academic research group appropriate to career stage;
- teaching and organizational experience appropriate to career stage.

You are:

- highly motivated to build an independent research group, as well as a driving force in setting up collaborations within the institute as well as beyond;
- able to acquire substantial research grants from external sources;
- willing to obtain a University Teaching Qualification (Dutch: BKO);
- able to speak the Dutch language or motivated to speak it at a level which is adequate for functioning in a professional Dutch-speaking environment within five years.

Organization:

The University of Groningen is a research university with a global outlook, deeply rooted in Groningen, City of Talent. Quality has been our top priority for over four hundred years, and with success: The University is currently in or around the top 100 on several influential ranking lists.

The Faculty of Science and Engineering (FSE) is the largest faculty within the University. We offer first-rate education and research in a wide range of science and engineering subject areas, from

mathematics, astronomy and mechanical engineering, to interdisciplinary fields such as artificial intelligence, pharmacy and nanoscience. Our community has an open and informal character with students and staff from around the world.

The position we offer will be embedded in the Groningen Research Institute of Pharmacy (GRIP). Although GRIP is positioned within the Faculty of Science and Engineering (FSE), it is physically located within the University Medical Centre Groningen (UMCG) of the Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS) - hence, in ideal proximity to benefit from collaborations between the two faculties. Together with Medical Sciences, GRIP participates in the joint UMCG-FSE Research Institute GUIDE (Groningen University Institute for Drug Exploration). Pharmaceutical research within GRIP is highly multidisciplinary. It bridges the clinical and biomedical sciences on the one hand, and chemistry, mathematics (statistics) and physics on the other. The interaction between the pharmaceutical sciences and these fundamental and clinical sciences offers excellent opportunities for cutting-edge research.

Conditions of employment:

We offer a full-time tenure-track assistant professor or associate professor position with:

- a salary from € 3,746 up to a maximum of € 5,826 gross per month for an *Assistant Professor* position, or a salary from € 5,190 up to a maximum of € 6,940 gross per month for an *Associate Professor* position. Salaries (salary scales 11&12 or 13&14 respectively, CAO Dutch Universities, depending on your career stage)
- *holiday allowance* and *end-of-year bonus* of respectively 8% and 8.3% of your yearly salary;
- a pension scheme
- parental leave
- the possibility to work part-time (0.9 fte or 0.8 fte)
- a personal development trajectory including mentor programme
- dual-career support for partners of new faculty members moving to Groningen

Consider our website for information about work at the University of Groningen:

<https://www.rug.nl/about-us/work-with-us/that-is-why/>

The candidate will participate in the career development program of the Faculty of Science and Engineering, known as [Career Paths in Science](#).

Applications:

Are you a highly motivated and experienced researcher with a background in mass spectrometry, and do you think this is the perfect continuation of your career?

If so, we encourage you to submit a complete application including:

- a cover letter in which you describe your motivation and qualifications for the position;
- curriculum vitae, including a list of publications and a list with names and contact details of 3 references;
- a list of five self-selected 'best papers';
- A statement about teaching-goals and experience and a description of scientific interest and plans;

Please start the application process by clicking on "Apply" below the advertisement on the website of the university.

You can submit your application until 3 January 11:59pm / before 4 January 2021 Dutch local time (CET) by means of the application form (click on "Apply" below on the advertisement on the university website).

The selection interviews will take place in the last 2 weeks of January 2022.

The University of Groningen is an equal opportunity employer, and we value diversity at our organization. We do not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status or disability status. Our selection procedure follows the guidelines of the NVP Recruitment Code and the European Code of Conduct for recruitment of researchers from the European Commission.

Information:

For more information about the position, please contact **Prof Peter Horvatovich** (p.l.horvatovich@rug.nl).

Please do not use this e-mail address for applications.

Additional information:

- Profile report in which the position is described in more detail: <https://www.rug.nl/fse/organization/vacatures/vacatures/structuurrapporten/>
- The research institute is described at: <https://www.rug.nl/research/grip/>
- Employment conditions of the University of Groningen can be found at: <https://www.rug.nl/about-us/work-with-us/that-is-why/>
- Career Paths in Science: <https://www.rug.nl/fse/organization/vacatures/vacatures/career-paths-in-science-edition-4>

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

As mentioned in the “Message from Editor”, we would like to add new content to the next EuPA Newsletter. The main idea is to make the contents more collaborative and attractive by offering the opportunity for volunteer contributions to the EuPA story. Suggestions include highlights of:

- Contributions from any EuPA members (students (Master, PhD), postdoctoral researcher, junior or senior scientists):
 - *Thesis abstract,*
 - *Overview from the students and / or ECRs awarded by the EuPA grant committee to attend the EuPA congress (Leipzig, Germany),*
 - *Students and ECRs awarded with EuPA Poster Prize will contribute to sum up HUPO 2022 (Cancun, Mexico) or EuPA 2023 (Newcastle, UK) conferences,*
 - *Abstract from the keynote speakers and / or lecturers invited by the EuPA scientific committee,*
 - *Writings presenting individual perspectives on, and scientific careers in, proteomics.*
- Contributions from EuPA sponsors to present new technologies or methods of interest for the proteomics community.

Please find below some instructions:

Independent of the type of contribution, please provide the name of the author or authors, affiliations, e-mail address, and a picture of the main author. You can also include figures and legends, as well as references. Times New Roman will be used as font, with size 12 and interline at 1.5. Concerning the length of the contributions: Thesis abstract (½-1 pages), Students / ECRs overviews (3-5 pages), Invited EuPA speakers (½-1 page), and Sponsors (1-2 pages).

Moreover, additional content is being considered by EuPA committees such as:

- Interviews such as “Meet distinguished members of the EuPA community” with the help of a journalist,
- Competition for PhD students on “What means EuPA for me” or My personal EuPA”,
- PhD awards,
- Art & Science.