



EuPA NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Colleagues and Members of the European Proteomic Society (EuPA),

As we come to the close of an exciting year, we are pleased to bring you the December issue of the EUPA Newsletter. In this edition, we reflect on recent achievements, share important updates from the proteomics community, and look ahead to future milestones.

In October, the **2nd EuPA Job Fair and Student Exchange Event** was held online, attracting over 130 students and early-career researchers. Highlights included a panel on protein science, a job fair with company presentations, and a space for student exchanges with 15 PIs and six funding agencies. Participants also benefited from a CV clinic and valuable insights into career and collaboration opportunities. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this successful event!

This issue also features the **personal writings of EUPA Congress Awardees**, who have made significant contributions to the proteomics field. Their personal stories serve as a powerful reminder of the passion and dedication that drive scientific discovery. Additionally, we are pleased to showcase the **perspectives** of some of the **EUPA Travel Grant Awardees**, who have been given the opportunity to attend HUPO 2024 and gain firsthand exposure to the latest developments in proteomics.

As we look ahead, there are several exciting events on the horizon for the proteomics community. We encourage you to stay connected, attend these events, and engage with fellow proteomics professionals as we collectively advance the science of proteomics.

As we conclude this final Newsletter of 2024, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to all EUPA members for your continued support, contributions, and passion for proteomics. It is your dedication that drives the success of our association and the growth of the proteomics community. We wish you a wonderful holiday season and look forward to your feedback and contributions as we move forward together

Best regards,

On behalf of the EuPA Conference and Communication Committee
the Editor of the EuPA Newsletter: Eleni Zografos, and
the Co-Editors of the EuPA Newsletter: Éva Csősz and Fernando Corrales

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear EuPA Members,

As we approach the end of another remarkable year, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your dedication and contributions to proteomics community. This year has been filled with lots of activities, exciting research, and a collaborative spirit. Let us take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work and achievements of our committee members and partners, whose efforts led to fruitful virtual and physical events, initiatives, networking and dissemination of information among proteomics researchers of all career stages in Europe and beyond.

The holiday season is a time for reflection and celebration. I hope that you have the opportunity to recreate and regenerate in order to continue to push the boundaries of science and improve our understanding of the proteome. Looking ahead to 2025, I am excited about the upcoming events and EuPA conference in June as well as many more opportunities that lie before us.

May this festive season bring you joy, peace, and the chance to recharge for the exciting year ahead.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Happy Holidays and a prosperous New Year!

Klaus Kratochwill
EuPA President

THE EUPA AWARDS 2024: CELEBRATING CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROTEOMICS

The EuPA Awards Committee is responsible for the organisation of the EuPA Awards Campaign, including the evaluation of the applications. Our goal is to honour the members of the proteomics communities for their outstanding achievements.

The 2024 EuPA Awards campaign will be launched very soon, so stay tuned. Awardees will receive their award during the 2025 EuPA conference in St Malo, France. We are looking forward to receiving your applications!

The awards currently endorsed by EuPA are.

- The **EuPA Best Doctoral Thesis Award** honours a young PhD who presented an outstanding thesis in the last two years. The 2023 recipient was Sigrid Verhelst (Belgium).
- The **EuPA Bioinformatics for Mass Spectrometry Award** recognises a researcher for their outstanding contribution to bioinformatic developments for mass spectrometry. The 2023 recipient is Laurent Gatto (Belgium).
- The **EuPA Breakthrough in Proteomics Award** rewards a discovery that has transformed the frontier of knowledge in proteomics and has a major impact on science, technology, and society. The 2023 recipient is Vadim Demichev (Germany).
- The **EuPA Juan-Pablo Albar Proteome Pioneer Award** honours a person with a leading and long-standing involvement in promoting the principles of sharing and integrating resources for the development of excellent research in the proteomics field. The 2023 recipient is Pedro Beltrao (Switzerland).
- The **EuPA Science Outreach Award** supports an individual or a group of individuals in the organisation of any event popularising any science topic to a lay audience. The 2023 recipient is AKAD-FMFM (Graduated Migrant and Refugee Women, Germany).
- The **EuPA Technology Award** is awarded to a private company for their outstanding contribution in commercialisation of a new proteomics technology. No prize has been awarded in 2023.
- The **EuPA Vision and Commitment Award** honours an early career researcher for their remarkable networking of young European scientists in Proteomics initiatives. The 2023 recipient is Maurine Fucito (Italy).

All EuPA awardees receive a plate with name and recognition, as well as a free registration fee for the upcoming EuPA conference, sponsored by the conference organisation. The EuPA Best Doctoral Thesis, Bioinformatics for Mass Spectrometry and Vision and Commitment awardees are invited to give

a talk during an online event, organised by the EuPA Education Committee. The EuPA Breakthrough in Proteomics and Juan-Pablo Albar Proteome Pioneer awardees are invited to give a talk during the Awards ceremony at the upcoming EuPA conference. Finally, the EuPA Juan-Pablo Albar Proteome Pioneer awardee receives a prize of €5,000 and the EuPA Science Outreach awardee receives a prize of €1,000 to support any future outreach event.



The 2023 EuPA Awardees at the 2024 HuPO-EuPA conference, along with Awards Committee members
(Credits: Conventus / ©Susann Bargas Gomez)

Last but definitely not least, the committee wishes to thank Montserrat Carrascal and Fernando Corrales for their involvement for the past three years, as they are now leaving the committee. If you would like to join our committee to spotlight the brightest members of our committee, get in touch!

Contributor Marie Chion, EuPA Awards Committee Chair, YPIC Vice-President

THE EUPA CONGRESS AWARDEES: PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES

EUPA BEST DOCTORAL THESIS AWARD

SIGRID VERHELST

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It might sound like a cliché (a cliché in itself!), but I genuinely never expected to win this award! My main piece of advice to all early-career researchers is this: just try, because you'll never know what's possible unless you take the leap. This has also been my motto throughout my PhD journey: take the leap and see where you land. And no, it won't always be in the right place. My PhD experience has had its highs and lows, each teaching me valuable lessons along the way.

My PhD began with a flying start, as I jumped straight into developing a toxicoepigenetic assay to analyze changes in histone PTMs using LC-MS/MS. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic struck only a few months later, preventing me from conducting experiments and making me feel as though I was falling behind. Despite this, I forged ahead, writing a manuscript based on my initial data and applying for an oral presentation at ASMS. I was thrilled to be selected, especially just a year into my PhD.

After this strong start, I went through a period of personal challenges, leaving me questioning my skills as a scientist and wondering if a PhD was even the right path for me. Around this time, my supervisor was approached by a few groups researching stem cell biology, and I was invited to join a project analyzing changes in histone PTMs, particularly during early embryonic development. It became an impressive collaborative effort with four labs across Europe, involving nearly two years of experiments. Ultimately, in this research, we found that naïve pluripotent stem cells are not epigenetically unrestricted: PRC2 activity (responsible for the trimethylation of lysine 27 of histone H3) acts

as a chromatin barrier, restricting the differentiation of naïve cells toward the trophoblast lineage.

Throughout my PhD, I tried to say “yes” to as many opportunities as possible. I applied for oral presentations whenever I could, competed in contests, and took the lead in writing a book chapter on multi-omics in pediatric drug discovery. Because if you don’t try, you’ll never know what could have been possible. That said, I always emphasize how important it is to set boundaries and say “no” when necessary. My main takeaway? Believe in yourself. We all have a tendency to downplay our own work, but we should be genuinely proud of everything we contribute to the proteomics community.

Last but not least, science is not something you do alone! My PhD journey wouldn’t have been the same without the support of my lab and colleagues. So, to my promotors, Prof. Dieter Deforce and Dr. Maarten Dhaenens, and to everyone at LabFBT: thank you for making this journey an unforgettable one!



EUPA SCIENCE OUTREACH AWARD

Menschenrechte-Einundzwanzig e. V.
Graduated Migrant and Refugee Women (AKAD FM-FM)

Coordinator: Dr.phil. Dipl.-Ing. Afsar Sattari

✉ a.sattari@goal-epmts.de

Website: <https://akadfmfm-menschenrechte21ev.com>



Our Scientific Journey in EuPA and the Role of Science Outreach in Advancing Science

Winning the EuPA Science Outreach Award is a proud moment for AKAD FM-FM, reflecting our collective commitment to advancing science and communicating its importance to diverse audiences.

Inspiration and Challenges

At AKAD FM-FM, we are dedicated to empowering migrant and refugee female academics by providing opportunities for education and professional integration. Our various courses for these graduated women, the development of our multilingual and multimedia SQL database, with keywords in medicine, engineering, physics, etc., and the preparation of the three-and-a-half-day long conference of Women in Science and Technology have engaged us in hands-on scientific discovery. Together, these efforts embody our commitment to bridging science and society, promoting inclusion and creating pathways for integration. Being in the scientific atmosphere of the EuPA conference in Dresden and being inspired from the motivated members of your association and their commitment to science, and most of all winning the EuPA Science Outreach Award has further strengthened our resolve to advance knowledge and make education accessible to all.

Shaping Experiences and Communication through Science

Collaborating within AKAD FM-FM, we align science with social impact, particularly supporting migrant and refugee women in their education and careers. Such an initiative like awarding the Science Outreach to us, brings science to life for children and adults, inspiring curiosity and promoting inclusion sparks curiosity and fosters inclusion. By engaging diverse groups, we inspire future scientists and foster a broader appreciation of the role of science in our lives. The AKAD FM-FM is committed to bridging science and society, ensuring that discoveries in proteomics and beyond are shared, celebrated, and understood by all.

Thank you again for this award and for allowing us to be the current Science Outreach Ambassador of the prestigious European Proteomics Association.

VOICES OF THE EUPA TRAVEL GRAND AWARDEES: PERSONAL REFLECTIONS AND WRITINGS

MAICO YANNIC LECHNER

University of Copenhagen, Denmark

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My name is Maico Lechner, and I am a first-year PhD student in the Olsen group at the Novo Nordisk Foundation Centre for Protein Research in Copenhagen. My research focuses on developing methods for single-cell proteomics and low-input samples to advance our understanding of metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD). At HUPO 2024, I presented my project on the One-Tip-PISA method, which combines PISA with a streamlined sample preparation approach. Using n-Dodecyl-Beta-Maltoside for cell lysis, this method reduces sample requirements, enabling high-throughput analysis with as few as 200 cells per μL . Demonstrated in a 96-well plate format, One-Tip-PISA offers faster, more reproducible proteomic profiling with lower material and solvent needs, making it accessible and cost-effective for a broad range of laboratories.

Receiving the EUPA Travel Grant was invaluable, and I am very grateful for it, especially with recent funding reductions at our center. This support enabled me to attend HUPO 2024 and present my research on a global stage. Engaging with the proteomics community was immensely rewarding; I received valuable feedback and connected with potential collaborators. Being involved with the Young Proteomics Investigators Club (YPIC) also allowed me to represent early-career researchers and begin building a strong network for future projects. Attending my first HUPO conference was an enriching experience, and I am glad of all the knowledge gained and the connections made, which will undoubtedly help me in my path ahead.

SPOTLIGHT ON RECENT CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

EUPA JOB FAIR AND STUDENT EXCHANGE EVENT (EUPA SEE)

The 2nd EuPA Job Fair and Student exchange event took place on the 2nd October 2024 online in gather town. The event was organised by the Conference and Communication Committee, YPIC, and the Education Committee.

The event had three parts:

1. Panel discussion

The panel discussion organised by YPIC where you could learn more about working in the amazing field of protein science. Bart vanPuyveldare, Sara Zanivan and Joern Dengjel were the panelists.

2. The Company Job Fair

The participating companies had a short (3 min) presentation slot to advertise their job openings and invite participants to come to their dedicated meeting room in gather.town. Afterwards, each company had a dedicated room to interact with potential candidates.

3. The Student Exchange Event

The representatives of hosting labs, students, and funding agencies had a dedicated space on the online map. The idea behind this program is that currently, student exchange is funded quite well for short-term fellowships or studies e.g. through FEBS (<https://www.febs.org/funding/fellowships/short-term-fellowships/>), EMBO (<https://www.embo.org/funding/fellowships-grants-and-career-support/scientific-exchange-grants/>), or the Erasmus program (<https://www.esn.org/erasmus>), but typically requires an already existing relationship between the hosting labs and/or the student. This implies that the system works well when some form of (initial) connection has been made but is much harder to set up, or even envision, in all other cases.

This year 15 PIs were present and the participants had the opportunity to discuss with them and the representatives from 6 fund providers such as FEBS, EMBO, EUTOPIA, French Proteomics Society, Spanish Proteomics Society and ScientiQ Staffing BV. The registered participants got access to information regarding the host labs and the funding agencies.

In addition to the three main parts we also had a drop in CV clinic. The EuPA SEE was a success with over 130 registered students/ECRs and more than 60 participants.

We would like to thank you for your support and information sharing and for many of you the active participation in the event.

Hope to see you at the next such event!

Contributors: Eva Csoz and Maike Langhini, EuPA SEE organizers

JOIN THE EUPA PROTEOMICS MAP

EuPA is dedicated to exposing the extent and vibrancy of our proteomics community by mapping out research groups, labs, and core facilities across Europe. By building on the British Society's great initiative, we want to expand their interactive map to represent the whole European proteomics landscape on the EuPA website: <http://eupa.org/map>.

We encourage all members to register their labs and research groups through the following link: <https://group.bspr.org/group/register>. The registration process is simple, and details can be updated easily in the future, for example, to reflect new areas of expertise.

A comprehensive map of our proteomics community showcases its scale and strength, increasing visibility to external stakeholders and supporting EU and international grant applications. We expect a populated map to facilitate collaborations, promote recruitment, and helps connect researchers, students, and industry within and outside proteomics.

Why is this important?

Demonstrates the scale of our community: A comprehensive map highlights the strength and breadth of our proteomics community, which can be essential when applying for EU and international grants.

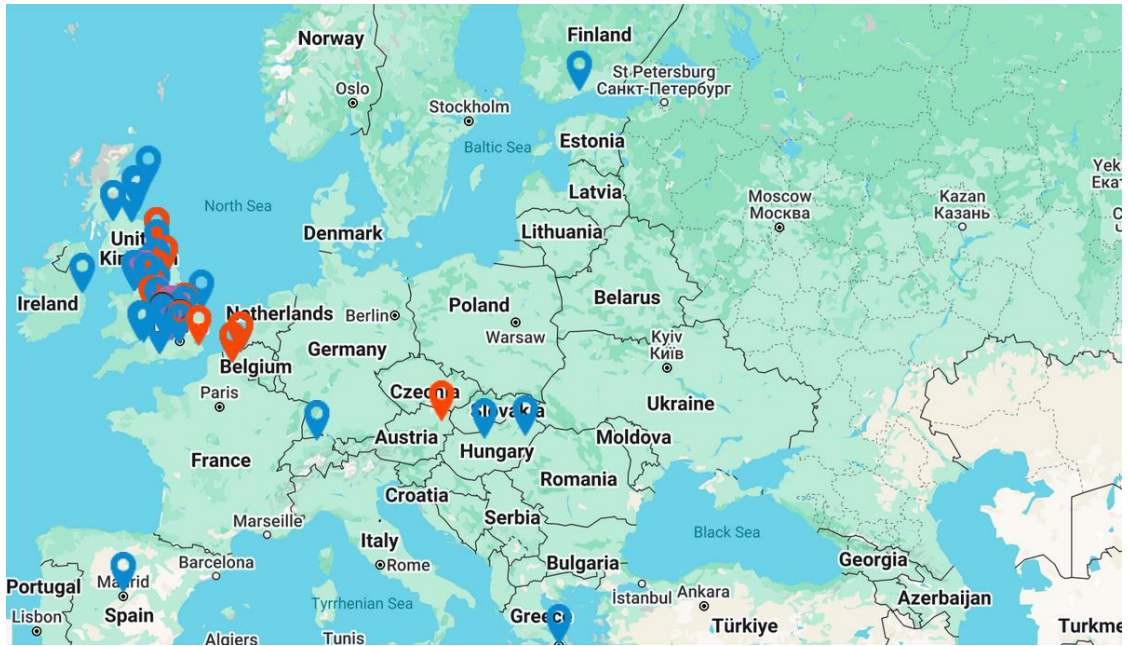
Facilitates collaborations: It allows researchers, students, and industry partners to quickly find and connect with local proteomics groups for collaboration

Increases visibility: This map will give our field greater exposure, helping life scientists and external stakeholders - such as policymakers and funding bodies - recognize the value and potential of proteomics research in Europe.

Supports recruitment and education: Prospective students and postdocs can easily find labs aligned with their research interests, promoting the growth of our field.

We look forward to seeing your research group on the map and building a strong representation of European proteomics.

In case you have any questions, feel free to contact Dr. Veit Schwämmle.



Contributor Veit Schwämmle, EuPA Funding Committee Chair

UPCOMING EVENTS

EUBIC-MS DEVELOPERS MEETING 2025

2nd-7th February 2025, Abbey of Neustift, Vahrn, Italy

The EuBIC-MS Developers Meeting is organized every two years by the European Bioinformatics Community for Mass Spectrometry (EuBIC-MS), an initiative of the European Proteomics Association ([EuPA](#)) for user-oriented bioinformatics.

This meeting aims to bring together computer scientists and developers in the field of bioinformatics for proteomics to discuss and collaborate in an open and constructive spirit. The program is divided into keynote lectures and several hackathon sessions where participants are developing bioinformatics tools and resources to address outstanding needs in the proteomics bioinformatics and user community. Participants are also encouraged to present their scientific work in a poster session.

Through the parallel hackathon sessions, participants will be able to actively participate in the development of new achievements in mass spectrometry-based approaches. This could include the creation of new tools, scripts, resources or any other collaborative project important to the field. Anyone in the field can submit a proposal for a hackathon project. The final list of hackathons will be selected by the organizing committee after a public vote.

All information regarding the program, registration and poster submission: <https://eubic-ms.org/events/2025-developers-meeting/>

EuBIC-MS Developers Meeting 2025
Kloster Neustift, Brixen, Italy
2-7 February 2024

Community-lead hackathons
Kick-off with introductory and stimulating keynotes
Poster presentation
Meet like-minded developers from the community

Keynote speakers

Will Fondrie Pavel Sinitcyn Katerina Nastou

More info: eubic-ms.org

US HUPO CONFERENCE



US HUPO offers one travel grant for a student or ECR from Europe for participation in US HUPO 2025 conference (<https://www.ushupoconference.org>). The travel grant covers complimentary registration and up to 1000 USD travel support.

Eligibility criteria:

- (i) PhD/master student (student status to be proven) or ECR (less than 7 years after MSc or PhD degree);
- (ii) submission of an abstract as a 1st author for the conference

Applications can be submitted via the Google form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1faipqlsfqsawvceg7f2rshlhu2c153hybejwbg sj0emu5umvjbmjtoq/viewform>

Deadline: January 3rd, 2025, 16:00 CET.

SAVE THE DATE: EUPA OPEN LAB DAYS: THE CORE4LIFE EDITION

First Ever EuPA Open Lab Day Host



Join us in Gathertown in our Digital Proteopolis World to meet the people that help run some of Europe's biggest Proteomics Core Facilities:

(<https://coreforlife.sites.vib.be/en>)

ECR DAY



European Early Career Researchers in Proteomics

Online Event – 26th March 2025, 3-5 PM CET

Meet EuPA's 2023 ECR and bioinformatics awardees



Sigrid Verhelst
EuPA Best PhD Award



Maurine Fudto
EuPA Vision and Commitment Award



Laurent Gatto
EuPA Bioinformatics Award

Participate in the third edition of the European Proteomics Science Slam

- ❖ Upload a 3-minute video that explains your work in easy words to a broad audience, feel free to make it original (<https://forms.gle/z1pNeS6SiggR5rCw9> (deadline **28th February 2025**);
- ❖ All videos will be featured in gather.town
- ❖ Top six videos will be broadcasted globally during the event
- ❖ Webinar participants will select three best videos
- ❖ Winners will receive a travel grant to attend an EuPA event in 2025 or 2026 (1st prize: 1000 euros; 2nd prize: 800 euros; 3rd prize: 500 euros (all grants are based on reimbursement up to the listed value))



Take part in a variety of workshops

Join us for workshops covering a variety of topics related to scientific life!

Network with peers, presenters, company representatives, YPIC and EuBIC in *Proteopolis*



Registration is free but mandatory: [ECR Day Registration](https://forms.gle/uFLrPPhwrIXvL7Hx7) (<https://forms.gle/uFLrPPhwrIXvL7Hx7>)

EUPA 2025 CONFERENCE

European Proteomics Association (EuPA) 2025 Conference is organized by European Proteomics Association (EuPA) and will be held from Jun 16 - 20, 2025 at Saint Malo, Brittany, France.



EuPA offers **Travel Grants** for students and ECRs for participation in the EuPA 2025 Conference in Saint-Malo, France. EuPA welcomes applications from all PhD/Master students and ECRs but favors the application of those, whose national society does not provide travel grants. The Travel Grant consists of reimbursement of conference-related costs up to 500 EUR.

Eligibility criteria:

- (i) PhD/Master of Science ≤ 7 years (student status to be proven);
- (ii) Submission of an abstract for the Conference

Priority will be given based on the relevance of the abstract, on gender balance, and on the geographic distribution of the applicants.

For application, please check the conference website.

Deadline for application: February 15th, 2025

19TH CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN PROTEOMICS CONFERENCE

14th -17th October 2025, Budapest, Hungary

CEEPC excels at stimulating exchange of proteomic knowledge whilst imbibing local hospitality offered by the host country and the local venue. Rotation of the meeting's venue each year to wonderful iconic cities of the Europe such as Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Jena, Posnan, Kosice, Bucharest, Vilnius and sharing of different cultures, history, fine cuisines, wines and music, adds to the intertwining of 'cutting edge' research and cultural excitement. We have new countries waiting to join as their Proteomics comes on line with appropriate timing.

Additional information will be posted at:

<http://proteomics.ttk.hu/19ceepc/uc.php>





24th Human Proteome Organization World Congress
HUPO 2025
NOV 9-13
TORONTO, CANADA | 2025.hupo.org
ONE HEALTH POWERED BY PROTEOMICS

SAVE THE DATE

November 9-13, 2025 | Toronto, Canada

See you at the 24th Human Proteome Organization World Congress!



Marie A.
Brunet



Jennifer
Geddes-McAlister



Mathieu
Lavallée-Adam

