



# Members of BBI JU Scientific Committee

Status: 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017

The BBI Scientific Committee consists currently of 15 members. This document contains the list of all current SC members and SC members' short CVs indicated in the alphabetic order. Each member serves in an independent scientific capacity and do not represent countries, employers nor similar interests. For more information please contact the secretariat of the Scientific Committee hosted by BBI JU: [sc@bbi.europa.eu](mailto:sc@bbi.europa.eu).

**Bio-Based Industries Joint-Undertaking (BBI JU)**

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Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country
Sigurjon	ARASON	University of Iceland / Matis Ltd.	Iceland
Johanna	BUCHERT	Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke) <b>SC Vice-Chair</b>	Finland
Uffe	BUNDGAARD-JORGENSEN	InvestorNet-Gate2Growth	Denmark
Daan	DIJK	Independent Advisor (previously Rabobank)	Netherlands
Christian	HUYGHE	INRA, French National Institute for Agricultural Research	France
Bruno	JARRY	NATF, French National Academy of Technologies	France
Lene	LANGE	DTU, Technical University of Denmark <b>SC Vice-Chair</b>	Denmark
Mariya	MARINOVA	Laval University, Department of Wood & Forest Sciences, Québec	Canada/ Bulgaria
Lígia	MARTINS	ITQB NOVA, Instituto de Tecnologia Quimica e Biologica, Universidade Nova de Lisboa	Portugal
Kevin	O'CONNOR	Bioeconomy Research Centre (UCD), School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science and the Earth Institute at University College Dublin <b>SC Chair</b>	Ireland
Calliope	PANOUSOU	Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College, London	United Kingdom /Greece
Lígia	RODRIGUES	University of Minho (UM), Department of Biological Engineering	Portugal
Dagmar	STENGEL	National University of Ireland, Botany and Plant Science, Galway	Ireland/ Germany
Yvonne	VAN DER MEER	Maastricht University, Geleen	Netherlands
Helena	VIEIRA	University of Lisbon; BLUEBIO Alliance, Entrepreneur & Marine Biotech Business Consultant	Portugal

## Sigurjon ARASON



**Professor / chief engineer  
University of Iceland / Matis ohf.**

Sigurjon Arason is Professor at School of Health Sciences - Faculty of Food Science and Nutrition in the University of Iceland. He is Chief Engineer of Mátís Ltd. - Icelandic Food and Biotech R&D and teaches in 3 Master Courses at the Faculty of Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science and 4 Master Courses at Faculty of Food Science and Nutrition. Sigurjon Arason is also teaching the course The Food Processing Technique at the University of Akureyri and teaching at the United Nations University – both in the Marine School and Geothermal School.

He has been involved in fish industries worldwide in various studies on fish processing with focus on physical properties and chemical changes that take place throughout the whole processing chain. He has worked with almost every process and sectors in the fishing industry, both ashore and on board, as well as on the optimization of logistics, packaging technology and storage of products that optimize the storage life and quality of finished products. He has participated in many large research projects both domestic and overseas including several Nordic and EU research projects.

### **Career background**

Sigurjon Arason educated as a chemist from the University of Iceland (UI, 1974) and civil engineering (MSc) from DTU in Denmark (1976). From 1978 to 2007 he worked as divisional manager at the Icelandic Fisheries Research Laboratory (Rf) and from 2007 he is Chief Engineer at Matis.

From 1986 to 1996 he was deputy director in Rf. In addition, he is Professor at the University of Iceland where he has taught food engineering and fishery processing. He taught the course The Food Processing Technique at the University of Akureyri, Iceland and also at United Nations University – both in the Marine School and Geothermal School.

Sigurjon Arason successfully supervised 50 Masters/12 PhD students and was involved in fish industries worldwide in various studies on fish/food processing with focus on physical properties and chemical changes. He is one of the utmost experts to improve the utilization of secondary raw materials obtained in seafood processing and has forty years of experience in this field. Sigurjon Arason is one of the leading researchers in the Icelandic fisheries and processing of food products. His research work has resulted in over 100 peer-reviewed publications and over 300 reports and articles in newspapers and non-refereed fisheries related journals.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Icelandic delegate in the Working Group for Fisheries (AG-Fisk) and committee of Senior Officials for Fisheries & Aquaculture (EK-FJLS Fisheries and Aquaculture), the Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM)
- Delegate as expert for the scientific evaluation of project proposal at The Icelandic AVS- a Research fund for Marine and Fisheries with focus on applied research for value added marine product, The Research Council of Norway, The JPI HDHL Food Processing for Health Call, Research & Codex Division Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine, Ireland, etc.
- Delegate as expert in Advisory for The Icelandic Marine Research Institute (MRI), alternate committee

## Johanna BUCHERT



**Executive Vice-President, Research  
Natural Resources Institute, Finland  
Vice-Chair, BBI JU Scientific Committee**

Prof. Johanna Buchert is currently Executive Vice President at Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke) ([www.luke.fi](http://www.luke.fi)). She is in charge of the research process and its impact at Natural Resources Institute Finland. This institute promotes bioeconomy and sustainable use of natural resources with key focus on forestry, agriculture, food value chain, blue bioeconomy, wild-life research as well as research on socioeconomical aspects on bioeconomy. The Institute has a staff of about 1300. Before moving to Luke she worked at the Technical Research Centre Finland Ltd. (VTT) as Vice-President for Research with the responsibility of the bioeconomy research. Her own research has focused on biorefinery concepts with special emphasis on exploitation of different biomass hydrolyzing and modifying enzymes as tools in forest and agrobiomass processing and in by-product valorization as well as in pulp and paper processing. She has published over 150 peer-reviewed scientific articles in different areas of biomass processing.

### **Career background**

Johanna Buchert became Doctor of Technology by Helsinki University of Technology in 1991.

Since 2015, Johanna Buchert is Executive Vice-President for Research at Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke).

Previously, she was Prof, Vice-President for research, Solutions for Natural Resources and Environment in the Technical Research Centre Finland (VTT), Prof, Vice-President for strategic research (Bio- and chemical processes) and Research Professor at VTT, Research manager at VTT Biotechnology, Research group manager at VTT Biotechnology and Scientist/ Senior Research Scientist.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- FACCE JPI, Scientific advisory board, member 2015-, vice-chair 2017-
- Marcus Wallenberg Foundation, chair-person of the selection committee
- Finnish Food industries Federation, member of the scientific advisory board 2005-
- Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of, 2015-
- Finnish Forest Centre, deputy member of the board of trustees 2017-
- Previous: Academy of Finland, Research Council of Natural Sciences and engineering, vice chair-person 2007-2012

## Uffe BUNDGAARD-JØRGENSEN



**Ph.D.**  
**CEO InvestorNet-Gate2Growth**

Uffe Bundgaard-Jørgensen has a long business experience from both the energy sector and the venture capital sector. Since 2004 he has also been chairman of the Danish Energy Regulatory Authority.

Over the last few years he has coached many technology companies from eco-related sectors like Biofuels, Solar, wave power, bio-chemistry, biomass and eco-efficient transport on investor search and investor readiness. His combined venture capital and eco-innovation experience and special insight in investor search and investment readiness has more recently been used in a number of EU funded projects, many of which also with an energy/eco-innovation focus.

He has written the book: “How to attract investors, a personal guide in understanding their mind-set and requirements”, 2016, PanStanford Publishing, Singapore.

### **Career background**

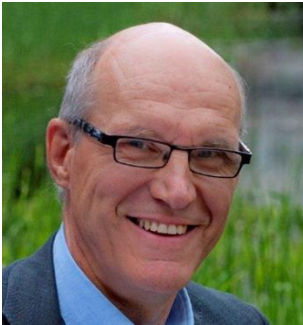
Uffe Bundgaard-Jørgensen is the founder and CEO of InvestorNet-Gate2Growth, based in Copenhagen, Denmark. He has an extensive track record in EU and Danish policy and programme development, innovation, evaluation and impact assessment, based on 10 years as CEO of Danish Natural Gas organization and 10 years as CEO of a large Danish early stage Venture Capital fund.

Since 2000 his company has been an active partner in more than 20 EU projects, many with a focus on investor relations and on energy efficiency and eco-innovation. In all projects he has been providing his particular insight in funding and investment strategies. He has also conducted more than 150 “How to attract Investors” master classes throughout Europe.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Founder and CEO of InvestorNet-Gate2Growth, Copenhagen / Denmark.
- Advisor the D.G. Research on the H2020 SME instrument
- Former Chairman of the H2020 Advisory group.
- Vice chairman of the H2020 Risk Financing Advisory Group
- Member of the BBI JU strategic advisory group
- Member of the H2020 International Cooperation Advisory Group
- Chairman of the Danish Energy Regulatory Authority

## Daniel DIJK



**MSc  
Independent Advisor**

Daniel Dijk is an Independent Advisor with focus on the biotech and chemicals sector.

He has specific professional interest within the Bioeconomy, especially in the fields of financing and business development.

### **Career background**

Daniel Dijk has an MSc in Chemical Physics.

Between 1999 and 2016 he has been Managing Director for the Sustainable Business Development at Rabobank and the a.o initiator of the Rabobank/Deloitte “Agri meets Chemicals” conferences. In the past he has worked for the Dutch Electricity Generating Board/Tennet (1989-1999), for the Centre for Energy & Environmental Studies, Groningen University ( 1982-1989) and for CE Delft (1980-1982).

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Member of the BBI JU Scientific Committee (since 2014)
- Member advisory committee of the Sustainable Energy Innovation facility of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (since 2014)
- Chair Supervisory Board of a Dutch Public Regional Sustainable Energy Fund (since 2012)
- Member of the Dutch Bio-Renewables Business Platform ([www.biobased.nl](http://www.biobased.nl)), (2008-2017)
- Member of the Sustainable Biomass Commission in the Netherlands, Ministry of Economic Affairs & Ministry Infrastructure and Environment (2006-2016)
- Member of the Scientific & Technological Board Bio-based Economy (WTC), Ministry of Economic Affairs (2010-2015)



## Christian HUYGHE



**PhD**  
**Scientific Director Agriculture, INRA-France**

Christian Huyghe is currently Scientific Director for the Agriculture Sector at INRA (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique), in France. His position includes the strategic orientation of the Institute, primarily in the thematic domains of multi-performance of agriculture, biological resources, and global food security. It also includes coordination of strategic orientations and actions of the various scientific divisions involved in agricultural research (plant and animal physiology, pathology and genetics, social and economical sciences, mathematics). Christian Huyghe also does the coordination of the strategic partnerships with companies and with technical institutes.

His interest in BBI JU activities is strong due to the deep paradigm shift generated by bioeconomy concept. Christian believes that value chains must be inclusively considered and in a connected manner. The principles of cascading and recycling make it possible i) to consider in a unique approach both food and non-food use, instead of opposing them, ii) to conciliate economic performance and environmental issues. It raises new research questions, and requires very different approaches, for instance at the territory scale or on the scope for use of digital technologies. All these issues are becoming increasingly important when strategic orientations have to be defined in agriculture.

### **Career background**

Christian Huyghe has a PhD in genetics and plant breeding

Previously he has been researcher in plant genetics on grain, forage legumes and forage crops; Head of a research unit (Inra-URP3F (forage crops genetics and breeding) in Lusignan; and chair of Poitou-Charentes Inra research centre.

Christian Huyghe supervised 10 PhD students and published more than 80 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals, as well as 12 books and book chapters. He is also Associate editor of scientific journals in plant breeding and in agronomy.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Chair of the administrative board of GEVES (Groupe d'Etude et de contrôle des Variétés Et Semences)
- Chair of Scientific Committee of CTPS (French Committee for Plant Variety Registration)
- Chair of Scientific Advisory Board of ACTA (Coordination of the French Technical Institutes in Agriculture)



## Bruno JARRY



### Vice-President, French National Academy of Technologies

Bruno Jarry is currently vice-president of the French National Academy of Technologies, where he chairs the Standing Committee for Biotechnologies, which develops views on bio and agro-food technologies.

Following an academic, university career - Bruno Jarry was a research scientist at the CNRS, Professor of genetics at the University Louis Pasteur (Strasbourg) and Director of the Ecole supérieure de Biotechnologies de Strasbourg, before being recruited as Vice-Chairman for R&D in Lafarge Group.

As of 1995, he became Director for R&D for the Belgian groupe Amlylum and as of 2000, Chief Scientific Officer with the British Group Tate & Lyle. He then became advisor to the President of the French Institut Curie (2004-2006) and finally Senior Adviser to the French Prime Minister in its Privy Council for the thematic: biofuels and green chemistry (2007-2013).

### Career background

Bruno Jarry has a PhD in Microbial Genetics. In the past, he was Professor of Genetics in Strasbourg University (1980-86), Vice-President for R&D in Lafarge Group, Industrial Biotechnology Division (1986-94), Vice-President for R&D in Amlylum Group (1994-2000) and Scientific Director in Tate & Lyle Group (2000-04). Bruno Jarry was also Senior Advisor to the President in the Institut Curie (2004-2008) and Senior Advisor to the French Prime Minister (2008-2012).

### Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on

- Member of the Board, Institut français du pétrole (Paris)
- Member of the Board, PIVERT SAS (Compiègne, France)
- Member of the Board, Health & Biotech (Beijing)
- Member of the Board, Procethol 2G SAS (Paris)

## Lene LANGE



**Professor, PhD et Dr Scient**

**Reserch Leader, Head of Enzyme Discovery  
Technical University of Denmark (DTU)  
Vice-Chair, BBI JU Scientific Committee**

Lene Lange has been Research Director in both public and private R&D. Her research focus is on the discovery of new enzymes for improved processing and product development for new biomass-based value chains. For this, a new State-of-the-Art genome sequencing technology platform has been developed (Peptide Pattern Recognition, Busk & Lange 2013). Currently, her research group have project activities in yellow biomass (e.g. straw), green biomass (e.g. grass and clover), blue biomass (e.g. macroalgae and fish) and red biomass (e.g. keratinaceous waste products such as chicken feather and pig bristles). They also work with improved processing for upgrading organic side streams from industrial food and feed processing; plus upgrading of the organic part of municipality waste and sludge.

Besides her active research agenda (45 peer reviewed papers from 2013-2017), Lene is involved in a broad spectrum of international research advisory roles, internationally, in the EU, for the Nordic countries and in Denmark.

Furthermore, Lene Lange has a busy portfolio of communication activities, promoting the bioeconomy at large by giving invited key notes and plenaries at all continents, covering both the latest development in enzyme and biorefinery technologies and about the development of the Bioeconomy, locally, regionally and globally.

### **Career background**

Lene Lange's professional career includes experience from leading positions in both private sector business and public research institutes. Lene Lange reached research director level positions in both industry and academia; hereby acquired extensive experience from all parts of the knowledge-value-chain: research, technology, innovation, patenting, environmental impact assessment, product development, knowledge management, business models, and commercialization.

After post doc position at University of Copenhagen, Institute of Genetics, Lene was employed as scientist in the Danish Development Agency (DANIDA) Research Institute (1978-1986). The major part of her career, from 1987-2007, in R&D positions in private industry (Novo, Novo Nordisk, Novozymes A/S) finishing in top research career positions (Director of Research, in Molecular Biotechnology) within Novozymes R&D. From February 2007 back in academia, first as Head of Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, and from September 2008 as Dean of Research and Professor in Biotechnology at Aalborg University; Director of Research for Aalborg University 2012-2015; Professor and Research Leader at the Technical University of Denmark 2015.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Member of the Commission expert group on the review of the Bioeconomy Strategy and its Action Plan
- Member of the Scientific Committee of BBI JU
- Vice-chair for the Advisory Group to the Commission for Food, Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry and Biotechnology, FP7
- Chair of Expert Panel on Skills needs in Europe for Biobased Economy
- Member of the Expert Panel for evaluation of the 6th Framework Program
- Appointed member of the French and Norwegian National Research Agencies

## Mariya MARINOVA



**Ph.D., P.Eng.  
Adjunct Professor  
Department of Wood and Forest Sciences, Laval University,  
Quebec, Canada**

Mariya Marinova is currently Adjunct Professor in the Department of Wood and Forest Sciences at Laval University. Over the past ten years, she has collaborated with researchers and stakeholders from the private and government sectors, and international partners. Graduate and undergraduate students have worked under her supervision to design configurations and develop simulation models of processes for green products from biomass and to reduce their energy, water, and chemicals consumption through process integration. Since 2011, Mariya Marinova has been involved in the organization of the International Forest Biorefinery Symposium, now BIOFOR International, an annual event held in conjunction with PaperWeek Canada, featuring the most important forest biorefinery program in Canada.

Her professional interests related to BBI JU's activities include processes for biomass conversion in biofuels and biochemicals, integration of biorefining technologies in pulp and paper mills, energy efficiency of industrial processes, process modelling and simulation, and integration of bioproducts in the transformation chain of the chemical industry.

### **Career background**

Mariya Marinova obtained her first engineering degree from the University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy in Sofia (Bulgaria). She holds a Ph.D. degree in Chemical Engineering, with a specialization in Sciences of Agro-resources, from the Institut National Polytechnique de Toulouse (France).

After working as a Researcher in France and Bulgaria, in 2006 Mariya Marinova started a postdoctoral fellowship in the Chemical Engineering Department of École Polytechnique de Montréal. In 2008, she was an industrial postdoctoral fellow at FPInnovations, one of the largest private scientific research centers in the world, where she worked on evaluating the effect of integration of a hemicelluloses extraction technology in a Kraft pulp mill and on the opportunities to valorise hemicellulosic sugars by converting them into value-added products. From 2009 to 2016, she was a Research Scientist at École Polytechnique de Montréal, where she co-founded and co-directed the Research Unit on Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development of the Forest Biorefinery.

Mariya Marinova is the author / co-author of eight books chapters and journal editorials, thirty-seven articles in peer-reviewed journals, and more than seventy communications. She holds several research grants at national and international level in collaboration with partners from academia, industry, and government.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**



## Members of BBI JU Scientific Committee

- Member of BioFuelNet Canada, a Network of Centres of Excellence
- Associate editor of the Journal of Science & Technology for Forest Products and Processes
- Member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Bioprocess Engineering and Biorefinery
- Chair of the International Forest Biorefinery Symposium

## Lígia O. MARTINS



**Assistant Professor**  
**Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica – Universidade Nova de Lisboa**

Lígia O. Martins is an experienced enzymologist and the Head of the Microbial and Enzyme Technology Laboratory at Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica – Universidade Nova de Lisboa. The main target of research is the design of biological systems for new functions, a key tenet of synthetic biology, by exploring the catalytic properties of multiple and engineered enzymes with impact in the Industrial Biotechnology and Biorefinery fields. A multidisciplinary approach has been followed to investigate bacterial oxidoreductive, including lignolytic, enzymes; laccases, metalloxidases, azo/quinone reductases, DyP ligninolytic peroxidases and recently, pyranose 2-oxidases, combining Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Enzymology, and Structural Biology.

### **Career background**

Lígia O. Martins graduated in Biology and completed her PhD in Biotechnology in studies focused on the biosynthetic pathways of bacterial exopolysaccharides. During her postdoctoral period she had identified novel low molecular weight solutes using NMR in hyper-thermophilic microorganisms with a role in the thermo-stabilization. Seminal investigations of enzymes at the spore coat of *Bacillus subtilis* implicated in the extreme physicochemical resistance of dormant spores were performed as a basis of her independent career. 66 papers were published in international peer-reviewed journals (Google Scholar times cited: 3219, h-index: 30), 3 highlights in journal covers, 2 book chapters, 1 patent, 60+ oral and invited talks and 100+ poster communications in national and international scientific meetings. She led 6 research projects, 2 of which EC funded and acted as national delegate of two COST actions. She has supervised or is currently supervising 6 Post-docs, 7 PhD students and several post-graduate and undergraduate students. She lectured Microbiology and Microbial Technology courses and is currently in the Scientific Committee of the PhD Program in Sustainable Chemistry jointly hosted by Aveiro, Porto and NOVA Universities and is responsible for Biocatalysis Curricular Unit.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Member of the Scientific Committee of the Oxizymes Conference
- Member of editorial board of PLOS ONE, BMC Biotechnology and Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology, Environmental Science and Microbiology
- Expert reviewer for the EC in FP7 and Horizon 2020 calls

## Kevin O'CONNOR



**Professor**  
**Director of Bioeconomy Research Centre (UCD),**  
**Member of School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science**  
**and the Earth Institute at University College Dublin, Ireland**  
**Chair, BBI JU Scientific Committee**

Kevin O'Connor is the director of the recently funded Irish National Bioeconomy Research Centre (BEACON) (2017). He is passionate about the sustainable use of the natural resources and the benefit of the bioeconomy to the society and the environment.

His research interests integrate biorefining, biobased products, synthetic biology, biocatalysis and protein engineering. Kevin O'Connor is also involved in strategy and policy development at National and European level.

### **Career background**

Kevin O'Connor has published over 90 international peer-review articles and made over 200 contributions (presentations and posters) at national and International conferences. He has filed 8 patents and successfully licensed 3 technologies resulting from his research work.

Kevin O'Connor is the founder of Bioplastech, a university spin-out company that develops processes and products based on biodegradable polymers.

He has a BSc and PhD in Microbiology from University College Cork (1995) and became Postdoctoral scientist at Agricultural University Wageningen, Netherlands, Postdoctoral scientist at ETH Zurich, Switzerland. He has been an academic at University College Dublin since 1999.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Chairman of the BBI JU Scientific Committee (2014-present)
- Member of the European Commission bio-based products expert group (2013-present)
- Former member of European Commission Committee entitled the "lead market initiative for Bio-based products (2008-2011)



## Calliope PANOUTSOU

**Senior Research Fellow  
Imperial College London**



Calliope Panoutsou is a Senior Research Fellow in the Centre for Environmental Policy (Imperial College London). She is chairing the activities of the European Technology & Innovation Platform (ETIP Bioenergy) for Biomass availability and supply and is a Vice Chair for the Scientific Committee of BBI JU. Her work focuses on biomass supply, logistics, economic and socio-economic assessments of biomass value chains, market & policy analyses.

During the last eight years (2009-2017) she has provided scientific coordination for multi-disciplinary research on modelling and optimisation of biomass supply and logistics at various temporal (from 2020 and 2030) and spatial levels (European, EU, national and regional/ local). This research led into advanced knowledge in terms of large datasets for biomass availability and cost supply, methodological approaches and modelling. As such it has provided evidence to both policy and industry for the technical and sustainable biomass potentials in European regions.

Specific professional interests related to BBI JU's activities include to improve knowledge for feedstock valorisation; to refine policy instruments across value chains and sectors and ensure future policy formation is consistent and supportive for the bioeconomy; and to mobilise the use of regional and rural development funds and other finances to support and attract investments, and as such create new jobs and opportunities for their primary sector.

### **Career background**

Calliope Panoutsou has a PhD on Strategic planning with focus on 'Socio- economics of regional biomass value chains', a MSc on biotechnology with focus on proteins in cereals and a BSc on agricultural engineering. Previously, she has been Head of Biomass Department in the Greek Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Savings (CRES).

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Member of the Steering Committee ETIP Bioenergy - Chair for Biomass supply and logistics.
- Member of the Scientific Committee of BBI- Vice Chair
- Member of the Editorial Board of Bioenergy Research
- Member of the Editorial Board of Energies - Open Access Energy Research, Engineering and Policy Journal

## Lígia RODRIGUES



**Professor**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**University of Minho, Portugal**

Lígia Rodrigues is currently Assistant Professor at University of Minho (UM), Portugal. She is also Vice-Head of the Department of Biological Engineering (DEB) at UM, Member of the Bioprocess Engineering and Computational group (BIOSYSTEMS) and Vice-Head of the Platform in Molecular and Synthetic Biology. Simultaneously, she is entrepreneur and promoter of several spin-offs, being involved in numerous national and international projects (different funding schemes) and contract research with industry. Lígia Rodrigues is also an expert evaluator for several international funding agencies (e.g. European Commission (H2020), Sweden, Chile, France, Poland). Her specific interests related to BBI JU are Industrial Biotechnology, Biorefineries, Synthetic Biology, Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Bioeconomy.

### Career background

Lígia Rodrigues has a PhD in Chemical and Biological Engineering (UM) (2005) and a Pos-doc at University of Porto; University of Lund and UM (2006/2007). Between 2007 and 2011, she was Invited Assistant at DEB-UM under the scope of the MIT-Portugal Program and during 2008 she was a short-term visiting scholar at MIT (training on innovation and technology transfer). Lígia Rodrigues has published several papers in international peer-reviewed journals (h-index 29, 14.05.2017).

### Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on

- Promoter, member of the administration (since 2002) and former CEO (2005-2007) of the spinoff BIOTEMPO – Biotechnology Consulting, Ltd
- Member of the Program Studies Steering Committee of the PhD Program in Bioengineering (MIT Portugal Program) (since 2008)
- Program Director of the Masters in Food Science and Technology (jointly offered with Faculty of Sciences of University of Porto) (2016 Director) (2014-2016 Vice- Director)
- Promoter and member of the administration of INCEPTION - Life Sciences Research and Development, Ltd (2013-2015)
- Member of the executive board of the P-BIO-Portuguese Bioindustries Association (as a representative of BIOTEMPO) (2003-2005)

## Dagmar STENGEL



**Senior Lecturer**  
**Head of Botany and Plant Science**  
**National University of Ireland Galway (NUI Galway)**

Dagmar Stengel is the current Head of Botany and Plant Science at the National University of Ireland Galway, where she leads a rapidly expanding multidisciplinary research team ('Algal BioSciences'). The focus of her current research activities builds upon a foundation of pure and applied research and spans the entire value chain of marine origin bio-based products. Her competences and extensive research interests in marine algae and marine biotechnology are reflecting her track record of securing national and international research funding in excess of €5 million including for multi-national projects, many academic outputs including scientific publications and multiple other professional contributions.

Research of specific relevance to BBI JU includes the sourcing, assessment and evaluation of algal biomass – the impacts of harvesting on wild stocks, and research that supports the development of food, food ingredients and other products, specifically those based on marine algae. This expertise is underpinned by her core discipline and international reputation as a phycologist specialising in natural seaweed populations and cultivated macro- and microalgae; and algal composition in relation harvesting, cultivation and anthropogenic and environmental impacts (e.g. global change) – knowledge that is essential when researching product and process applications.

### **Career background**

Following her PhD in phycology at the Queens University of Belfast, she held post-doctoral research positions in Germany and Ireland before being appointed to the staff of Botany and Plant Science at NUI Galway. With over 25 year experience in algal research, she is now a Senior Lecturer and the Head of Discipline of Botany and Plant Science at NUI Galway.

As a Principal Investigator, Dagmar Stengel's research interests include the sustainable utilisation of natural seaweed resources and the optimised cultivation of macro- and microalgal biomass for the production of high-value compounds with applications in specific sectors including marine-derived foods/ingredients and cosmetics. Her extensive experience in the assessment of environmental impacts and stressors on algal biology, productivity and composition resulted in the publication of over 50 peer-reviewed articles, over 200 conference contributions and multiple invitations as keynote speaker at international conferences. Recently, she edited a book ('Natural Products from Marine Algae') published by Springer. She currently leads several nationally and European-funded projects on algae, ranging from seaweed resource assessment methodologies to novel extraction technologies for algal compounds with marine biotechnological applications.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Secretary of the European Federation of Phycological Societies (FEPS)

- Member of the Organising Committee, International Association for Plant Biotechnology Congress (Dublin 2018)
- Reviewer for several international journals and co-editor in conference proceedings for applied phycological associations
- Contributions to the development of Ireland's marine research strategies, and national and institutional food research plans
- Expert Evaluator of research proposals nationally and internationally (e.g. Chile, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Sweden, USA)

## Yvonne VAN DER MEER



**Dr. ir.**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Maastricht University**

Yvonne van der Meer is associate professor and head of the department of Biobased Materials at Maastricht University. She leads the new research group on sustainability of bio-based materials at the Aachen-Maastricht Institute for Biobased Materials. She is chair of the Program Committee of the master Biobased Materials at Maastricht University and teaches bio-based materials and sustainability in undergraduate and master programs. Yvonne van der Meer has specific interest in the sustainability impact of bio-based products.

### **Career background**

Yvonne van der Meer received her master degree in molecular sciences (chemistry & biochemistry track) from Wageningen University in 1997. She obtained her PhD from Delft University of Technology in the field of molecular heterogeneous catalysis in 2001.

From 2001-2007 she worked at the Dutch research council NWO as a program manager on national and European public-private partnerships in sustainable and bio-based chemistry. In her next job she was a consultant in the field of sustainable building materials and life cycle assessment. Yvonne joined Maastricht University as a policy advisor to the executive board in 2008. As an advisor she was involved in the foundation of Brightlands Chemelot Campus in Sittard-Geleen, The Netherlands.

The past five years she focused on setting up new bio-based materials programs. She co-founded a research group and a master Biobased Materials at Maastricht University and she co-founded two research institutes: the Aachen-Maastricht Institute for Biobased Materials and the Chemelot Institute for Science and Technology. Since 2015 she has set up a new academic group on sustainability of bio-based materials.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Member of the Program Council, BioBased Program, Chemelot Institute for Science and Technology (2014-present)
- Chair of the Program Committee, Master Biobased Materials, Maastricht University (2015-present)
- Evaluator Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship (VLAIO) on sustainable chemistry and materials spearhead clusters (2016)

- Member Advisory Board, research group Materials Science, Zuyd University of Applied Sciences (2015-present)
- Associate member representing AMIBM, BioTreatCenter development, (Brightlands Campus) Greenport Venlo (2014-2016)
- First coordinator ERA-NET Industrial Biotechnology (FP6)

## Helena VIEIRA



**Invited Associated Professor, Faculty of Sciences of  
University of Lisbon  
PI, BioISI  
Executive Director BLUEBIO ALLIANCE  
Entrepreneur & Marine Biotech Business Consultant**

Helena Vieira is currently Invited Associate Professor at FCUL, being coordinator of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer formal teaching. At the same time, Helena Vieira carries out the role of Executive Director of BLUEBIO ALLIANCE, a Portuguese platform for fostering marine bioresources and blue technology value chains in Portugal and abroad.

Helena Vieira has solid scientific skills on marine biotechnology, microbiology and ocean sciences. These skills allow her to pave the way to a more sustainable and circular economy via blue growth. Additionally, her innovation and entrepreneurial skills, her knowledge on stakeholders' interaction and negotiation and her familiarity with the implementation of innovative ideas are of great value in the implementation of the Strategic Innovation and Research Agenda (SIRA).

Her vast international professional experience can contribute to the further development of the BBI JU Scientific Committee, develop EU capabilities in the bio-based industries field and contribute to the economic recovery via sustainable development of science and markets using a blue approach.

### **Career background**

With over 17 years of professional experience in industry, academia and political interfaces, both national and international, Helena Vieira holds a strong track record in life sciences, with emphasis on biotechnology, marine microbiology and health care applications, both at industrial and academic levels. Throughout her career, Helena has been an entrepreneur and innovator, a university professor in many different fields and geographies, an international researcher, a political intervenient and a freelance consultant.

Helena Vieira holds a post-graduation in Leadership & Strategy in Pharma & Biotech, from Harvard Business School, USA; a PhD in Biomedicine from Imperial College of London, UK; and a degree in Biology – Genetics & Microbiology specialization from University of Lisbon. Other post-graduations include Innovation; Design Thinking; Lean Start-up; Drug Discovery and Development.

From 2005-2013, Helena was co-founder and CEO of BIOALVO SA, a Portuguese natural resources biotech company, and has since set up two additional start-ups.

### **Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on**

- Executive Director of BLUEBIO ALLIANCE
- ERA-NET Marine Biotechnology International Advisory Board member



- European Marine Board expert member for Deep Sea Group
- Invited mentor for several national & international mentoring and acceleration programs like the Women Win Win Mentoring Platform, Lisbon Challenge and Beta-Start and National Network of Mentors STARTUP PORTUGAL (Governmental)
- Expert for sea matters (marine biotechnology and blue economy) to Foundation of Science & Technology Portugal (FCT), Sea ministry public bodies (DGPM, CCDR LVT, DGRM)