

# Early Career Scientists' Association Newsletter

October – November 2020

Volume 8, Issue 2

Dear ECSs,

Welcome back to IARC (or rather, to your home office)! Whether you spent your summer holidays getting sunburnt in Greece, sitting on your couch watching TV, or being lucky enough to finally be able to visit your families after Confinement, we hope you had a lovely time.

In this edition of the Early Career Scientists' Association (ECSA) newsletter you will find details of upcoming events and activities, much important information, many notes of congratulations to our ECSs, and a little introduction to our newest members.

If you have any feedback, questions or ideas, feel free to contact us on: [ecs@iarc.fr](mailto:ecs@iarc.fr). For more information on the featured topics, check out the [SharePoint](#) or follow us on [twitter](#).

**The ECSA Organising Committee is looking for two Information and Communication officers!**

If you're interested, or have any enquiries, please email [ecs@iarc.fr](mailto:ecs@iarc.fr)

About ECSA

ECSA is an association open to early career scientists (ECS) currently affiliated with IARC. All new students and postdocs are automatically part of ECSA and are eligible to benefit from any activities organised by the Association.

If you need any assistance please don't hesitate to get in touch with us, or the Education and Training (ETR) office at [Fel@iarc.fr](mailto:Fel@iarc.fr)

International Agency for Research on Cancer



IARC  
**EARLY CAREER SCIENTISTS'  
ASSOCIATION**

## Events and Activities

### Weekly ECSA Lunch

While the weather is still warm, we will be hosting **weekly lunches for ECSs in the IARC garden every Wednesday at 12pm.**

Bring your lunch, and enjoy spending some time with your fellow ECSs!

### Upcoming Events

With the new emphasis on teleworking and virtual activities, the ECSA OC are working hard to move many of our events online.

Stay tuned for information on upcoming virtual events including a reformatted ECSA day, which is a great opportunity to present your work, and welcome back tea party.

## Important Information

### Medical Assistance

The interim IARC physician, Dr Michel Baduraux, is available every Thursday and can assist with emergencies at other times. To contact Dr Baduraux, please email [medicalservices@iarc.fr](mailto:medicalservices@iarc.fr).

## ECS-Change

The ECS-Change initiative aims for ECSs to learn and socialise with each other while following short and **interactive workshops given by ECSs to ECSs.**

These workshops are designed to share existing knowledge and skills at an introductory level and can cover both hard and soft skills. Some examples which could be of interest are time management, using Styles in Words, or an Introduction to Github, just to name a few!

If you have a skill that you think could be helpful for other ECSs please get in touch, and remember you don't need to be a world expert for others to benefit from your knowledge!

Our most recent workshop, Introduction to R hosted by Katie Connor (visiting ECS in CSU) was so popular we had to hold two sessions! Thank you to Katie, and our organisers Mathilde and Michele for this successful workshop.

## ECSA Blog

We are looking for volunteers to write contributions. Your post can discuss any topics that you could think of, including your life as a scientists, your tips and of course... science!

## Advocacy

### The Quality of Work Life Work Plan 3: Wellbeing and work life balance

Work plan 3 subgroups have been formed and each contain and ECSA representative. If you have any concerns or suggestions about any of the topics please get in touch with the relevant representative.

Flexible Hours – Citadel Cabasag  
Wellness and Well-being – Florence Guida

Environmental Impact – Mathilde His

### Equity and Diversity Advisory Group (EDAG)

The EDAG at IARC works to promote equity and diversity at IARC, and to enable everyone to contribute and realise their full potential within an inclusive culture.

Thank you to Nicolas Alcala, who stepped down as the ECSA representative recently. **Our new representative is Felix Onyije**, feel free to contact Felix with any of your suggestions or concerns ([OnyijeF@fellows.iarc.fr](mailto:OnyijeF@fellows.iarc.fr)).

## Awards

Congratulations to:

**Shefali Thakur**, who was awarded a PhD grant by the Charles University (Prague) to continue her work on *SMARCA5 – The dynamics of mutation landscape and chromatin topography changes in cell transformation* with Dr Jiri Zavadil in the MMB group.

**Elom Aglago**, who received an IARC Return Grant to continue his work on *The role of modernisation of the diet in obesity: a cross-sectional study in Togo* in the NEP group.

**Nathalie Kliemann**, who was awarded an IARC Return Grant to continue her work on *A pilot randomised trial examining the feasibility, acceptability and preliminary effectiveness of a lifestyle intervention among participants of the Brazilian colorectal cancer-screening program* in the NEP group.

## Important Information

### IARC Car Park

Parking is now temporarily available for ECSs in the IARC car park. The number of spaces is limited, and it operates on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you would like to apply for parking, please send the car information (brand, colour etc.) and plate number to [aso@iarc.fr](mailto:aso@iarc.fr).

## Training Courses and Classes

The training course “Tidyverse: fundamentals with R” online programme is available for registration. The course will involve approximately 26 hours of time over a 4-week period (1-22 October) and **participants will learn to understand the basics of the programming language R** with a set of tools known as the Tidyverse. For further information see the Learning and Development [calendar](#) on the intranet.

Language classes are back for 2020-2021! IARC will be offering English and French classes again this year, Module 1 will run from 6 October 2020 until early March 2021, and Module 2 from mid-March 2021 until end-July 2021.

Currently all classes will be running online, **English classes on Tuesdays and French on Thursdays**. Please see [here](#) for further information and to register. Amuse-toi bien!

## Recent Publications

Congratulations to **Maria Romero-Medina** (postdoc in ICB) for her recent publication entitled: *Human papillomavirus type 38 alters wild-type p64 activity to promote cell proliferation via the downregulation of integrin alpha 1 expression* in PLoS Pathogens (you can read it [here](#)).

## Activities in Lyon

Some helpful and informative links to make the most of your time in Lyon

For information about accommodation:

[Lyon Housing Guide](#)

<https://www.expats-agency-lyon.com/english/>

<https://www.chez-nestor.com/en-us>

Expats in Lyon Facebook group:

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/ExpatsLivingInLYON/?multi\\_permaLinks=2790566011265915](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ExpatsLivingInLYON/?multi_permaLinks=2790566011265915)

Girls Gone International - Lyon

Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/GILYON>

Activities and meetups in Lyon:

<https://www.meetup.com/cities/fr/lyon/>

<https://lyon.citycrunch.fr/> (in French)

<https://girlstakelyon.com/> (in French)

# Early Career Scientists' Association New Arrivals



Adam Amara  
Postdoc, BMA

*I am working on the integrative analysis of metabolomics/omics data in the context of genome-scale metabolic networks to study cancer metabolism.*

Thea Brevik  
Doctoral student, SCR

*I will participate in research activities on health inequalities related to access to cancer screening programmes.*



Lara Caligari  
Trainee, SCR

*I will participate in research activities on health inequalities related to cancer screening programmes.*

Clement Narh  
Postdoc, ENV

*I am part of the Esophageal Squamous Cell Cancer African PrEvention (ESCAPE) research consortium.*



Andras Weber  
Postdoc, CSU

*My task in short is to contribute to the development of the Hungarian National Cancer Registry and its improving data quality according to the guidance of IARC.*



Laureline Guigon  
Masters student, SCR



Aline Lopes Ribeiro  
Doctoral student, ICB

Marie Breur  
Masters student, NMB

Irene Man  
Doctoral student, ICE