

Early Career Scientists' Association Newsletter

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Dear ECSs,

We hope you're all well and enjoying Spring in Lyon. In this edition of the Early Career Scientists' Association (ECSA) newsletter you will find details of upcoming events and activities, an introduction to our newest members, and a summary of our first online ECSA Scientific week.

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

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

ECSA is on Teams!

Now that everyone has left the slack party, you will find us on Teams! The IARC-ECSA teams channel is for all early career scientists to post thoughts, questions and information they think is relevant to other ECSs at IARC. At the bottom of your Teams window, click the 'join or create a team' link, then enter the code '3arhkb' to join.

International Agency for Research on Cancer



IARC
**EARLY CAREER SCIENTISTS'
ASSOCIATION**

Latest News and Information

ECSA Organising Committee

We'd like to say thank you to Shefali Thakur (MCA) who is leaving the OC after several years in her role as buddy officer, and welcome two new members, Hana Zahed (GEP) and Emma Fontvieille (NMB). We would also like to thank Citadel Cabasag (CSU) who will be stepping down, particularly for her tireless work as co-chair of ECSA. Citadel's position of co-chair will be filled by Alexandra Sexton-Oates (GCS).

PostdoCaRe Europe

We are pleased to inform you about the launch of PostdoCaRe Europe, a newly established European Network of Postdocs working in Cancer Research. The purpose of this network is to provide a platform for both scientific and personal exchange for postdocs working in different Cancer Institutes across Europe. Current member institutes are DKFZ, IARC, NKI, IFOM and CRUK. To actively participate, and stay tuned about upcoming events please [join our Slack channel](#).

Events and Activities

Weekly ECSA Lunch

Our weekly lunches are back! Please join us every Wednesday at 12pm in the IARC Garden. We really look forward to seeing you all again.

Join IARC-ECSA on Teams to keep up to date with more social activities to be announced soon!

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.

Thank you to our latest ECS-Change presenter, Ramon Cierco Jimenez (ESC), for an engaging workshop on using Prezi software.

If you would like to provide a workshop on one of these topics, or another you think could be helpful for ECSs, please get in touch, and remember you don't need to be a world expert for others to benefit from your knowledge!

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.

ECSA Scientific Week Summary

From the 22nd – 24th of March we held the first online ECSA Scientific Week. Usually this event, ECSA Scientific Day, has been held in person over one day at IARC, however given the current situation the OC made some changes and one day became three afternoons. Other differences this year included the addition of keynote presentations by external senior scientists, a lay-audience presentation session, and an inter-institute networking event with early career scientists from DKFZ and NCI.

We'd like to thank everyone who presented this year, and congratulations to our prize winners, Harriet Rungay (CSU), Alexandra Sexton-Oates (GCS), Roland Wedekind (BMA) and Michele Matta (NEP), who were chosen this year by our Scientific Week audience.

As well as presentations by IARC ECSs, two keynote presentations were given by Dr Sudha Sivaram (Program Director and Lead, Global Cancer Research Training Centre for Global Health, National Cancer Institute) on career and grant opportunities at NCI, and Dr Yehoda M. Martei (Assistant Professor Medicine and Vice Chief of Diversity, Inclusion and Health Equity, Hematology-Oncology Division University of Pennsylvania) on building a career in global cancer research. You can find the presentation recordings in the ECSA folder on Inti (Scientific Week 2021/2.Keynote_sessions).

If you have any feedback about the ECSA Scientific Week, please let us know by email, we're always happy to make improvements.

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 scientist, your tips and of course... science!

Free Online Fitness Classes

Keep fit with top class instructors from UN Copenhagen. Yoga, Pilates, Zumba, gym and HIIT classes are offered online free of charge. The winter timetable and links to the classes (Zoom) can be found [here](#).

Early Career Scientists' Association

New Arrivals



My internship follows the activity of the biobank, from the reception of the biological samples, inventory, processing, storage and distribution.

Mathilde Benoit

Bachelors student, LSB

I'm currently working on the association between ultra-processed food and cancer risk through interventional (life-screen) and observational (EPIC) studies.

Aline Al Nahas

Masters student, NEP



I work on the association of alcohol consumption and smoking, and their interaction, with the development of hepatocellular carcinoma and cancers of the gallbladder and biliary tract.

Inès Ramos

Masters student, NEP



During my fellowship I will study the epigenomics of childhood cancers, investigating if alterations in DNA methylation pattern are associated with childhood cancer risk.

Natália Spitz Toledo Dias

Postdoc, EGE



By performing Mendelian randomization analyses, I will attempt to find causal associations between body shape and cancer.

Laia Peruchet

Masters student, NMB

I'm analysing the mutational signatures to reconstruct the life history and the evolutionary trajectories for specific cancer types. The exploration of mutational processes will result in opportunities for early detection.

Fadoua Rafii

Postdoc, GEP



I am working on the hypothesis that the development of hepatic steatosis is linked to unhealthy lifestyle patterns and is associated with increased risk of cancer and overall mortality.

Mirna Sabra

Masters student, NEP



My thesis proposal is entitled Incidence, survival and mortality of clear cell carcinoma of the ovary in high income countries.

Paula Fagan

Cont.Prof.Dev.Trainee, CSU

I'll be working on mutational signatures with Claire Renard from MMB.

Stéphanie Keita Masters student, MMB