

"Gheorghe Asachi" Technical University of Iași

"Cristofor Simionescu" Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection



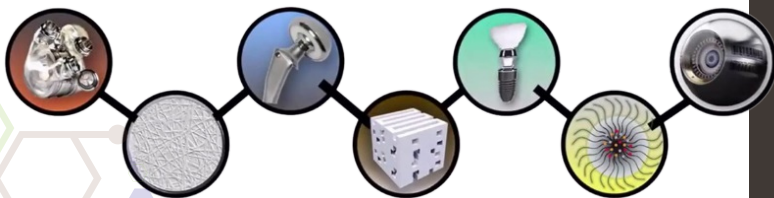
Erasmus + BLENDED INTENSIVE PROGRAM

EXPLORING ADVANCED MATERIALS AND DERMOCOSMETIC FUTURES

2024-1-RO01-KA131-HED-00019136-1

19th November 2025 (online session)

24th-28th November 2025 (in-person session)



Program Coordinator- Lect. Dr. Ana Simona BARNĂ,
Department of Organic, Biochemical and Food Engineering,
with the support of the Vice Rector's Office for International Relations

The Erasmus + BLENDED INTENSIVE PROGRAM - **EXPLORING ADVANCED MATERIALS AND DERMOCOSMETIC FUTURES** is dedicated to students in chemical engineering, chemistry, pharmacy, and related fields, with the aim of exploring advanced materials and biomaterials in a broad scientific context, emphasizing their properties, potential applications, and sustainability aspects.

A special focus is placed on dermocosmetic formulation. Participants will design and evaluate various product including cleansing formulations, decorative cosmetics, and skincare preparations, among which dermocosmetic emulsions.

The program also offers experiential learning opportunities through institutional visits, including **Antibiotice S.A.**, a major pharmaceutical company and The **"Petru Poni" Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry**, where students will discover advanced scientific equipment and research methodologies.

In addition, the programme includes cultural activities in the **Neamț region**, offering participants the opportunity to visit key attractions such as the **Neamț Fortress** and the **Bison Reserve**.

Students will work in interdisciplinary and international teams, strengthening both their technical expertise and intercultural competences.

Participants will achieve the following **learning outcomes**:

- **Understanding** the general properties, challenges, and opportunities of advanced materials and biomaterials.
- **Gaining practical skills** in the formulation of cosmetic products including: cleansing products, decorative cosmetics, and dermocosmetic emulsions.
- **Strengthening** interdisciplinary collaboration and intercultural teamwork abilities.
- **Acquiring insights** into industrial practise, research facilities, and cultural environments.
- **Developing prototype cosmetic formulations** during dedicated laboratory sessions



Faculty of Chemical Engineering
and Biotechnology



HOSTING INSTITUTION / MAIN ORGANIZER

"Gheorghe Asachi" Technical University of Iași, **Romania**
"Cristofor Simionescu" Faculty of Chemical Engineering and
Environmental Protection
Department of Organic, Biochemical and Food Engineering

INTERNATIONAL CO-ORGANIZERS

Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Porto - **Portugal**
University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy - **Bulgaria**

INVITED ORGANIZATIONS

Faculty of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering, Department of
Bioengineering, Yildiz Technical University – Turkey
Zernike Institute for Advanced Materials, University of Groningen
Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology, UPB
Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering, TUIASI
"Petrut Ponu" Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry
Center for Mountain Economics, "Costin C. Kiritescu" National
Institute of Economic Research
Romanian Society of Cosmetic Chemists
Antibiotice Company
"Dr. Iacob Czihaç" Military Hospital Iași
SkinChakra -Cosmetic lab Company

SPEAKERS

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Isabel MARTINS de ALMEIDA, Faculty of Pharmacy,
University of Porto

Lect. Dr. Simona BARNĂ, Department of Organic, Biochemical and
Food Engineering, TU Iasi

Lect. Dr. Mădălina Simona BĂLȚANU, Department of Technology
and Equipment for Materials Processing, TU Iasi

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Corina CERNĂTESCU, Department of Organic,
Biochemical and Food Engineering, TU Iasi

Prof. Dr. Nicanor CIMPOEȘU, Faculty of Materials Science and
Engineering, TU Iasi

MD. Mălina RÎMBU CIUMAȘU, "Dr. Iacob Czihaç" Military Hospital Iași
Dr. Elham EGHBALI, SkinChakra cosmetic lab

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dimka FACHIKOVA, University of Chemical
Technology and Metallurgy, Bulgaria

Prof. Dr. Anton FICAI, National University of Science and
Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest

Lect. Dr. Daniela GAVRILESCU, Department of Environmental
Engineering and Management, TU Iasi

Prof. Dr. Maria LUNGU, President of the Romanian Society of
Cosmetic Chemists

Lect. Dr. Lenuța KLOTZER, Department of Organic, Biochemical and
Food Engineering, TU Iasi

Prof. Dr. Teodor MĂLUȚAN, Polymer Science and Engineering, TU Iasi

Dr. Marcela MIHAI, "Petru Poni" Institute of Macromolecular
Chemistry

Dr. Ovidiu NOVAC, CN Bio Innovations, Cambridge UK

SPEAKERS

Dr. Violeta POPOVICI, Center for Mountain Economics, “Costin C. Kiritescu” National Institute of Economic Research

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Loredana PROTESESCU, Zernike Institute for Advanced Materials, University of Groningen

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Andrei SANDU, Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering, TU Iasi

Prof. Dr. Cem Bülent ÜSTÜNDAĞ, Department of Bioengineering, Yildiz Technical University

Prof. Dr. Irina VOLF, Department of Environmental Engineering and Management, TU Iasi

Prof. Dr. Petrică VIZUREANU, Department of Technology and Equipment for Materials Processing, TU Iasi

R.Ph. Sofia TRANTZA, Panhellenic Pharmacists' Association

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

**Ansamblul Folcloric Studentesc
"Mugurelul" al USV Iași**

Eng. **Anastasia CHIRIAC**

Eng. **Elizabeth QUESADA**

Eng. **Emanuel GHIUZAN**

Eng. **Iulia VLAICU**

Eng. **Rafaela VRABIE**

Alexandra DEDIU

Larisa CRUP

Ioana Alexandra PREDOIU

Alexandra DINU

Cătălina Negură

SPONSORS

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Târgu Neamț City Hall

Euflora Company



PROGRAM

ONLINE SESSION

19th November 2025. Meeting time: 16:00 (EET)

Kick off. TUIASI Introduction. Program overview.

Meeting link: meet.google.com/tga-iiiov-tmg

In-person SESSIONS

24th November 2025 - Day 1

WELCOME DAY & EXPLORING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

“Cristofor Simionescu” Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection, Bd. Dimitrie Mangeron nr. 73, 700050 Iași, România, Council Meeting Room

09:30 to 10:30 Welcome reception

11:00 to 13:00 Visit to the “Petru Poni” Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry

13:30 to 14:30 Lunch

15:00 to 17:00 Cultural activities

25th November 2025 - Day 2

EXPLORING ADVANCED MATERIALS

09:00 to 9:50 Prof. Nicanor CIMPOIEȘU, Controlled Biodegradation of Implants: Linking Materials Science and Medical Applications

10:00 to 10:50 Prof. Petrică VIZUREANU, Innovations in β -Titanium Alloys for Biomedical Applications: Recent Developments and Future Directions

11:00 to 11:50 Assoc. Prof. Andrei SANDU, The Influence of Alloying Elements on Titanium and Cobalt Medical Alloys

11:50 to 12:50 Lect. Dr. Mădălina Simona BĂLȚANU, Preparation and Microstructural Analysis of Biomaterials - workshop

13:00 to 14:00 Lunch

ONLINE SESSION

Meeting link: meet.google.com/ucq-nybm-dau

14:30 to 15:00 Prof. Cem Bülent ÜSTÜNDAĞ, From Biomaterials to Personalized Medicine: The Role of Hybrid Scaffold Technologies.

15:00 to 15:45 Prof. Anton FICAI, Smart Drug Delivery Systems in Cancer Therapy

15:45 to 16:30 Assoc. Prof. Loredana PROTESESCU, Novel Nanomaterials: From Hybrid Perovskites and Quantum Dots to Hard Ceramics

PROGRAM

26th November 2025 - Day 3

EXPLORING DERMOCOSMETIC FUTURES

09:00 to 11:40 Lect. Dr. Simona **BARNA**, Formulation of Sustainable Cosmetic Products - workshop

12:00 to 12:40 Lunch

13:00 to 13:50 Assoc. Prof. Corina **CERNĂTESCU**, COSMETICS - Facts and Trends

14:00 to 14:30 MD. Mălina **RÎMBU CIUMAȘU**, The Skin Interface as a Platform for Delivering Active Substances from Plant Stem Cells and Medicinal Fungi

14:40 to 15:20 Dr. Violeta **POPOVICI**, *Usnea Barbata Extracts* Incorporated in Mucoadhesive Buccal Films with Potential Application in Oral Cancer Therapy

ONLINE SESSION

Meeting link: meet.google.com/ukg-tvkh-hqx

16:00 to 16:30 Dr. Elham **EGHBALI**, Green Cosmetic Ingredients

16:30 to 17:00 R.Ph. Sofia **TRANTZA**, The Assessment of Cosmetics According to the European Regulation 1223/2009

17:10 to 17:50 Dr. Ovidiu **NOVAC**, Go/No-Go: Gaining Mechanistic Insights of Toxicity Using a Human DILI Microphysiological System to Inform Decision Making

27th November 2025 - Day 4

EXPLORING NATURAL RESOURCES

08:00 to 10:30 Bus trip Iași to Târgul Neamț.

10:30 to 12:30 Visits to Neamț Fortress

13:30 to 15:00 Visits to Bison Reservation.

15:00 to 16:00 Lunch

16:00 to 18:30 Bus trip Târgul Neamț to Iași

28th November 2025 - Day 5

EXPLORING THE DERMATOCOSMETIC INDUSTRY

09:00 to 12:00 Visit to the Antibiotice Iași company

13:00 to 14:00 Lunch

14:30 to 15:30 Official closing of the program





Dr. TEODOR MĂLUȚAN

Professor Teodor MALUTAN graduated in 1989 the Faculty of Industrial Chemistry at the Gheorghe Asachi Technical University of Iasi and has a PhD in Chemistry since 1998, at the same faculty. He is a PhD supervisor since 2009 for Chemical Engineering field. Professor Teodor MALUTAN research focuses on biomass biorefining, particularly on conversion of biomass and based natural fibers biocomposites. He has published over 100 papers:

55 papers in ISI journals, 46 papers in BDI journals, 6 books, 3 patents, having a Hirsch Index 17. He has been involved as coordinator/project manager and member in 32 research projects funded by European and national agencies and industry contracts. In addition to his teaching and research, Professor TEODOR MALUTAN works as the Dean of Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection since 2018.



Dr. IRINA VOLF

Irina Volf is Full Professor at Gheorghe Asachi Technical University of Iași, with more than 25 years R&D and teaching experience in Environmental Biotechnology, Circular Economy and Sustainable Design. Prof. Volf served the Department of Environmental Engineering and Management as Head (2009-2012) and is currently the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection for Scientific Research and International Relations and Cooperation.

She is also the Coordinator of the Environmental Engineering and Impact Assessment Research Center (IMEI) ; Co-chair of the International Conference on Chemical Engineering: Innovative Materials and Processes for a Sustainable Development, ICCE 2016; 2018, 2020, 2022; Member of international scientific committee of ICEEM10; Editor in chief of Bulletin of the Polytechnic Institute of Iasi, Series Chemistry; Member of international editorial board; Member of Romanian National Council for Attestation of Titles, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in Environmental Engineering Committee; Member of the Commission for Environmental Pollution Control, Romanian Academy. She and her research group had reported several contributions beyond the state of the art: (i) design a suitable natural carrier for bacterial immobilization used in environmental bioremediation of plasticizers, (ii) valorise a bio-based rich carbon by-product into unprecedented polymeric composites with tailored properties designed to act as valuable substrate in water/air purification, thermosets, energy storage; (iii) elaborate and use of an integrated biorefinery flow that can be tailored considering the feedstock (macroalgae, lignocellulosic wastes); (iv) she has made pioneering contribution on green techniques and highlighted the possibility of biological fabrication of β -carotene. Withal, over the time, she developed a competitive research lab (<https://tiny.cc/MedRes>) and a dynamic group of PhD and post doc students, with ideas in the frontline of integrated processing of biomass wastes, environmental biotechnology and sustainable design. She has been project leader or key investigator of several highly competitive research projects (<https://www.brainmap.ro/irina-volf>) and have a strong European experience in evaluation and monitoring of research and development projects as well as demo actions. Thesis direction: 36 undergraduate students, 38 master degrees, 7 Doctoral Theses in development, 7 doctoral theses public defended, 2 theses developed under international joint supervision. Number of refereed publications: over 180; books and chapters international edited: 9; research reports: 79; Number of citations: over 3700, Scopus ID 151283433800.



Dr. LENUȚA KLOTZER

Dr. Lenuța Klotzer is Senior Lecturer at the “Cristofor Simionescu” Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection, “Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iași, Romania. Since 2020, she has held the position of Vice-Dean, being responsible for student affairs, university image, faculty promotion, and relations with industrial partners. She graduated from the Faculty of Biomedical Engineering, “Grigore T. Popa” University of Medicine

and Pharmacy of Iași (2004), completed a Master’s degree in Advanced Medical Biotechnologies (UMF Iași, 2011), and earned her PhD in Chemical Engineering with the thesis “Research on the Separation of Carboxylic Acids by Synergistic Extraction” (TU Iași, 2011). Between 2005 and 2008, she worked as a researcher at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA. Her main fields of interest include biotechnological processes, bioseparations, food quality and control, and medical biotechnologies. She is the author of four books and over 40 papers published in ISI-indexed journals, and has participated as a member in nine national and international research projects. As Vice-Dean, she is actively involved in projects that promote graduate employability, university inclusion, and educational innovation, fostering a collaborative and student-centered academic culture.



Dr. CORINA CERNĂTESCU

Dr. Corina Cernătescu is an associate professor at „Cristofor Simionescu” Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection, Technical University “Gheorghe Asachi” of Iași. She is also Director of Organic, Biochemical and Food Engineering Department. In her PhD thesis „Synthesis of 2-Phenyl Benzimidazoles”, presented in 2005 over 150 original compounds were obtained. She is the author/co-author for 7 books and 3 chapters in editor volumes, published over 100 scientific papers, 32 in ISI journals and over 75 presentations in various conferences.

She is also co-author in 3 national patents. She was manager for 2 research project and member in the research team for 30 research projects, 3 of them international and 3 with industrial partners. The main competences are: synthesis of new heterocycle intermediates, dyes and pigments and their chromatographic and spectrophotometric characterization, Natural compounds used in cosmetics and extraction of active principles from plants, active substances used in cosmetics, identification of cosmetics and food additives.

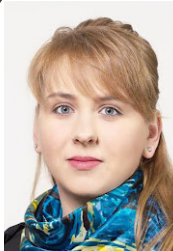


Dr. MARIA LUNGU

Professor Maria Lungu is a graduate of the Faculty of Chemical Engineering of “Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iași, Department of Macromolecules and PhD in Chemical Engineering.

She was a professor of Transport Phenomena, Polymer Processing, Rheology of Polymers with a rich scientific activity in the field of polymer processing, rheological properties of polymer systems including the ingredients for cosmetic products: over 80 scientific

papers and numerous participation in scientific events, patents and 15 books. Professor Maria Lungu was a scientific supervisor of dissertations and PhD theses. As a former president of the Romanian Society of Rheology and actual president of the Romanian Society of Cosmetic Chemists she organized many scientific and educational events.



Dr. ANA SIMONA BARNĂ

Dr. Ana Simona Barna is a Lecturer at the “Cristofor Simionescu” Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection, “Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iași, Romania. She graduated from the Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection, specializing in Biochemical Engineering (TU Iași, 2008), completed a Master’s degree in Natural Products (TU Iași, 2009) and another Master’s in European Project Management (Spiru Haret University, 2010). She obtained her PhD in Chemistry with the thesis entitled “Apatitic Biomaterials in Medicine and Environmental Protection” (TU Iași, 2013). Between 2008 and 2010, she worked in chemical engineering at PLANTAVOREL, a manufacturer of food supplements and cosmetic products. She is an active member of the Romanian Society of Cosmetic Chemists and founder of “Simona BARNĂ – Workshops and Webinars on Organic Cosmetic Formulation”, a professional platform dedicated to education, consultancy, and innovation in the cosmetics industry. Her research interests include dermatocosmetic product development, formulation and characterization of topical systems based on sustainable ingredients, as well as phytochemical extraction and analysis. She is the author of one book, has published more than 15 ISI-indexed papers, received more than 10 awards for invention, and has participated in three national and international research projects.



Dr. ISABEL MARTINS DE ALMEIDA

Dr. Isabel Martins de Almeida holds a PharmD from the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Porto, MSc in Pharmaceutical Technology and PhD in Pharmaceutical Technology from the same institution. Assistant professor with Habilitation at the Pharmaceutical Technology Laboratory, Drug Sciences Department since July 2009. Professor in charge of the units “Chemistry and Technology of Cosmetics” and “Cosmetic Products”. Researcher at UCIBIO-Applied Molecular Biosciences Unit. Supervisor of more than 30 master’s and doctoral students in the Pharmaceutical Technology and Cosmetology fields. Has presented more than 150 presentations at scientific meetings and published over 110 papers in international scientific journals, as well as six book chapters. Member of the Portuguese Society of Cosmetic Sciences. Creator and coordinator of “Portal infocosméticos”, a website dedicated to the promotion and education for Health in the Cosmetology field. Current research interests include the patent-centric drug product design, the formulation and characterization of topical products and the development of sustainable cosmetic ingredients and products.



Dr. DIMKA FACHIKOVA

Associate Professor Dr. Eng. Dimka Fachikova graduated her Master degree from the University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy, after which she worked at the Institute of Physical Chemistry at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences until 2004. In 2015, he defended her doctoral degree in the scientific specialty *Chemical Resistance of Materials and Corrosion Protection*. From 2010 to 2014, she was an assistant professor, and since 2015 - a chief assistant professor at the Department of Inorganic and Electrochemical Productions.

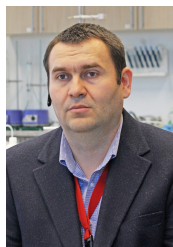
Since 2020, she has been an associate professor in “Chemical Resistance of Materials and Corrosion Protection” at the same department. The teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Dimka Ivanova cover disciplines from the bachelor and master programs of the University of Technology of Mechanical Engineering – Theory of Corrosion Processes, Corrosion and Protection of Materials, Surface Treatment Technologies, Environmental Failure and Protection of Materials, etc. Her scientific interests are in the fields of corrosion, electrochemistry, materials science and surface treatments. She participates as a member and leader of a number of university, national and international projects. She was Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Chemical Technology of the University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy and currently Head of the Department of Inorganic and Electrochemical Production.



DR. CEM BÜLENT ÜSTÜNDAĞ

Dr. Ustundag is a professor in the Bioengineering Department of Yildiz Technical University (YTU). He received B.Sc. degree in Ceramic Engineering from Dumlupinar University, Turkey, in 1999 and M.Sc. degree in Materials Science and Engineering from Gebze Technical University in 2003, and he has dual Ph.D. degrees in materials science and engineering from YTU, Turkey, in 2011 and in biomaterials from Tohoku University, Japan, in 2013. Dr. Ustundag joined YTU Vocational School and was promoted to assistant professor in 2005 and 2011, respectively.

He was a visiting scholar at the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Princeton University, NJ in 2014-2015. He joined the Department of Bioengineering, YTU in April 2015. Dr. Ustundag was promoted to Associate Professor and Professor of Bioengineering in 2017 and 2023, respectively. He is acting role as the Director of Health Biotechnology Joint Research and Application Center of Excellence (SABIOTEK). Dr. Ustundag's research interests include the development of nanomaterials for biomedical applications, synthesis and applications of graphene and carbonaceous nanomaterials, nanocomposites, tissue engineering, 3D printing, and nanomaterials for environmental remediation. He has authored/co-authored over 60 research papers, 15 review articles, 2 book (co-editor), 10 book chapters, 7 patents and 11 patent applications and over 100 national and international conference papers. In addition, he has consulted with various biomed companies in the field of biomaterials, tissue engineering and drug delivery systems in Turkey. He received the RONPAKU Award from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) in 2009. Dr. Ustundag is the recipient of the JSPS Ronpaku Medal in 2013. He received a postdoctoral fellowship from TUBITAK and Princeton University in 2014. Dr. Ustundag received ISIF Bronze Medal patent application in 2020. His research has been supported by a range of competitive grants, including the Erasmus+ KA226 Digital Education Readiness grant (2020), the HORIZON FLAG-ERA JCT2023 grant (2023), the Erasmus Mundus Design Measures (EMDM) grant (2024), two TÜBİTAK 1001 project grants (2021 and 2022), and three TÜSEB project grants (2021, 2023, and 2025).



Dr. ANTON FICAI

Dr. Anton Ficai is a Full Professor and PhD advisor in the Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnologies, National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest being actively involved in both academic and scientific life of the university. His major academic interests are related to Composite Materials for Medicine, NanoBioMaterials for Tissue Engineering and Drug Delivery Systems. The research interests are much broader, having the chemical approaches in the center, and cover the following topics:

tissue engineering; drug delivery systems; multifunctional materials; composite materials; coatings, antimicrobial / antitumoral materials; nanoparticles synthesis and characterization; surface modification; etc. Till now, over 370 scientific papers, from which over 330 ISI papers and 24 books or chapters (including 3 edited books) were published along with 28 patent applications (10 of them being already released). The international recognition of the R&D activity can be highlighted by the multiple invitations for participate as speaker at international conferences, the positions of guest editors, member of the editorial boards of different national and international journals as well as Section Editor in Chief of Coatings. Valedictorian of UPB, former participant and laureate of the National Chemistry Olympiads he was awarded with over 150 Gold Medals, Special Awards or Best Paper Awards and recently, he was awarded with the Special Award for Transfer of the Research Results into Economy by the Ministry of Resort during the First edition of the "Gala Cercetării Românești". He is also full member of The Academy of Romanian Scientists and several professional societies.



Dr. LOREDANA PROTESESCU

Dr. Loredana Protesescu is an Associate Professor specializing in the chemistry of nanomaterials since 2024, following her tenure as an Assistant Professor at the Zernike Institute for Advanced Materials, University of Groningen, from 2019. Her expertise lies in inorganic chemistry, particularly in the chemistry of novel nanomaterials, their unique structural characteristics, and surface chemistry related to self-assembly and their properties. She employs chemical design to create functional materials at the nanoscale focusing on applications in energy, extreme environments, and biotechnology. With extensive experience in developing tailored semiconductor nanocrystals for opto-electronic devices, she has significantly contributed to the field of perovskite semiconductor nanocrystals. Her work includes developing lead and tin halide perovskites with various 2D and 3D structures and morphologies. She has published over 60 papers, contributed to two patents, and has served as the scientific advisor for AiLimiQ, a company producing IR quantum dots. Her accolades include the Nanomaterials 2020 Young Investigator Award, Veni NWO grant (2019), OTP NWO grant (2024), MWO-M2 (2024), ERC Starting Grant (2025) and Vidi NWO grant (2025). She has been an Early Career Board member for Nano Letters since 2022 and has chaired the ECB from 2023-2024. Starting September 2024, she is the programme director of Nanoscience Master, a special research oriented program at her faculty, supported by their institute.



Dr. SOFIA TRANTZA

Sofia Trantza is a pharmacist specialized in Pharmaceutical Technology and Pharmacovigilance and certified in the field of Medical Affairs. She recently completed her studies (CAS) in the field of Radiopharmaceuticals at the ETH University of Zurich, Switzerland. She holds a certification for the Safety of Cosmetics from the University of VUB in Belgium. She has over 7 years of experience as a Person Responsible for Pharmacovigilance (QPPV) in the Pharmaceutical Industry and is simultaneously certified according to ISO 9001: 2008, 2015 and ISO 13485. She joined the National Medicines Organization (EOF) in 2016, served as an employee in the Adverse Reactions Department and as an alternate member of the European Pharmacovigilance Committee (PRAC) for Greece. She held the position of PRAC member, representing Greece at the European Medicines Agency (EMA), until December 2024, is an Assessor in the Department for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products for Human Use and is a pharmacist in the Cosmetics Department and in the Standing European Committee on Cosmetics and the relevant working groups. Recently she has been accepted in the MSc of Software Engineering and will study Artificial Intelligence in the University of Quantic, USA.



Dr. ELHAM EGHBALI

Dr. Elham Eghbali is the founder and director of SkinChakra in Bavaria Germany. She has over 25 years of experience in cosmetic formulations and is the author of several formulation and technical ebooks. She is a consultant to cosmetic manufacturers and suppliers of cosmetic raw material. SkinChakra is a company dedicated to retailing cosmetic raw material at a low MOQ into over 100 countries providing cosmetic manufacturers, contract and research laboratories with cosmetic ingredients.



DR. MARCELA MIHAI

Dr. Marcela Mihai is the Scientific Director of the Petru Poni Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry (ICMPP), Iasi, Romania and a member of its Scientific Council since 2015. Since 2016 she acts as the Head of the Functional Polymers Laboratory within ICMPP, a laboratory highly recognized for its contributions in the synthesis, characterization, and applications of polyelectrolytes and polyelectrolyte complexes, as well as for polymeric surface modification. One of the main research topics of the laboratory is

related to linear/cross-linked ionic polymers – synthesis, characterizations, application; complex multicomponent systems based on natural and synthetic polyelectrolytes. Dr. Mihai's research portfolio includes: 4 edited books, co-author of a book, 7 book chapters, more than 85 articles published in international peer-reviewed journals; more than 120 presentations at various scientific events, of which five lectures by invitation in visited institutes, and more than 25 invited/plenary/keynote lectures. Additionally she has authored 4 national patent applications (two awarded, two pending). In research management she has been active as group leader (at ICMPP and other visited institutions), as projects leader and a member in the research team of more than 25 European and national projects.



DR. MĂLINA CIUMAȘU RÎMBU

Dr. Mălina Ciumașu Rîmbu is a MD specializing in occupational medicine, aerospace medicine and natural therapies-phytotherapy, homeopathy, gemmotherapy, mycotherapy, traditional Chinese medicine, working for 17 years in the Clinical Emergency Military Hospital "I.Czihac", with a PhD in endocrinology and stress and extensive research experience in biomarkers for occupational stress in the military population for which she also received international awards. She also have relevant teaching

experience both in Romania and abroad(Japan) and has authored two books in gemmotherapy, phytotherapy, fresh pollen therapy and mycotherapy. In collaboration with a research team from the Gheorghe Asachi Technical University of Iasi, she co-authored the first Romanian gemmo-cosmetic product.



DR. VIOLETA POPOVICI

Dr. Violeta Popovici a Senior Clinical Pharmacist, Ph.D. in Dental Medicine and Senior Researcher III at the Mountain Economy Center (CE-MONT) Vatra-Dornei. She finished her Post-Doc Studies at the Ovidius University of Constanta. Her interdisciplinary research for 6 years was focused on the lichen *Usnea barbata* from Călimani Mountains, Romania. The phytochemical profile and pharmacological properties of *U. barbata* extract in different solvents were explored.

This was completed by incorporating the most active *U. barbata* extracts in mucoadhesive oral films, with promising effects in oral cancer and various oral infections with opportunistic germs. Her research interests include plant/lichen secondary metabolites–identification and pharmacological potential, antibiotics, antimicrobial activity, in vitro anticancer activity, oral cancer, ROS, oxidative stress and antioxidants/pro-oxidants.



Dr. MĂDĂLINA SIMONA BĂLȚATU

Dr. Mădălina Simona Bălțatu is a researcher in the field of biomaterials, with a strong focus on titanium alloys for biomedical applications. She obtained her Ph.D. in 2017 with the thesis “Contributions regarding the improvement of the properties of Ti-Mo alloys for medical applications” and successfully completed in 2023 the Advanced Research Postdoctoral Training Program at the “Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iași, Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering. In 2022, she received the Excellence

Award from the same university in the category “Young researcher with the best performance in scientific research.” Her research interests include the synthesis, characterization, testing, and expertise of new biomaterials; development of medical devices; surface engineering; implant-tissue interactions; and functionalization strategies. She has authored over 65 scientific papers, of which 46 are indexed in ISI journals with impact factor. Additional achievements include 8 international books, 3 national books, 9 international book chapters, 2 patents, and over 60 awards at invention salons. She has coordinated 5 research projects as Director and has participated as a member in 14 projects. In addition, she is Co-founder of SIMTIT ENGINEERING Spin-off (www.simt.it.ro), a company focused on developing and characterizing novel materials for medical applications. Her editorial activity includes serving as Guest Editor for 13 Special Issues and performing over 300 peer reviews for international journals. She currently holds an H-index of 22. Personal webpage: <http://www.afir.org.ro/msb/>



Dr. PETRICĂ VIZUREANU

Dr. Petrică Vizureanu is Full Professor and Director of the Department of Technologies and Equipment for Materials Processing, Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering of the Technical University of Iasi, Romania with a teaching experience over 30 years, a very rich experience in project management of a national and international research projects (Director – 7, team member–38), concretized in many articles in different competences areas: biomaterials (characterization, testing and

material expertise; medical devices surface properties; tissue-implant interaction phenomena), materials science, unconventional energy, refractory materials, computer assisted design, geopolymers, safety and health at work, management and commercial engineering. As publications he has over 250 WoS scientific articles published in journals and conference proceedings, books and chapters in specialized books. Author of 28 national books and 18 international chapters/books, Editor of books INTECH OPEN (10 books + 6 chapters). Prof. Vizureanu has H-index 31 in Web of Science and 32 in Google Scholar. Prof. Vizureanu is Editor-in-Chief for European Journal of Materials Science and Engineering, indexed by DOAJ, CAS and CiteFactor, Guest Editor for several journals: MATERIALS (MDPI): Advanced Surface Treatment Technologies for Metallic Alloys; COATINGS (MDPI): Surface Treatment of Metals; Topical Collection in Coatings: Feature Paper Collection (5) of Topic Editors; Magnetochemistry (MDPI): In-depth Assessment of Highly Specialised Materials. Prof. Vizureanu is Chairman of ICIR EUROINVENT - International Conference on Innovative Research (Scopus & Web of Science Proceedings) 2015-2026 and Visiting Professor for lectures at prestigious universities: National Taiwan University of Science and Technology 2011-2018, University Perlis Malaysia 2015-2025 and Universiti Malaysia Terengganu 2023-2027.



Dr. NICANOR CIMPOEȘU

Dr. Nicanor Cimpoeșu is Full Professor, Department of Materials Science, Gheorghe Asachi Technical University of Iași. Vice Dean of Materials Science and Engineering Faculty, Technical University Gheorghe Asachi from Iasi, Erasmus coordinator of Materials Science and Engineering Faculty and coordinator of ESIM laboratory (<https://esimsim.ro/>). Born / Nationality: Romania. Received Ph.D. (Engineering) in 2010, with a thesis investigating the internal friction properties of metallic shape-memory alloys. Achieved habilitation (habilitation degree) in 2018, affirming full professorship, PhD

students coordinator since 2019 with 3 doctors confirmed. Authored approximately 235 scientific publications (ResearchGate) garnered about 1412 citations on ResearchGate, and around 1800 citations on Google Scholar. The author has the H factor 19 in 2025 (WoS), 20 (1716 citations on Google Scholars and Scopus. Published more than 10 technical content books. Coordinated four national and International research projects. Participated in more than 30 national research projects. CNATDCU member since 2024, reviewer for different ISI Journals, editor of ASTR journal.



Dr. ANDREI VICTOR SANDU

Dr. Andrei Sandu is associate professor at Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering, Technical University “Gheorghe Asachi” of Iași. He has his PhD in Materials Engineering since 2012 with summa cum laudae. He has published over 450 scientific articles, over 400 indexed by SCOPUS and more than 350 indexed by ISI Web of Science. H-index is 34. He is co-author of 54 patents and other 19 patent applications (Romania, R. Moldova and Malaysia) and he has published 13 books, 5 of them in USA.

He is Publishing editor for International Journal of Conservation Science (Web of Science and Scopus indexed) and European Journal of Materials Science and Engineering, also a reviewer for more than 20 Web of Science indexed journals. He is visiting professor at Universiti Malaysia Perlis and also President of Romanian Inventors Forum. Based on his expertise he is also Senior Researcher for National Institute for Research and Development for Environmental Protection INCDPM and Representative for Romania at IFIA (International Federation of Inventors' Associations) and WIIPA (World Invention Intellectual Property Associations). He was also appointed as corresponding member of Academy of Romanian Scientists.



Dr. OVIDIU NOVAC

Ovi is a Senior Scientist at CN Bio with extensive expertise in organ-on-a-chip (OOC). Since his debut at CN Bio, in March 2020, Ovi has been involved in various projects aimed to develop and validate applications, such as NASH-in-a-box and DILI, using CN Bio's bespoke Liver-on-a-chip. His current focus is liver toxicology in vitro and more recently on deeper mechanistic insights of toxicity. He previously worked extensively in the dermatological pharma industry as Scientific Research Executive. He holds a PhD in chemistry awarded by TUIASI, and has a background in

biomedical engineering, awarded with BSc by the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Iasi. Outside of work Ovi loves to bake sourdough bread, paint abstract art and has his own art website. He's very passionate about gardening and working hard to transform his little piece of heaven in located in the picturesque English countryside just outside of Cambridge.