



# MCAA - Danish Chapter

## August 2020 Newsletter



Dear MCAA Members,

Here is the Summer 2020 Newsletter of the Danish Chapter of the Marie Curie Alumni Association! Covid-19 has brought many challenges to all of us as international researchers: Travel restrictions, limited funding periods, lack of access to labs or the research field, the shift to online meetings and teaching, and cancellation of conferences and workshops have affected many of us and continue to require us to adapt to the new circumstances. We, as an MCAA Chapter, have reacted and decided to make our Summer Meeting this year for the first time open for online participation. In this Newsletter we are summarizing the latest news and events from the Chapter and introducing the upcoming events. We would also like to take the opportunity to invite you all to contribute to the Newsletter.

### Welcome our new Chair – December 2019

We welcome Maria Salud Camilleri-Rumbau as the new Chapter Chair for the coming period. Salud is a Senior Specialist in Membrane Applications in the cleantech Danish company Aquaporin A/S and was previously an ITN researcher during her PhD studies at the University of Southern Denmark (Odense). We said goodbye to Maria E Mondejar Montagud who did an excellent job both as a founder and as a Chair since 2017. Maria will continue contributing actively as a member of the Chapters' board.

### Summer Annual Meeting - 3rd July 2020 in Østerbro, Copenhagen

Despite the new Covid-19 circumstances, the Board members have been meeting periodically to align and ensure the celebration of the Annual Meeting during summer.

The Annual Meeting took place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 in the emblematic neighborhood of Østerbro in Copenhagen. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the meeting took place in a combined physical/online format to reach a wider audience. This was the first time we as a Chapter hosted an online event! The online experience was very rewarding and we intend to keep this physical/online meeting format for the future to allow members from outside Copenhagen to participate.

The Annual Meeting started with an introduction to the Chapter for new members by the Chair, followed by two insightful talks from the invited speakers, Massimiliano Errico and Eleni Ntokou. Massimiliano is a Chapter member and an Associate Professor in Chemical Engineering at University of Southern Denmark in Odense. He shared his experience as an academic managing large RISE projects as well as Danish national projects. Eleni is a Project Manager at Unibio Group. She has extensive experience in grant applications and business development. Being a former scientist, she gave an inspirational talk about which type of grants can be worthy applying for and what it takes to make a grant proposal successful.

### Upcoming events

We have prepared the Annual Plan of Activities for the coming period 1. September 2020 - August 2021. We have planned plenty of interesting activities, which include workshops dedicated to introducing the members to patenting and intellectual property as well as entrepreneurship among others.

The first activity will be the "Girls' in Science Day" on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at *Danske Industri* headquarters in Copenhagen. Our Chair Maria Salud Camilleri-Rumbau will participate and she will explain high school girls between 10 and 14 years old how she became a scientist and how being a MCAA grantee boosted her career.

Finally, we at the Board would like to thank all the Chapter members for your interest in being part of the Chapter and we encourage you to become active members! Stay tuned because we are also looking for volunteers to become regional representatives around Denmark and we are initiating the creation of task groups on a range of topics!

All the best,

The Board

### Contact us

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