



POSTDOC DAY #2

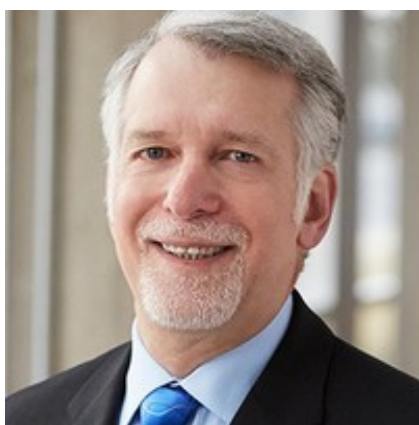
2nd BIST Postdoctoral Day 2018

CosmoCaixa, Barcelona, October 22, 2018

Speakers

Gabby Silberman, PhD

General Director, BIST, Barcelona, Spain



Gabby Silberman is the Director General of the Barcelona Institute of Science and Technology (BIST) and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Experimental and Health Sciences at the Pompeu Fabra University (UPF). He holds a PhD in Computer Science from the State University of New York at Buffalo and has a background in innovation, science, and technology. He has an extensive research background in both the private and academic sectors and is an active inventor with 29 issued patents. He strongly supports diversity, education, and closer collaboration among research institutions, industry and society.

Paul McGonigal, PhD

Assistant Professor in Organic Chemistry, Durham University, Durham, UK

Paul McGonigal (b 1985) received his undergraduate (MChem, 2007) and postgraduate (PhD, 2010) degrees from The University of Edinburgh, working under the direction of David Leigh. In 2011, he moved to The Institute of Chemical Research of Catalonia (ICIQ), Spain, as a Postdoctoral Researcher in the laboratory of Antonio Echavarren. The following year, he joined Fraser Stoddart's research group at Northwestern University as a US-UK Fulbright Scholar. He took up the position of Assistant Professor in Organic Chemistry at Durham University in June, 2015.

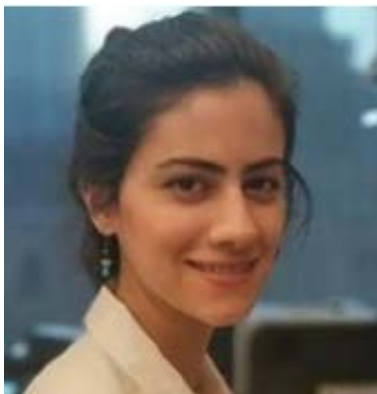




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Soha Ashrafi, PhD

Neurobiology Program Manager, Harvard Medical School, Cambridge, MA, USA



Soha Ashrafi manages and develops collaborative research programmes in neuroscience at Harvard Medical School. Soha initiates and conceives of new research programmes, identifies funding mechanisms, bridges faculty members from across disciplines, and writes grant proposals in close collaboration with faculty. In addition to these roles, Soha works with faculty members to edit and advise on investigator-led grants and manuscripts, writes philanthropic proposals, and administers internal grant competitions for Harvard Medical School and affiliated hospitals. Soha received her PhD from Weill Medical College of Cornell University, and did a postdoctoral fellowship

at the NYU School of Medicine, both in neuroscience.

Sébastien Naud, PhD

Lab Leader, Crop Science Division, Bayer, Lyon, France

Sébastien Naud earned his PhD in synthetic organic chemistry from the University of Nantes (France) under supervision of Prof. Didier Dubreuil. In 2006, Sébastien was awarded a Marie Curie fellowship to carry out a postdoc with Prof. Jeremy Robertson at the University of Oxford, where he worked on the synthesis of natural products. In 2009, Sébastien joined the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) in London where he was lead medicinal chemist working on multidisciplinary drug discovery projects for the treatment of cancer. He then moved back to France and joined Bayer in 2015 to take up a lab head position. There, his work focuses on the identification and optimisation of small molecules for crop protection.





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Nana Aba Williams, PhD

Project Manager, ISGlobal, Barcelona, Spain



Nana Aba Williams received her PhD in Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Reading in the United Kingdom in 2005. After almost two years of postdoctoral research at the Barcelona Science Park, she joined Novartis (Oncology department) where she trained and began a career in clinical research management. After experience at Novartis and other Contract Research Organisations, she moved to the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal) where she presently works as a Scientific Coordinator.

Lorena Tomás, PhD

Research Projects Department Manager, ICIQ, Tarragona, Spain

Lorena was born in a small town called Andorra in Teruel. She studied chemistry at Universidad de Zaragoza and was an Erasmus student at University of Bath (UK). She loved the city and decided to stay to do her PhD in bioinorganic chemistry under the supervision of Randolf Köhn. She then moved to Cambridge to work in the Royal Society of Chemistry as a scientific editor for several portfolio of journals. After nearly 8 years living in the UK, she decided to return to Spain to work as a Science Communicator at ICIQ. Currently, she manages the Research Projects Department alongside a fabulous team.





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Gavin Lucas, PhD

CEO, ThePaperMill, Barcelona, Spain



Gavin is a scientist with 13 years of experience as a biomedical researcher in population genetics, and a solid track-record as a publishing scientist on national, European and international research projects. Since 2008, he has worked as a scientific editor and consultant, and has helped publish over three hundred original scientific articles for dozens of institutes in diverse fields, as well as many competitive funding proposals under the FP7 and H2020 programmes. Gavin has extensive experience as a trainer in scientific writing and other transferable skills for researchers. With his team at ThePaperMill, Gavin now runs training and

mentoring programmes for young researchers at academic institutes and EU-funded research networks.

Fernando Gomollón Bel, PhD

Press & Communications Coordinator, Graphene Flagship, Cambridge, UK

Fernando ([@gomobel](#)) studied Chemistry at the Universidad de Zaragoza and Université Pierre et Marie Curie. He pursued a PhD in Organic Chemistry at ISQCH. After many tiny adventures in science communication and outreach, he decided to run away from the lab and start working as a science communicator. After a couple of years as the Press Officer of ICIQ in Tarragona, he started his current position as Press and Communications Coordinator for the Graphene Flagship, one of the biggest EU-funded research projects with over 150 partners and €1bn in budget. He often collaborates with science magazines such as [Chemistry World](#) (Royal Society of Chemistry), C&EN (American Chemical Society) and [Principia Magazine](#), among other media. He also co-hosts a TV science show called 'En Ruta con la Ciencia', aired in Aragon TV, where he does experiments and explains the science behind everyday objects in a section called "Laboratory" (<http://bit.ly/FerEnRuta>). In 2017, he was awarded the VIII national prize 'José María Savirón' as the best young scientific communicator, and in 2018 he received the first 'Premio Fotón' by CSIC's Institute of Optics for the [best outreach article on photonics](#).





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Jesús Porroy, PhD

Entrepreneur, Àvida Biotech, Barcelona & Founder, Barcelona Innovation Partners, Spain

Jesús is a scientist entrepreneur. Since 2014 he has worked as a freelance consultant on entrepreneurship and innovation in health. Jesús trained as a molecular biologist, and worked for several years as a biomedical researcher in industry and in academia. At 37 he moved away from the lab and became part of the managing team at the Barcelona Science Park, where he led a team of over 100 scientists and managed a budget of over 6 million euros. He has founded two biotech companies, and has helped several other research teams to start their own companies through mentoring and consulting. His latest venture, Àvida Biotech, is developing affordable drugs to prevent and treat neglected and emerging infectious diseases. Àvida Biotech is aligned with four of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals. Impact is a central guiding principle in any effort that Jesús has undertaken since leaving his last third-party employment. He also spends quite a lot of time communicating science through books, articles and talks.

