



**Virtual**

# **Women's 2021**

♀ careers and networks



**Transformation: Blaze Your Own Trail**



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Women's Careers and Networks Organizing Team 2021, Göttingen,  
Germany

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May 2021

# Welcome



We are delighted to welcome you to the **7th Women's Careers and Networks (WoCaNet) Symposium!** Since its inception, WoCaNet has aimed to provide an inspiring platform for young and experienced professionals to network and share ideas and experiences. Even though we cannot meet in person due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, we are determined to keep the spirit of this event going!

In keeping with the theme of WoCaNet 2021, ***Transformation: Blaze your own trail***, our speakers will share their personal journey of success and growth. The first session, ***Perseverance***, focuses on personal stories of grit and courage that resulted in successful career trajectories. The second session, ***Resilience***, highlights the gender imbalance in academia and the influence of personal challenges on professional decisions. The third session, ***Versatility***, explores the roads taken by scientists towards diverse career paths. During our panel discussion, entitled ***'Science through the Lens of Society'***, we will find out more about the multi-faceted role of science in societal decisions. We will end the day with a virtual networking dinner. To facilitate further networking, we will have the opportunity to interact with experts from different fields during the ***Career Fair***. We also provide an exciting range of ***workshops***, including entrepreneurship in STEM, visual science communication, and negotiation and conflict management. So, log in from the comfort of your 'space' and join us for the **first ever virtual WoCaNet symposium!**

We wish you a fun and productive experience!

**The WoCaNet 2021 Organizing Team**



# Virtual Women's 2021

careers and networks

Transformation: Blaze Your Own Trail

## SYMPOSIUM

May 27, 2021

## CAREER FAIR

May 28, 2021

Main Room

Parallel Room

Main Room

**Opening Remarks**  
Prof. Dr. Metin Tolan

08:30

08:45

**Keynote**

Prof. Dr. Erin Schuman

Perseverance

**Session #1**  
Dr. Emma Camp

09:50

Dr. Elisabet Prats

Prof. Dr. Sarah Garfinkel

10:30

Karen Dolva, CEO

Resilience

**Session #2**  
Prof. Dr. Alessandra Minello

11:10

11:50

Prof. Dr. Lucia Melloni & Prof. Dr. Caspar Schwiedrzik

12:30

**Lunch Break**

**Panel Discussion**

13:45

**"Science through the lens of society"**

Versatility

**Session #3**  
Dr. Noushin Delmdahl

15:30

Dr. Catharine Young

Prof. Dame Frances Ashcroft

16:10

Dr. Radhika Patnala

17:00

**Keynote**

Prof. Dr. Eva Pellicer

**Closing Remarks**  
Organising Team

18:00

**Networking**

**Dinner**

19:00



09:00

**Beatrix Henseler**  
Global Head of Human Resources, Sartorius

10:00

**Dr. Rituparna Chakrabarti**  
Scientific Editor, iScience, Cell Press

11:00

**Dr. Justyna Pielecka-Fortuna**  
Project Leader, Evotec  
**Mandy Moehle**  
Junior Recruiter, Evotec

12:00

**Dr. Vera Bissinger**  
Coordinator, Dorothea Schloezer Mentoring Program

13:00

**Dr. Javier Suarez-Alvarez**  
Analyst, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

WORKSHOPS

May 28

GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT GÖTTINGEN

UNIVERSITÄTSMEDIZIN GÖTTINGEN

SARTORIUS

evotec

UMG

GGNB

Göttingen Graduate Center for Neurosciences, Biophysics, and Molecular Biosciences

# Highlights

## Virtual Women's 2021 ♀ careers and networks

May 27, 2021  
13:45 CET

**GIJSBERT  
STOET**  
COGNITIVE AND  
EDUCATIONAL  
PSYCHOLOGIST,  
UNIVERSITY OF  
ESSEX



**CATHARINE  
YOUNG**  
SCIENCE POLICY  
ADVOCATE AND  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR,  
SHEPHERD  
FOUNDATION



SCIENCE  
THROUGH  
THE LENS  
OF  
SOCIETY

Panel  
Discussion



**ULRIKE  
BEISIEGEL**  
FIRST FEMALE  
PRESIDENT  
OF GÖTTINGEN  
UNIVERSITY  
(2011-2019)



**ALESSANDRA  
MINELLO**  
SOCIAL  
DEMOGRAPHER,  
UNIVERSITY OF  
PADUA

## Networking

## Dinner

May 27, 2021  
19.00 CET

## Virtual Women's 2021 ♀ careers and networks



## Keynote Speaker



### **Prof. Dr. Erin Schuman**

*Director, Max Planck Institute for  
Brain Research, Frankfurt, Germany  
Professor of Biology, Goethe  
University, Frankfurt, Germany*

## A Fascination with the Neuron

Prof. Dr. Erin Schuman studies biological mechanisms that underlie information processing and storage in neural circuits. In particular, she has contributed to advancing our understanding of how proteins are synthesized locally within neuronal processes. She is the Founder-Director of the Department of Synaptic Plasticity at the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research. She is an elected member of the European Molecular Biology Organization, the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, and the US National Academy of Sciences. Throughout her career, she has been honored with awards and recognition, including the Pew Biomedical Scholar Award, the Beckman Young Investigator Award, and the Salpeter Lifetime Achievement award from the Society for Neuroscience. In 2020, Dr. Schuman was awarded the ALBA-FKNE Diversity Prize for her exceptional accomplishments in promoting gender equality in the field of neuroscience. She was also awarded the Louis-Jeantet Prize for Medicine for her work on local protein synthesis at neuronal synapses.

# Session 1: Perseverance



*Let's draw inspiration from different journeys of determination and perseverance.*

*How can professional and personal transformations contribute towards achieving your career goals?*

*Listen to personal stories about lessons learnt, obstacles faced, and choices made.*





## **Dr. Emma Camp**

*Discovery Early Career Researcher  
(Australian Research Council)  
Chancellors Postdoctoral Research  
Fellow, University of Technology,  
Sydney, Australia*

### **“I can and I will”**

Dr. Emma Camp is a marine biogeochemist at the University of Technology (Sydney), a United Nations Young Leader for the Sustainable Development Goals, National Geographic Explorer, a 2019 Rolex Associate Laureate, and was recently named a 2020 Time Magazine Next Generation Leader. She researches and advocates for the world’s marine life under threat from environmental and climate change. She is one of the founders of the Coral Nurture Program on the Great Barrier Reef – a unique program involving scientists and Tour Operators to enhance reef biodiversity and promote site stewardship. Dr. Camp is an advocate for Women in STEM and improved climate action.





## **Dr. Elisabet Prats**

*Post-doctoral research associate  
Institute of Microelectronics  
(IMB-CNM-CSIC), Barcelona*



## **The perseverance is the key to success**

Dr. Elisabet Prats-Alfonso conducted her doctoral research at the Institute for Research in Biomedicine in the Barcelona Science Park and received her PhD from the University of Barcelona. She is currently a post-doctoral research associate in the Biomedical Applications Group at the Institute of Microelectronics in Barcelona. Her main research interests are the design and fabrication of micro and nano systems for biomedical applications. Currently, her research involves understanding functionalization platforms for biochemical sensors based on graphene transistors. She is part of a science dissemination group, *BigVanCiencia*, that uses stand-up comedy to explain complex science to non-scientific audiences through television, radio, and theater. She has also written three science books aimed at non-scientific audiences. She gave a TEDx Talk in 2016 highlighting the importance of graphene in mapping brain signals. She is involved in several outreach activities for high school students, including designing and participating in activities showcasing scientific research conducted at her institute.



## **Prof. Dr. Sarah Garfinkel**

*Professor of Clinical and Affective Neuroscience, Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, University College London, UK*

### **Courage doesn't always roar: a personal tale of perseverance in science**

Sarah Garfinkel is Professor at the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, University College London, where she leads the Clinical and Affective Neuroscience Group. She completed her PhD in Experimental Psychology the University of Sussex, before undergoing a training fellowship in Psychiatry and Neuroscience at the University of Michigan. Her current work focuses on brain-body interactions underlying emotion and cognition, with a particular focus on the heart. Adopting a translational perspective, she investigates altered cardiac-neural mechanisms in different clinical conditions such as anxiety, in order to devise novel clinical interventions. In September 2018, Sarah was named by the journal Nature as one of 11 "Rising Star" researchers, across all STEM disciplines internationally, and the only scientist to be selected from the UK. Prof. Garfinkel is also involved in the public engagement of science where she contributes to science programs on BBC TV and radio.



**Karen Dolva**  
*CEO and Co-Founder*  
*No Isolation, Oslo, Norway*



## Can technology be Warm and Inclusive, and how can we get there?

Karen Dolva studied computer science and interaction design at the University of Oslo in Norway, before beginning her career at the StartupLab in Oslo. Shortly thereafter, she co-founded UX Lab, a user interaction consultancy with an emphasis on evidence-based research from the fields of cognitive psychology and human-computer interaction. She is currently the CEO and co-founder of No Isolation, a company devoted to bringing people together through warm technology. Their aim is to reduce involuntary loneliness and social isolation, as well as to make inclusion easier, despite physical or mental challenges. She was awarded Innovator of the Year in 2016 by the E24 Leadership Talents program, and the European Commission's Women Innovators: Rising Innovators prize in 2018. Forbes named her one of 2019's Top 50 Women in Technology across the world, and she is on the 2020 BBC 100 Women list. Karen Dolva is an avid supporter of female entrepreneurship and strongly encourages young women to pursue careers in technology and innovation.

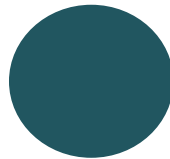
## Session 2: Resilience



*What are the positive and negative aspects of gender differences in academia?*

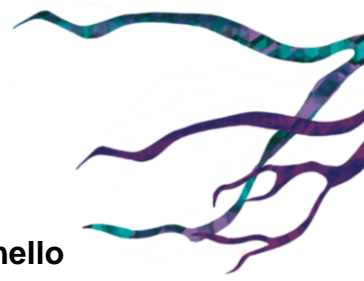
*How does family and partnership impact career-related decisions?*

*Let's delve into the opportunities and challenges academics encounter when trying to achieve a healthy work-life balance.*





**Dr. Alessandra Minello**  
*Assistant Professor,  
Department of Statistical Sciences,  
University of Padua, Italy*



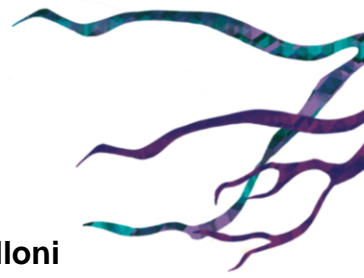
## **Women in academia: before, during and after the pandemic**

Dr. Alessandra Minello is a social demographer studying gender issues across several domains. Her research interests include work and education, fertility intentions, as well as sexuality and homicides. She received her PhD in Sociology and Social Research from the University of Trento, Italy, where she compared the factors affecting the educational expectations and aspirations of children of immigrant and native students in Italy and Europe. As a postdoctoral researcher at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, she engaged in a project on the determinants of gender-specific competencies and decision-making with respect to educational trajectories and their consequences on job entry and careers in Germany. Currently, Dr. Minello is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Statistical Sciences in the University of Padua, Italy, where she teaches historical demography, demography and tourism, as well as measures and statistical methods for social service. More recently, her research has focused on women in academia, the effect of the pandemic on research, and the balance between care work and academic life.



## **Prof. Dr. Lucía Melloni**

*Group Leader, Max Planck Institute  
for Empirical Aesthetics,  
Department of Neuroscience,  
Frankfurt, Germany*



## **Growing up in academia as a family**

Dr. Lucia Melloni received her PhD in Psychology from the Catholic University in Santiago, Chile and the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research, Frankfurt, Germany. She is currently a group leader at the Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics in Frankfurt am Main, Germany and a research professor in the neurology department at New York University Langone Health. Her lab is broadly interested in understanding the neural underpinnings of how we see (perception), how and why we experience what we see (consciousness), and how those experiences get imprinted in our brain (learning and memory) - as well as the interplay between these processes. She uses multiple methods to address these questions, ranging from electrophysiological and neuroimaging methods to behavioral techniques and online surveys.



**Prof. Dr. Caspar Schwiedrzik**  
*Perception and Plasticity Junior  
Research Group, German Primate  
Center & Neural Circuits and  
Cognition Group, European  
Neuroscience Institute, Göttingen*



## Growing up in academia as a family

Dr. Caspar Schwiedrzik received his PhD from the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research and Goethe University, Frankfurt, where he studied the role of previous experience in conscious perception. After completing his postdoctoral research at the Rockefeller University in New York, he returned to Göttingen as an Independent Group Leader in the Neural Circuits and Cognition Lab at the European Neuroscience Institute. Dr. Schwiedrzik and his team aim to gain an understanding of the human mind and its complexity by focusing on determining the neural basis of the visual system's capacity to learn and adapt to novel situations. Dr. Schwiedrzik is also the Head of the Perception and Plasticity Junior Research Group at the German Primate Center in Göttingen, where he and his team investigate how mental models are physiologically rooted, where and how learned mental models are stored in the brain, as well as how they can be translated into optimal decisions and actions.

# Session 3: Versatility



*Let's explore the diverse paths taken by scientists from different fields!*

*How do personal & professional factors contribute to versatile career trajectories?*

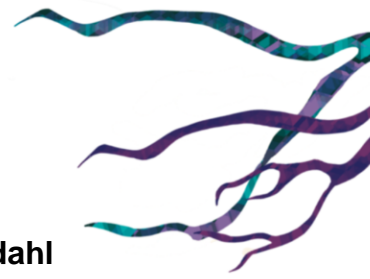
*Find out about avenues explored, challenges overcome, and decisions made on the road to a fulfilling career.*







**Dr. Noushin Demdahl**  
*Head of Product Development,  
Lab Consumables, Sartorius,  
Göttingen, Germany*

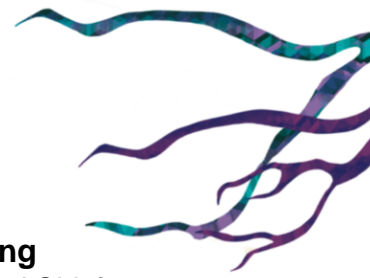


## Career Options in Industry for Scientists

Dr. Noushin Delmdahl completed her PhD in Biochemistry at the University of Frankfurt. She started her career at Vivascience (Hannover) in 2001 as an Application Specialist for Laboratory Ultrafiltration Products and transitioned into a Product Management role soon after. Upon the integration of Vivascience into the Sartorius Group, she was responsible for additional Lab Filtration and Purification Products, and became the Head of the Product Management team for Lab Filtration in 2011. In 2018, she took on the responsibility of heading the Product Management team of Microbiology as well. Dr. Delmdahl has spent most of her career in marketing positions, and recently transitioned to a Product Development leadership role for Lab Consumables. Currently, she oversees the innovation of cutting-edge products in the Lab Consumables portfolio and leads product development teams in Germany, India, and the UK.



**Dr. Catharine Young**  
*Executive Director and Chief  
Foundation Officer, Shepherd  
Foundation, Washington D.C*



## Transforming broken systems

Dr. Catharine Young received her PhD in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Missouri, USA, and went on to conduct her postdoctoral research in Biomedical Engineering at Cornell University. Her foray into science policy and advocacy began as an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and Technology Policy Fellow in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs. Dr. Young co-founded Blueprint International, a non-profit dedicated to providing novel and advanced technological solutions to address complex social welfare and public health issues, starting in South Africa. She also initiated the “Supper with a Scientist” program to bring people together in the spirit of celebration to learn about science from an expert while sharing food. Currently, Dr. Young is the Executive Director and Chief Foundation Officer of the SHEPHERD Foundation, where she plays an instrumental role in acquiring funding for the “Rare Cancer Awareness, Treatment and Research Act of 2020”, as well as creating new programs and initiatives that serve patients with rare cancer and their families.



**Prof. Dame Frances Ashcroft**  
*Professor, Department of  
Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics,  
Medical Sciences Division,  
University of Oxford, UK*

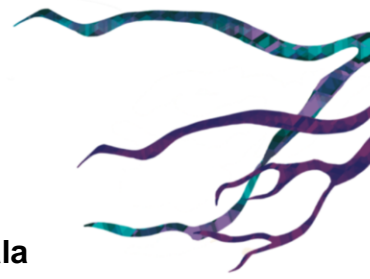


## Life is full of surprises

Dame Frances Ashcroft is Professor of Physiology at the University of Oxford, a Fellow of Trinity College Oxford, and a Fellow of the Royal Society. She studied Natural Sciences at Cambridge University, and conducted post-doctoral research at the Universities of Leicester and California (Los Angeles). Her research focuses on how changes in blood glucose levels regulate insulin secretion from the pancreatic beta-cell and how this process is impaired in diabetes. She discovered that the ATP-sensitive potassium channel (KATP) serves as the molecular link between blood glucose elevation and insulin secretion. Her current focus is on beta-cell metabolism and its impairment in type 2 diabetes. Prof. Ashcroft has won several awards, including the Jacob Henlé medal, the Croonian Lecture (Royal Society), the L'Oréal/UNESCO For Women in Science Award (European Laureate), the Albert Renold Prize (European Association for the Study of Diabetes), and the Lewis Thomas Prize for Science Writing. She has written two popular science books: *Life at the Extremes* (HarperCollins) and *The Spark of Life* (Penguin).



**Dr. Radhika Patnala**  
*Founder and Director,  
Sci-illustrate, Munich, Germany*



## The stories we tell

Dr. Patnala received her PhD from the National University of Singapore, where she specialized in neuroscience, epigenetics, and ischemic stroke. She has previously conducted research in the field of cancer biology during her Masters (Hons), Biotech at the Australian National University. Currently, Dr. Patnala is the Founder and Director of Sci-Illustrate, a creative agency catering to the design needs of the life science, biotech and healthcare industry. Through Sci-Illustrate, she explores the intersection between science and art, and uses her scientific and design expertise to solve design problems for biotech research, industry and pharma. With various tailored design services and scientific illustration skill-dev workshops for life-scientists, Sci-Illustrate also operates to enhance effective science communication within the research community and beyond.

## Keynote Speaker



### **Prof. Dr. Eva Pellicer**

*Associate Professor, Department of Physics, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain*

## **Tales and lessons from a materials science researcher: 'make it all happen'!**

Dr. Eva Pellicer is an Associate Professor at the Physics Department of Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB). She received her PhD in Chemistry in 2005 from the Universitat de Barcelona, where she studied the micro-electromechanical (MEMS) applications of electrodeposition of cobalt-based magnetic layers. She continued her work as a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Electronics in Universitat de Barcelona, the Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, as well as at Bioforsk (Norway) and ETH-Zürich (Switzerland). Currently, her lab focuses on studying nanocomposite materials, permanent and biodegradable biomaterials, as well as advanced functional applications of mesoporous oxide materials. Her exceptional work has been recognized by the Spanish L'Oréal-Unesco 'For Women in Science' (2014) and the L'Oréal-Unesco 'International Rising Talents' (2015) awards. She also serves as a remote evaluator for L'Oréal-Unesco's 'For Women in Science'. When she is not working in the lab or giving talks to students in schools and universities, Dr. Pellicer enjoys reading and playing the classical guitar.

# Panel Discussion



**Virtual Women's 2021:**  
careers and networks

**May 27, 2021**  
**13:45 CET**

**GIJSBERT STOET**  
COGNITIVE AND EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST,  
UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX

**CATHARINE YOUNG**  
SCIENCE POLICY ADVOCATE AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
SHEPHERD FOUNDATION

**ULRIKE BEISIEGEL**  
FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF GÖTTINGEN UNIVERSITY (2011-2019)

**ALESSANDRA MINELLO**  
SOCIAL DEMOGRAPHER,  
UNIVERSITY OF PADUA

**SCIENCE THROUGH THE LENS OF SOCIETY**  
Panel Discussion

The graphic features a central circular arrangement of four portraits of the panelists, connected by teal lines. The background is a light teal color with a subtle pattern of teal circles and lines.

The current global pandemic has demonstrated the crucial role played by scientific research in political and societal decisions. At the same time, it has highlighted the multifaceted nature of scientists, both men and women, and thrown a spotlight on the personal and professional challenges faced by these dedicated professionals. How are scientists (especially female scientists) perceived within and outside the scientific community? Is it necessary to achieve gender balance in the STEM community? Are the challenges faced by scientists pandemic-specific? Or, have they always existed and never been addressed/acknowledged?

The Panel Discussion at WoCaNet 2021, moderated by Dr. Katrin Wodzicki, will address these questions and many more. Join us to hear the insights and experiences shared by Prof. Dr. Gijsbert Stoet, Prof. Dr. Alessandra Minello, Dr. Catharine Young, and Prof. Dr. Ulrike Beisiegel. We look forward to a stimulating discussion between the panelists and the participants.

## Panel Discussion



### **Dr. Katrin Wodzicki**

*Head of Human Resources and  
Organizational Development,  
University of Göttingen, Germany*

Dr. Katrin Wodzicki studied Psychology at the University of Jena and completed her PhD at the University of Zurich. During her post-doctoral research at the Leibniz Knowledge Media Research Institute in Tübingen, she was associated with the think tank *Stiftung Neue Verantwortung* and participated in the “New digital society” project. In 2012, she moved into a scientific management position and was responsible for setting up the career service for late-stage PhDs and postdocs at the University of Göttingen. Currently, she is the Head of HR and Organization Development at the University of Göttingen. Over the years, Dr. Wodzicki has worked as a trainer and moderator on different occasions. She is part of several networks, including the U4Society HR network as part of the strategic network of the University of Göttingen. She is one of the founders of the blog *wissensdialoge.de*, which aims to communicate the relevance of psychological research to practitioners in the field of human resources and organizational development.

## Panel Discussion



**Prof. Dr. Ulrike Beisiegel**  
*Chairperson of the DESY Ethics  
Commission, Hamburg, Germany*

Prof. Ulrike Beisiegel was the first female President of the University of Göttingen. Originally trained in biochemistry and human biology, she has held the position of Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, as well as the Vice Dean of Research at the Department of Medicine at University Hospital Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE), where she was appointed a Professor for Life. In the field of science policy, she has been a spokesperson for the ombudsman of the German Research Society (DFG), a member of the German Science Council, where she chaired the scientific commission, as well as a senator in the Leibniz Association. Prof. Beisiegel was awarded honorary doctorates from the Universities of Umeå (Sweden) and Edinburgh (Scotland). She is also a member of the Senate of the Max Planck Society, the Supervisory Board of FZ Jülich, and the University Councils in Frankfurt, Passau, and Graz. In March 2020, she was nominated as the Chairperson of the Commission for Ethics in Research at the German Electron Synchrotron DESY in Hamburg.



## Panel Discussion



### **Prof. Dr. Gijsbert Stoet**

*Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Essex, UK*

Prof. Gijsbert Stoet studied psychology at the University of Groningen (The Netherlands) and completed his doctoral research at the University of Munich (Germany) in 1998. Since then, he has worked in different areas of neuroscience, psychology, and educational research in the United States, Scotland, and England. He now works as a Professor of Psychology at the University of Essex. In the last decade, he has published several influential research articles on sex differences in educational motivation and achievement. This work as well as his research on the “gender equality paradox” have been widely covered and discussed in the international media, such as in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the BBC, and Die Zeit. Apart from his work on sex differences in achievement, he is well-known for his work on executive function and the creation of the widely used, online data collection platform PsyToolkit (<https://www.psytoolkit.org>). Prof. Stoet enjoys walking and biking in the countryside as well as electronics and computer programming. He encourages his daughter to do the same.

# Networking Dinner

One of the key components of WoCaNet is the Networking Dinner held every year at the end of the symposium, where students and early career researchers can network and engage with the speakers in a more relaxed and personal setting. In a time when it is extremely difficult to meet new people, we have created a welcoming “rooftop networking space” in **Gather.town**, where selected participants will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and opinions, learn from shared experiences, discuss future career plans, and establish important contacts. We hope that, in this personalized environment, you will be able to ask questions you have always wanted to ask, but never actually had the chance to!

The Networking Dinner will begin with an **icebreaker activity**, followed by a **speed dating session** with the speakers and more time for informal conversation. The dinner will end with a **Pub Quiz** hosted by the WoCaNet organizing team.



# Career Fair

Are you almost at the end of your PhD? Do you want to explore different career options? Join our virtual Career Fair on **May 28th** between **09:00 and 14:00h**. The aim of this event is to provide a stimulating environment for participants and speakers to interact and exchange ideas on tools and strategies for successful careers. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with **six speakers** working in different fields, including **industry, science communication, mentoring, and education**.

## ***Format of career fair:***

Each speaker will give a 15-minute presentation about their career path, what their job involves on a day-to-day basis, and the advantages and disadvantages of working in their field. They will also give you advice on the skills required to be hired and to succeed in their respective fields. Each presentation will be followed by a 15-minute Q&A session with all the participants. Finally, there will be an additional 30-minute interaction session during which interested individuals can network and interact with the speakers in small groups.



**Beatrix Henseler**  
*Global Head of  
Human Resources,  
Sartorius*

Beatrix Henseler is the Global Head of HR at Sartorius, Göttingen. Since 2019, she and her team of nearly 250 people from across the world have supported the rapid growth of Sartorius by providing a framework to invite, engage, and retain suitable candidates to fulfill the company's vision. Her team aims to bring creative minds together to achieve a common goal: Technological breakthroughs that can lead to better health for everyone. After university, Beatrix started her career in Marketing and Sales before moving to Human Resources, where she fulfilled various HR senior management positions at notable international companies, such as Douglas Holding, Philip Morris, and Mars Confectionery. Prior to joining Sartorius, she worked as a consultant, supporting companies in their transformation processes with a special focus on people development and organizational design. Moreover, she is engaged in different networks and initiatives to find solutions for current challenges in the areas of diversity and sustainability. Beatrix is married to a StartUp Evangelist and has a 14-year-old daughter. They live in a small town near Düsseldorf.



**Dr. Justyna Pielecka-Fortuna**

*Project Leader, Evotec*

Dr. Justyna Pielecka-Fortuna is an experienced scientist with leadership, managerial, and international experience attained in academia, industry, and the non-profit sector. Currently, she works as a Project Leader at Evotec, where she manages cross-functional teams & projects to facilitate drug discovery efforts. Justyna holds a PhD degree in Neuroscience from the University of Virginia (UVa), USA and an MSc. Eng degree obtained from the Technical University of Łódź, Poland. She was a Fulbright and a Alexander von Humboldt fellow during her Master's studies at UVa and postdoctoral research at University of Göttingen, respectively. Her graduate and postgraduate research made a significant contribution to the field of neuroendocrinology, brain plasticity, and stroke research. After her postdoc, she joined Charles River Laboratories, where she led cross-functional project teams to carry out pre-clinical studies, crucial for the drug development of novel treatments for central nervous system disorders. Before joining Evotec, she worked as the Chief Executive Officer at the Polonium Foundation. In her free time, she enjoys running & yoga, spending time with her family (husband & two daughters), and continues to support Polonium Foundation as a supervisory board member.



## **Mandy Moehle**

*Recruiter, Evotec*

Mandy Moehle holds a Master's degree in Sociology from Georg-August-University in Göttingen. Currently, she works as a recruiter in the Human Resources department at Evotec International GmbH, where she is responsible for the entire recruitment process at the Munich and Göttingen sites. During her Bachelor's and Master's studies, she worked as a HR intern at ContiTech Transportbandsysteme GmbH and as a HR working student at Whatman GmbH. Before joining Evotec, she worked for a few months in the HR department of Sartorius and Ottobock. In her free time, she enjoys horseback riding, long walks with her dog in nature, and spending time with family and friends.



**Dr. Rituparna Chakrabarti**

*Scientific Editor,  
iScience, Cell Press*

Dr. Chakrabarti received her PhD in Sensory and Motor Neuroscience from the University of Göttingen, where she subsequently completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the intersection of Neuroscience and Structural Biology from the University's Center for Biostructural Imaging of Neurodegeneration. While her research interests involve neuroscience, imaging modality development, and biophysics, her recreational interests include playing the sitar and mandolin. She has always enjoyed the interface of science, art and communication. She was the Editor-in-Chief of an online magazine called Club SciWri, which aims to simplify science for broader audiences. She was also the founding member of Göttingen Campus Post Doc Committee, where she relentlessly advocated and worked for the better mentoring infrastructure and support systems for the Early Career Researchers.



**Dr. Vera Bissinger**  
*Coordinator, Dorothea  
Schloezer Mentoring Program*

Since 2014, Dr. Vera Bissinger has been coordinating the central mentoring programs for Academic Staff Development at the University of Göttingen. After completing her PhD in Freshwater Biology, she managed the graduate school of Environmental Research at a Helmholtz Centre for several years. She is a certified systemic counsellor and works as a freelance trainer.





**Dr. Javier Suarez-Alvarez**  
*Analyst, Centre for Educational  
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operation and Development*

Javier Suarez-Alvarez is an Education Policy Analyst for the OECD's Directorate for Education and Skills in Paris, France. He has led analytical reports in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and the International Early Learning and Child Well-being Study, co-authored the Assessment Framework of the Study on Social and Emotional Skills, and contributed to implementing PISA-based Test for Schools in Latin-American countries. Before joining the OECD, Javier was teaching and conducting research at the Department of Psychology of the University of Oviedo, Spain. He worked as an analyst in the Ministry of Education of the Government of the Principality of Asturias, Spain. Javier holds a B.A in Psychology and a PhD in Psychometrics from the University of Oviedo, Spain. He was a visiting scholar in the Department of Educational Policy, Research & Administration at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA, and the Psychometrics Centre of the University of Cambridge, UK.



# Workshops

## Entrepreneurship in STEM

**Facilitator: Bartos Kadjas**

Startups from Science, Mannheim, Germany

*Do you want to learn about the **secret sauce of successful science and technology start-ups**? This interactive workshop is designed for scientists (with or without a start-up idea), who want to understand what it means to be an **entrepreneur** and what steps need to be taken to build a successful science and technology start-up. Using a combination of presentations and practical exercises, I will show you how to use a simple method that I developed to help you reflect on your skills and develop your ideas. The goal of this workshop is to help you answer the question: **“Am I ready to be an entrepreneur?”** .*





# Workshops

## Visual Science Communication: How to design a graphical abstract?

**Facilitators: Dr. Susanne Landis, Prof. Tom Duscher, and Manuel Reitz**

Science Communication Lab, Kiel, Germany

*Visual science communication can illustrate complex findings and thus simplify the access to science. In this **three-day workshop**, we will talk about the fundamentals of visual science communication, how scientific visualizations are created from concept to workflow, and do some hands-on exercises where participants will create their own **graphical abstract**.*





# Workshops

## Negotiation & Conflict management

### **Facilitators: Dr. Philipp Gramlich**

NaturalScience.Careers, Arnhem, Netherlands

**Negotiations** are a crucial success factor for all types of careers, no matter if we negotiate about salary, contracts, working conditions or when trying to solve a conflict. Some people are afraid of negotiations or dislike them for fear of having to be sleazy in order to 'win'. Don't worry, in this course, you'll learn to use negotiation principles, which will further your relationships. They will help you to be assertive without using elbow and which are applicable in a very broad range of situations.

**Conflicts** are a normal part of our daily communication. What keeps us from confronting conflicts head-on, before they become real problems? This workshop will reveal hidden pitfalls in our daily communication and look at your role as conflict party or mediator. This workshop is perfect for you if you want to know: How to set up communication/ work structures to minimize unnecessary friction, how to cool off a situation to prevent damage and to prepare for a constructive discussion, and, finally, how to escalate on the highest level of professionalism if nothing else helps.



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**The WoCaNet 2021 Organizing Team**

## Partners

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*Are you interested in joining the organizing team for the next WoCaNet symposium? Feel free to contact us at [wocanet@gwdg.de](mailto:wocanet@gwdg.de)*

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