

CV – YSF Elections 2017

CV Nicola Contessi



Name: **Nicola Contessi**

Nationality: **Italian**

Date of birth: **01 June 1989**

Current position: **PhD Candidate in Bioengineering** (final exam scheduled in April 2018)

Research interests: My research interests are mainly related to the design, fabrication and characterization of natural polymers based structures for applications in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. My research activity is focused on the production of scaffolds for the regeneration of soft tissues and I am currently working on the development of gelatin-based scaffolds processed by advanced fabrication technologies (i.e., additive manufacturing, sacrificial templates) to obtain scaffolds with versatile and controllable properties. I am particularly interested in both traditional fabrication technologies (e.g., bulk hydrogels, porous scaffolds, microspheres) and bioprinting technologies, and in the use of characterization methods including physico-chemical characterization, mechanical and rheological testing. I am also involved in the investigation of the cell-biomaterials interaction, to evaluate the scaffolds *in vitro* biological response. Another research area that really fascinates me is the design and fabrication of biomaterials/scaffolds that mimic specific tissues to be used as *in vitro* models to study the development of cancer or other diseases, to be eventually used as 3D platforms to investigate new therapeutic tools.

Position applied for:

X	YSF communication and dissemination officer
	YSF industrial liaison officer
X	YSF educational officer
	YSF secretary
	YSF national chapters liaison officer

Attendance of past ESB conferences:

- 28th Annual Conference of the European Society for Biomaterials (ESB), 04 – 08 September 2017, Athens (GR) (ESB Racquel LeGeros 2016, Best Oral Presentation 28th Annual Conference ESB)
- 10th World Biomaterials Congress (WBC), 17 – 22 May 2016, Montréal (CA)

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Candidate: Nicola Contessi, Department of Chemistry, Materials and Chemical Engineering “G. Natta”, Politecnico di Milano, Milan (IT)

Motivation: One of the most interesting aspects in doing research in the biomaterials field is the possibility of meeting people from other laboratories and cultures, with different backgrounds and experiences both in scientific activity and life. For me, these aspects are among the most exciting in the life of a young scientist because they allow growing both from a scientific and personal point of view. Since my master degree I had the opportunity to work in a foreign host laboratory (University of Brighton, UK) and to realize how important is to share your work with other scientists and to learn from them. For these reasons, I performed part of my PhD activity in other foreign hosting labs (University of Warsaw, PL, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MA, USA). I believe workshops, meetings and conferences are as well fundamental opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and skills, encouraging the establishment of new contacts among researchers in the EU community with different backgrounds and expertise. As a young scientist, I really believe in the opportunities the ESB Young Scientist Forum give to young researchers, especially in terms of conferences, workshops and educational awards. I would be pleased and thankful to join the YSF Executive Board and be actively involved in improving the young scientists networking, as well as in programming and promoting the educational opportunities the YSF offers.

Possible Achievements: My efforts in the ESB YSF would be mainly addressed at the promotion of the activities established by the YSF Executive Board and at programming the educational opportunities given to young researchers. For this reason, I am willing to strictly collaborate with the YSF Executive Board colleagues and to maximize the efficiency of the opportunities offered to young scientists. In particular, I would help the YSF to get closer to the young scientists, especially by supporting them in finding and developing a network of contacts and collaborations with other research groups in Europe, and to promoting their participation at the events organised by the YSF.

Communication skills: First language: Italian; second language: English

Any other ideas/remarks: The main ideas I would like to realize for the YSF are related to a simpler, closer and more efficient communication to the ESB young scientists and to the creation of more possibilities to build networks between the European young scientists:

- A mailing list dedicated to young researchers. Social networks (already widely diffused among young scientist) might be used to promote the ESB YSF events and as platforms where young scientists can share their experiences and find help from other groups in the resolution of experimental problems. These platforms would facilitate the formation of new contacts between young scientists and EU research groups
- More efficient promotion of the grants and educational awards offered by the ESB; if possible, establishment of more grants and founding with the specific aim of promoting young scientist’s experiences in other EU laboratories
- More events (e.g., lunch sessions dedicated to young scientist focused on specific research topics, social events) dedicated to the European young scientists during the ESB conferences, especially to promote the possibility of meeting people from other EU countries and to establish new collaboration with them
- ESB certification of periods spent in EU foreign lab by young scientists