



YSF
European Society
for Biomaterials



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YSF Newsletter - March 2026

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1. Message from YSF's Spokesperson

Dear YSF and ESB members,

This will be the last newsletter with the current YSF board. We have passed the torch to the new board members. I can speak for all of us when I say it has been a pleasure to be involved in the YSF over the past four (or even eight) years, and I, of course, would still like to remain involved in YSF activities, as they remain very relevant, and networking does not stop here. I am certain that the new board will move the YSF forward with many new activities, and I hope that the YSF society will also become even more active in the upcoming years. With this, I would like to introduce the new board.

Best regards,

Arn Mignon

(On behalf of the YSF board)



2. New YSF board members

Spokesperson



Anna Puiggali-Jou is a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Health Sciences and Technology at ETH Zurich. Her work focuses on cartilage tissue engineering and the development of novel biomaterials for tissue repair. She earned a B.Sc. in biochemistry from the Universitat de Barcelona, an M.Sc. in biomedical research from the Universitat Pompeu i Fabra, and a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya. After securing an individual MSCA fellowship, she joined Prof. Marcy Zenobi-Wong's group at ETH. For her next career step, she will relocate to the Institute of Bioengineering of

Catalonia under a Ramón y Cajal contract.

Industrial Liaison Officer



Gabriela Graziani, M.Eng, PhD is a Tenure Track Assistant Professor in Bioengineering at the University of Rome San Raffaele, where she conducts research regarding materials science applied to orthopaedics, with a special focus on infection, tissue modelling and materials for spine surgery. She is a board member of the European Orthopaedic Research Society (EORS), where she serves as Secretary General and Co-chair of the awards committee; steering committee member of the International Combined Research Societies (ICORS); co-chair of Research for the Spine Section of the Orthopaedic Research

Society (ORS) and a Member of the ORS Innovation Committee. She also serves as a Scientific Committee Member of the Italian Society of Arthroscopy, Knee, Upper Limb, Sports, Cartilage and Orthopaedic Technologies –SIAGASCOT. She has been present on the board for two years and will continue in her position.

Secretary



Matteo Pavarini is a Biomedical Engineer with a PhD in Materials Engineering and currently serves as Junior Assistant Professor in Materials Science and Technology at Politecnico di Milano (Milan, Italy). His research interests focus on the surface modification of metallic biomaterials, particularly biodegradable metals, through multifunctional chemical and electrochemical coating technologies. In recent years, he has been actively involved in ESB activities, contributing in particular to the organization of YSF-related initiatives during ESB 2025 in Turin. As the newly elected YSF Secretary, he will oversee administrative aspects of the Board's initiatives and

coordinate with the ESB Treasurer on all activities that YSF will organize, promote, or sponsor in the coming years.

Educational Officer



Ilijana Kovrlija is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Galway, Ireland. Her research focuses on the development of immunomodulatory biomaterials to better understand host–material interactions. She obtained her B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology from the University of Belgrade, Serbia, followed by a Ph.D. in Materials Science at Riga Technical University, Latvia. After securing a Postdoctoral MSCA COFUND fellowship, she joined Prof. Abhay Pandit's group at CÚRAM, the Research Ireland Centre for Medical Devices.

National Chapters Liaison Officer



Dr. Isabelle Martinier is a Postdoc at the Regenerative Medicine Center, UMC Utrecht, the Netherlands. She characterises extracellular matrix structure and properties in health and disease, translating this knowledge into biofabrication strategies designed to recapitulate native tissue architecture and cell-matrix interactions. She joins the ESB-YSF board as National Chapters Liaison Officer and looks forward to connecting with chapters across Europe.

Communication and Dissemination Officer



Dr. Joanna Babilotte is a postdoctoral researcher at the Regenerative Medicine and Skeleton (RMeS) laboratory, Nantes Université, France, where she develops biomaterials and biofabrication approaches for musculoskeletal tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. She joins the ESB Young Scientist Forum board as Communication and Dissemination Officer and looks forward to strengthening the visibility of YSF initiatives and fostering connections within the European biomaterials community.

6. Follow our LinkedIn page

Get updated and/or start a conversation with our members! Looking forward to hearing from you!

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