

European Society for Biomaterials-YSF (ESB-YSF) Board Elections

Application Form

It should not exceed two A4 pages and should include a photo of the candidate.

Teresa Simon-Yarza



Name: Teresa

Nationality: Spanish

Date of birth: 31/10/1985

Current position (position, affiliation): Associated researcher at INSERM, Laboratory for Vascular Translational Science (u1148) in Paris (France)

Research interests (5 keywords): biomaterials vascularization, hydrogels, polysaccharides, soft tissue repair, organoids.

Position applied for (please rank your preferences from 1 (most preferred position) to 6 (less preferred position)):

3	YSF Spokesperson
1	YSF communication and dissemination officer
5	YSF industrial liaison officer
4	YSF educational officer
6	YSF secretary
2	YSF national chapters liaison officer

Past ESB conferences attended: I have regularly attended ESB conferences since ESB Athens 2017



Motivation:

As a researcher at INSERM, in France, I focus on the development of hydrogels with a particular interest in finding innovative ways to vascularize soft tissues.

Since the beginning of my career, I have sought to interact with European colleagues. During my international PhD in Spain (Universidad de Navarra), I did research internships in UK (Strathclyde University) and Germany (Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg), and I collaborated with Prof. V. Preat in Belgium (Université Catholique de Louvain). After my Postdoc in France (Université de Paris Sud), I got a tenure-track position in 2018 to work as assistant researcher at INSERM, in the Laboratory for Vascular Translational Science in Paris. That year, my candidature to join the newly created Young Scientist Committee of BIOMAT (YSC), the French society of biomaterials, was accepted.

During the last three years, together with my colleagues of the YSC I have launched numerous initiatives to animate our community and strengthen interactions between young researchers and with industrials, such as: webinars delivered by young researchers (17 webinars in 2020 and 2021, with 80 participants in average), industrial webinars to present their last innovations (4 webinars in 2021), a three days international seminar co-organized with the Canadian Society of Biomaterials (21-23 June 2021), and the first Young Scientist Committee-BIOMAT Journey that took place in Bourg St Maurice in September 2021, with 90 attendees and a program fully dedicated to young researchers. My experience as part of the YSC has been excellent. I have fully enjoyed the creation and consolidation of this network of young researchers, to help their training, to motivate them to interact with other researchers and industrial actors, helping them to build their career. That is why I wish to expand these actions to serve the international youth community and being part of ESB-YSF Board is the best way to do it.

Possible Achievements:

The mission of the ESB-YSF is a major one, representing early career researchers of the ESB. A great challenge is to reach young scientist in different countries and to promote periodic activities to bring them together, despite the distance. To contribute to this, I will apply my experience as the community manager of the YSC. In my experience, LinkedIn is an appropriate platform to communicate with the youth community. By sharing interesting content weekly, the number of members of BIOMAT group increased from less than 100 to 570 (the LinkedIn group of the [Young Scientist Forum - European Society of Biomaterials](#) has currently 82 members). And more importantly, this served numerous Youngs to find Masters projects, join PhD programs and get postdoc positions.

Besides, online events have demonstrated to be an easy way to reunite scientists. I propose to launch periodic webinars where European young researchers share their projects and results. Also, joint webinars could be occasionally organized together with other sister Young Forums (TERMIS, CRS...). Finally, ESB2022 next conference will be held in Bordeaux; as I am in France, this could facilitate the organisation of YSF activities. In particular, I propose to organize a YSF workshop about “science communication to the general public”. In view of the latest experiences and controversies with pandemic treatments, I consider this training especially necessary today.

Communication skills:

- *Communication skills to highlight: excellent verbal communication skills with strong presentation abilities: I enjoy speaking in public. Active listening capacity: I am an empathic person and my conviction is that to motivate others we need to first value other's views. This is also key for team building.*
- *Networking: numerous past and ongoing collaborations with teams in Belgium, Spain, UK, Germany. Interactions with members of the Controlled Release Society.*
- *Spoken languages: Spanish (mother tongue), French (bilingual proficiency), English (full professional proficiency)*

Any other ideas/remarks: It will be a real honour for me to be part of ESB-YSF Board.