



Subject: Ana Paula Pêgo's application to the ESB Council – Elections 2019

Dear ESB Members,
Dear Colleagues,

It is a great honour to be nominated candidate for a second term as a member of the European Society for Biomaterials (ESB) Council.

ESB is my Scientific Society since the start of my career and my preferred forum to discuss work progress and new ideas. I am an ESB member since 1999 and I have been an active participant of ESB congresses since 1998.

In 2015 I decided to apply to the ESB Council to contribute to the advancement and strengthening of our society. After election I worked first as the Young Scientist Forum (YSF) Liaison Officer acting as a link to assist communication between YSF and the Council and the activities of YSF within ESB, promoting the engagement of the new generation of biomaterial scientists in the activities of ESB. In September of 2017 I became the Council Secretary contributing to important changes as the new membership scheme and the promotion of the communication with our members.

I believe that my experience (see one-page resumé in annex) and enthusiasm are an asset to ESB. By applying to a second term I am strongly motivated to continue the started work. I would like to contribute to increase the participation of our members in the life of our society at the European and International level and expand on the visibility and relevance of our field not only in terms of Research but also Development of new clinical products that can reach the market. This has also moved me to organize and co-chair events like the 6th China-Europe Symposium on Biomaterials in Regenerative Medicine held in Porto, Portugal, in 2017, a biannual event promoted by ESB and the Chinese Society for Biomaterials, and ESB 2021 Conference to be held in Porto.

I thank you for your trust in the last 4 years and I count with your support for the coming period!

Yours sincerely,

Porto, February 27, 2019

Ana Paula Pêgo, Ph.D.
nBTT Research Group Coordinator
i3S Integrative Research Program Coordinator (Neurobiology & Neurological Disorders)
Scientific Director of the Bioimaging Centre for Biomaterials and Regenerative Therapies of INEB

INSTITUTO
DE INVESTIGAÇÃO
E INOVAÇÃO
EM SAÚDE
UNIVERSIDADE
DO PORTO

Rua Alfredo Allen, 208
4200-135 Porto
Portugal
+351 220 408 800
info@i3s.up.pt
www.i3s.up.pt



Ana Paula Pêgo

Born in 1973, in Porto, Portugal

PhD in Polymer Chemistry and Biomaterials by the University of Twente, Enschede, the Netherlands, 2002

ORCID: <http://orcid.org/0000-0001-5169-328X>

Scopus Author ID: 35598222700

Email: apego@ineb.up.pt

Present positions

- Principal Investigator at INEB - Instituto de Engenharia Biomédica / i3S – Instituto de Investigação e Inovação em Saúde - Coordinator of the nanoBiomaterials for Targeted Therapies Group (nBTT) (21 researchers of different nationalities, 7 PhD students and 6 MSc students)
- Coordinator of the i3S Integrative Research Program in Neurobiology and Neurologic Disorders
- Scientific Director of the Bioimaging Centre for Biomaterials and Regenerative Therapies of INEB
- Associate Professor at Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas Abel Salazar (ICBAS) of the University of Porto
- Invited Associated Professor at the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto (FEUP)

Commissions of trust

- Elected member of the Council of the European Society for Biomaterials since 2015, first as the Young Scientist Forum Liaison Officer and now as Secretary (ESB member since 1999)
- Associate Editor of Biomaterials journal
- Member of reviewing panels: H2020 calls expert since 2014; member of the Inner Board of the Irish Research Council for Science; among others.
- Participation in several national and international networks (e.g. COST Action BIONECA - Biomaterials and advanced physical techniques for regenerative cardiology and neurology; and ETP Nanomedicine)

Main areas of research

By using nanobiomaterials based strategies my team aims at providing in situ and in a targeted manner the required signals to promote nervous tissue repair and regeneration. The research on new biomaterials for application in neurosciences includes the development of new polymers for the design of vectors for efficient nucleic acid delivery; preparation of nerve hybrid grafts for spinal cord injury treatment and design of new neural in vitro models for drug discovery. Emphasis is given to the application of both in vitro and in vivo bioimaging tools to assess the potential of the developed strategies. Societal and ethical issues that concern Regenerative Medicine and NanoMedicine.

Present participation in research projects & post-graduate training

- Over 3,3 M€ external funding obtained so far. At present, involved in 12 projects with financial support from FCT, H2020, N2020, and different private foundations (INFARMED, Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa, and Santa Casa da Misericórdia do Porto), being the principal investigator of 6 of the projects.
- 17 PhD students, 6 post-doc and 37 MSc students are or have been supervised

Publications, communications and awards

To date published 71 peer-reviewed articles in leading international journals in the biomaterials, nanotechnology and nanomedicine fields. Holds an h-index of 26 (2288 citations, Scopus, February 26, 2019). Authored 7 book chapters and is an inventor in 3 active patents (one licensed to a Pharma SME) and 1 patent request. Participated in more than 70 invited talks in national and international meetings. Received several distinctions that include the Neuroscience Awards by SCML (the most prestigious national award in the field) and the Young Scientist Award 2015 at the 5th China-Europe Symposium on Biomaterials and Regenerative Medicine (Hangzhou, China).

Organisation of scientific meetings and outreach activities

- Organizer of several scientific meetings and workshops. Co-chair of the 6th China-Europe Symposium on Biomaterials in Regenerative Medicine, May 21-24, 2017, Porto, Portugal and Co-chair of the ESB 2021 Conference to be held in Porto, Portugal.
- 2005-2016 Coordinator of the Scientific Culture Program of INEB