




**ECTS Academy Mentoring Programm, List of Mentors (in alphabetic order)**

<p><b>Hermann Agis</b></p> 	<p>Medical University of Vienna, School of Dentistry, Department of Conservative Dentistry and Periodontology Competence Center for Tissue Engineering and Cell-based Therapies</p>	<p>Vienna, Austria</p>	<p>Hermann Agis received his master degree in biotechnology in 2007 at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna. In 2011, he successfully finished his PhD at the Medical University of Vienna. From 2013-2014, he was a visiting scholar at the Dental School of the University of Michigan where he focused on the cellular mechanisms underlying oral soft tissue augmentation. In 2014, he received the venia dozerendi (Privatdozent) from the Medical University of Vienna. In 2016 he became Associate Professor. Currently, he is head of the Competence Center for Tissue Engineering and Cell-Based Therapies, School of Dentistry, Medical University of Vienna. Hermann Agis' research focuses on oral tissue engineering and the cell biological mechanisms underlying regeneration.</p>
<p><b>Athanasios Anastasilakis</b></p> 	<p>424 General Military Hospital</p>	<p>Thessaloniki, Greece</p>	<p>Athanasios Anastasilakis is an endocrinologist in 424 General Military Hospital. His PhD was related to the OPG/RANKL bipole, and he is interested in clinical research in relation to osteoporosis pathophysiology and treatment, Paget's disease of bone and Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis. Additionally, he is interested in the effect of myokines on the skeleton and the interaction between bone and muscle</p>
<p><b>Nicolas Bonnet</b></p> 	<p>Department of Internal Medicine Specialties Service of Bone Diseases, University Geneva Hospital (HUG), Faculty of Medicine (UNIGE)</p>	<p>Geneva, Switzerland</p>	<p>Dr. Bonnet received his PhD degree from the University of Orleans, France, in 2006, after which he has been working as a post-doctoral fellow in the group of Prof. S Ferrari at the research laboratory of the Division of Bone Diseases, in Geneva, Switzerland. Dr Bonnet has a keen interest in the molecular and signaling mechanisms for mechanotransduction of physical activity to the skeleton. He has been promoted senior lecturer and received is privat docent by the faculty of medicine of Geneva where he is pursuing his academic development. His new areas of research are focus on (1) Muscle and bone interaction, role of fat infiltration in the ageing process, implication in frailty syndrome. (2) Role of the bone tissue in glucose homeostasis, implication in the physiopathology of type 2 diabetes</p>



<p><b>Karine Briot</b></p> 	<p>Rheumatology Department, Cochin Hospital, INSERM U1153</p>	<p>Paris, France</p>	<p>I'm rheumatologist , specialized in the field of bone diseases. I work as rheumatologist and perform clinical research in osteoporosis , secondary osteoporosis and rare bone diseases, in a department of Epidemiology of musculoskeletal diseases. I offer my expertise in the field of my main topics which are fracture risk assessment, pharmacological and non pharmacological treatment of bone fragilities, and relationships between systemic inflammation and bone fragility</p>
<p><b>Andrea Burden</b></p> 	<p>Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Toxicology Maastricht University</p>	<p>Maastricht, Netherlands</p>	<p>Andrea Burden received her PhD in pharmacoepidemiology at the University of Toronto (Canada) in 2014. She is now a post-doctoral research in Maastricht University where she co-leads the pharmacoepidemiology program at the academic hospital. Her research focuses on using healthcare claims data to investigate drug-outcome associations. The primary area of interest is osteoporosis, rheumatoid arthritis, obesity, and fractures.</p>
<p><b>Björn Busse</b></p> 	<p>University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf</p>	<p>Hamburg, Germany</p>	<p>Björn Busse is currently head of a 'Emmy Noether Research Group' (eq. Assistant Professor). The group of Björn is hosted by the Department of Osteology and Biomechanics at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf. Björn has finished his Ph.D. work (Free and Humboldt University Berlin, 2006-2009) with honors, where he has focused on research regarding bone biomechanics and bone mineralization. In particular, he has developed strong skills in scanning and backscattered electron microscopy, microanalysis, image analysis, materials testing and bone histomorphometry. Björn's work provides a contribution to our understanding on the fracture of bone, specifically by focusing on aspects of bone quality, such as structural and compositional osseous changes with aging, osteoporosis, osteoporosis treatment, Paget's disease of bone, and other musculoskeletal disorders, from both a medical and engineering perspective.</p>




<p><b>Graeme Campbell</b></p> 	<p>Institute of Biomechanics, Hamburg University of Technology</p>	<p>Hamburg, Germany</p>	<p>Graeme Campbell received his PhD in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Calgary, Canada in 2011, after which he worked for three years at the Molecular Imaging North Competence Centre (MOIN-CC) in Kiel, Germany headed by Claus Glüer. There he developed novel image-processing techniques and computational models to study bone fragility in osteoporosis, diabetes and cancer using micro- and clinical CT. He currently works as a senior scientist in the Institute of Biomechanics at the Hamburg University of Technology where he studies collagen deficiencies and micro-damage accumulation in diabetic bone and investigates the factors leading to instability in orthopaedic implants.</p>
<p><b>Mattia Capulli</b></p> 	<p>Department of Biotechnological and Applied Clinical Sciences, University of L'Aquila</p>	<p>L'Aquila, Italy</p>	<p>Mattia Capulli received his PhD in Biotechnology at the University of L'Aquila, Italy, in 2010 under the supervision of Prof. Anna Teti. He recently was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Histology at the University of L'Aquila, where he is building up an independent research group. His fields of interest are: rare genetic bone diseases, bone metastases from breast and prostate cancer, adaptation of bone cells to mechanical forces and disuse osteoporosis. He conducts both basic and translational research, working with in vitro and in vivo models of bone diseases.</p>
<p><b>Graziana Colaiani</b></p> 	<p>Department of Basic Medical Science, Neuroscience and Sense Organs. University of Bari.</p>	<p>Bari Italy</p>	<p>Graziana Colaiani received her PhD in Science and Cellular Technologies from the University of Bari (Italy) in 2005. During her post-doc, she was involved in analyzing the effects of hypothalamic and steroids hormones by studying the bone phenotype of mice genetically modified for the oxytocin receptor, vasopressin receptor and double knock out for both receptors. Some of these studies have been carried out at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine (New York, USA), where she has been working as post-doctoral fellow for 1 year. During her post-doc, she has also been involved in two projects supported by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), European and Italian Space Agency (ESA and ASI) for studying the effect of microgravity on bone tissue, during the Space flight missions Columbia STS-107 and FOTON-M3. These projects generated her major interest in the field of osteoporosis and muscle atrophy related to microgravity and mechanical loading. Therefore, during the last four years of the post-doc, she mainly worked on bone-muscle interaction by demonstrating that the miokine Irisin, secreted by skeletal muscle during physical activity, plays a central role in bone metabolism, driving positive effects on bone mineral density and cortical bone geometry.</p>




<p><b>Thomas Funck-Brentano</b></p> 	<p>Faculty of Medicine (UNIGE)</p>	<p>Gothenburg, Sweden</p>	<p>Thomas Funck-Brentano is a rheumatologist in Paris Diderot University, France with a special clinical interest in osteoporosis and rare bone diseases. He has a preclinical background in the bone &amp; cartilage field which gives him a special interest in translational medicine. He has moved to Gothenburg University, Sweden, as a post-doctorant, to fulfill his skills in bone physiology and in clinical epidemiology before returning to his home University. Thomas was president of the Young Rheumatologist Section of the French Society of Rheumatology from 2010 to 2013.</p>
<p><b>Vito Guarnieri</b></p> 	<p>Medical Genetics, IRCCS Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza Hospital</p>	<p>San Giovanni Rotondo (FG), Italy</p>	<p>Vito Guarnieri is a geneticist and he received his PhD in Genetics and Molecular Evolution at the University of Bari in 2007 (supervisor: Mariano Rocchi). In 2008-2009 he was Visitor Scholar at the McGill University/Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal at the Calcium Research Laboratory of Geoffrey N Hendy. Currently he is responsible for molecular diagnosis of calcium and phosphate dismetabolism genetic diseases. His research focuses on Primary Hyperparathyroidism and associated endophenotypes (FHH, NSHPT, HPT-JT, MEN1, MEN4). In 2012 he got a Young Investigator Research Award from the Italian Ministry of Health.</p>
<p><b>Carmen Huesa</b></p> 	<p>University of the West of Scotland / University of Glasgow</p>	<p>Glasgow, UK</p>	<p>I am a bone biologist with great interest in biomechanics. It could be said that my specialty is microCT, but I also work with molecular biology techniques as well as animal models. I am keen on the interaction with engineers and computer scientists in the lab. Ultimately, I love science and this is why I am trying to make my way in academia. I have learnt a few things on the way and I'm happy to share any knowledge acquired. "Post-doc-ing" is fun but one must be smart about it.</p>
<p><b>Sonja Gamsjaeger</b></p> 	<p>Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Osteology 1st Medical Department,</p>	<p>Vienna, Austria</p>	<p>Dr. Sonja Gamsjaeger studied biology at the University of Salzburg (Austria) and graduated 2003 in Botany followed by a PHD in Physics at the Department of Material Engineering's and Physics (2007). During her scholarships (2005 and 2006) at the Department of Physical Chemistry (University Jena) and at the Federal Centre for Breeding Research on Cultivated Plants, Institute of Plant Analysis (Quedlinburg) she obtained more skills concerning methods and applications for vibrational spectroscopy. Since 2007 she works as a scientist at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Osteology with the main focus on FTIR Imaging and Raman microspectroscopy in combination with other relevant methods used in the bone field.</p>

<p><b>Katharina Jähn</b></p> 	<p>Institut für Osteologie und Biomechanik Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf</p>	<p>Hamburg, Germany</p>	<p>Senior postdoc with a background in biochemistry. Experienced in bone histology, bone histomorphometry, and <math>\mu</math>CT analysis; ex vivo bone organ culture; osteocyte culture, functional characterizations and imaging; as well as fracture healing processes and muscle-bone crosstalk</p>
<p><b>Anjali Kusumbe</b></p> 	<p>: Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, University of Oxford, UK</p>	<p>Oxford, UK</p>	<p>I am a group leader at the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, University of Oxford, UK. The ECTS Academy provides a platform for young investigators to interact and network and provides opportunity of professional development. As a mentor within the ECTS Academy, I will be happy to look into and advice on scientific, career and non-scientific issues of the mentee. I would like to serve as a facilitator who allows the mentee to discover their own direction by offering help and advice.</p>
<p><b>Nerea Lopez</b></p> 	<p>University of Edinburgh</p>	<p>Edinburgh, UK</p>	<p>I did my PhD in Salamanca, Spain, focused on patients with Gorlin syndrome, a rare disease involving developmental alterations and appearance of basal cell carcinomas. In 2008, I moved to the Rheumatology and Bone Disease Unit at the University of Edinburgh, with Prof Stuart Ralston. During my first postdoc, I characterised a model for early onset Paget's disease of bone, a focal disorder of bone remodelling mainly affecting older people. During my second postdoc in Prof Ralston's group, I focused on genetics and genomics in osteoporosis. I have led a large collaborative genome-wide association analysis in women with clinical vertebral fractures. Currently, I am the principal investigator of a pharmacogenomics and personalised medicine project for osteoporosis, as well as the laboratory manager. Besides, I am the director of the Scottish Constituency of the Spanish Researches in the UK Society. During these years, I have gained experience in different aspects that could be useful to guide young investigators. For example: moving country and research field for a postdoc, applying for fellowships, supervising students, reviewing papers, evaluating PhD thesis, setting and leading large collaborative efforts, managing laboratory resources and staff, public engagement, seminar organisation, funding management.</p>

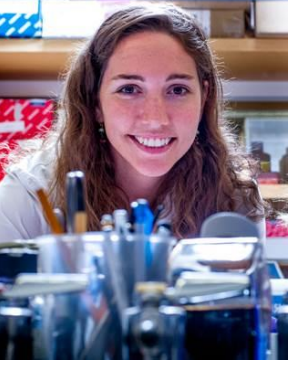




<p><b>Polyzois Makras</b></p> 	<p>251 Hellenic Air Force &amp; VA General Hospital, Dpt of Endocrinology &amp; Diabetes</p>	<p>Athens, Greece</p>	<p>Polyzois Makras is an Endocrinologist at 251 Hellenic Air Force &amp; VA General Hospital, Athens, Greece. Since 2006 he has been continuously engaged in research in disorders of calcium and bone metabolism as well as in rare diseases (mainly Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis).</p>
<p><b>Silvia Marino</b></p> 	<p>Indiana University, School of Medicine</p>	<p>Indianapolis, IN, USA</p>	<p>I am a Postdoctoral Fellow at Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis (Indiana, USA). I obtained my PhD in Experimental Medicine and Therapy in 2013 as a joint project between the Universities of Turin (Italy) and Edinburgh (Scotland, UK). My interest in inflammation and cancer associated bone diseases began when I joined Dr Aymen I. Idris' group at the Edinburgh Cancer Research Centre in 2010. Under Dr Idris' mentorship at the Universities of Edinburgh and Sheffield (UK), I set up a number of in vitro, ex vivo and in vivo model systems to developing and testing novel small molecule inhibitors of cytokines-dependent signalling essential for the regulation of bone, immune and tumor cell interactions in metastatic bone disease. At the beginning of 2017, I joined Professor G. David Roodman group at Indiana University and my current research focuses on p62 as a druggable target for the treatment of multiple myeloma bone disease. I really enjoy doing science and the ECTS, the New Investigator Committees and ECTS Academy have been a great supportive family to belong to and that I feel I have to actively contribute to by helping you, whether you need an advice about scientific or non-scientific matters, career changes, supervising students, etc. Looking forward to sharing with you what I have learnt so far. - We were exactly like you...just a few years ago!</p>
<p><b>Michelle McDonald</b></p> 	<p>Garvan Institute of Medical Research University of New South Wales</p>	<p>Sydney, Australia</p>	<p>I am a Group Leader of the Bone Microenvironment Group in the Bone Division, I graduated from my PhD in 2008. My research focuses on understanding how tumour cell dormancy and growth is regulated by the local bone microenvironment and how we can exploit this interaction to improve outcomes and treatments for patients with metastatic bone disease and multiple myeloma. My group also uses novel intravital imaging approaches to examine normal and pathological bone cell dynamics in addition to their interactions with tumour cells.</p>

<p><b>Daniela Merlotti</b></p> 	<p>San Raffaele Scientific Institute</p>	<p>Milan, Italy</p>	<p>Daniela Merlotti is a clinician specialized in internal medicine; she received her MD and PhD degree at the University of Siena, Italy. Actually she is PI of a Young Investigator Research Award Italian Ministry of Health at the San Raffaele Scientific Institute in Milan. Her research interest are metabolic bone disorders, osteoporosis, Paget's disease of bone and rare bone disorders. Actually she is investigating the extraskelatal effects of p62 mutations both in mouse models and humans.</p>
<p><b>Nicola Napoli</b></p> 	<p>Diabetes and Bone network, Department Endocrinology and Diabetes, University Campus Bio-Medico of Rome &amp; Division of Bone and Mineral Diseases, Washington University in St Louis</p>	<p>Rome, Italy &amp; St Louis, MO, USA</p>	<p>Dr Napoli received his medical degree in 2000 and completed his clinical fellowship and PhD in Metabolic Diseases at Washington University in St Louis. He is Assistant Professor of Endocrinology at University Campus Bio-Medico of Rome and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Medicine at Washington University in St Louis. His research is funded by national and international institutions. At the moment his group is mostly engaged on analyzing the effect of WNT pathway, inflammation, sarcopenia on bone strength in obesity and Type 2 diabetes using both human and animal models. He is also interested on the effect of lifestyle intervention and antidiabetic medications on memory, frailty and bone fragility in diabetic patients. His research interests cover also the study of predictors and risk factors for fragility fractures in large population cohorts and their treatment through new anti-osteoporotic treatment.</p>
<p><b>Isabel Orris</b></p> 	<p>Royal Veterinary College</p>	<p>London, UK</p>	<p>I am a lecturer at the RVC. The research focus of my group is the regulation of bone cell function and vascular calcification by local endocrine and paracrine signalling molecules. Experimental approaches include primary bone cell cultures, molecular biology, imaging and in vivo rodent models of bone disease and vascular calcification.</p>

<p><b>Julien Paccou</b></p> 	<p>Lille University Hospital, France, Member of the bone unit and of the research unit into the department of rheumatology. Member of the lab (EA 4490): Pathophysiology of inflammatory bone diseases</p>	<p>Lille, France</p>	<p>Julien Paccou, MD, PhD is an assistant professor in Rheumatology at Lille University Hospital, France. He received his MD from Lille University Hospital in 2008. He has prepared and obtained his PhD thesis in 2013 on Vascular Calcification in Rheumatoid Arthritis in the INSERM U1088 laboratory at Amiens University Hospital, France. Then, he completed his postdoctoral fellowship in 2014 at the MRC Lifecourse Epidemiology Unit, University of Southampton, UK under the supervision of Professor Cyrus Cooper. His recent research has examined Vascular Calcification in Rheumatoid Arthritis. In a review recently published in JCEM, Dr Paccou and colleagues describe the role of the Bone Marrow Fat in Skeletal Health. One of his current projects is assessing body composition changes under ustekinumab among patients with psoriatic arthritis. Further, Dr Paccou would like to initiate a research project evaluating the bone marrow fat content in postmenopausal women with and without fragility fracture.</p>
<p><b>Janak L.Pathak</b></p> 	<p>School of Pharmaceutical Science and Technology, Health Sciences Platform, Tianjin University</p>	<p>Tianjin, China</p>	<p>I am a distinguished international postdoctoral researcher in Tianjin University, China. My research is focused on Osteo-immunology (inflammation related bone loss) and Bone Tissue Engineering. I have international research experience (Nepal-Europe-China), and strong collaboration network. I am good at writing abstract and research paper. I can offer information regarding possible collaboration or research carrier opportunity in China. I will be happy to instruct how to write abstract and research paper.</p>
<p><b>Martina Rauner</b></p> 	<p>Medical Faculty of the Technische Universität Dresden</p>	<p>Dresden, Germany</p>	<p>Martina Rauner is a biotechnologist and specialised in biomedical research during her doctoral studies at the Medical University of Vienna. She is currently the Scientific Director of the Bone Lab and is focusing on the role of Wnt signaling in metabolic, inflammatory, and hematologic bone diseases.</p>



<p><b>Michaela Reagan</b></p> 	<p>Maine Medical Center Research Institute</p>	<p>Scarborough, ME, USA</p>	<p>My research focuses on understanding the roles that fat cells (adipocytes), bone cells (osteoblast lineage cells), and other cells in the bone marrow niche play in mediating the progression of Multiple Myeloma. In addition to local bone marrow interactions, we are also exploring metabolic and systemic host effects that may drive myeloma disease progression and we are exploring ways to interfere in this process. The characterization of how and why bone marrow stromal cells are altered by cancer cells is another focus in my lab. Research in these areas will contribute to the discovery of novel molecular targets and development of better therapies to affect not only cancer cells, but also tumor-associated stromal cells to impede tumor growth and cancer-induced bone disease. Lastly, to study myeloma growth in a more realistic 3D bone-like environment, our lab develops novel 3D, tissue engineering in vitro models of bone-cancer interactions!</p>
<p><b>Hanna Taipaleenmäki</b></p> 	<p>Molecular Skeletal Biology Laboratory (MSB-Lab), University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf</p>	<p>Hamburg, Germany</p>	<p>Hanna Taipaleenmäki is a group leader at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Germany. During her PhD and post-doctoral training in Finland, Denmark, USA and Germany she has investigated the contribution of microRNAs in physiological and pathological bone remodeling with specific focus on cancer-induced bone disease. Her current research is aimed at understanding the malignant cross-talk between the bone cells and cancer cells in breast cancer metastases using clinical samples, in vivo models and in vitro approaches.</p>
<p><b>Özge Uluckan</b></p> 	<p>Spanish National Cancer Research Center (CNIO)</p>	<p>Madrid, Spain</p>	<p>I am originally from Cyprus. I carried out my undergraduate and graduate (PhD) studies in the USA. My PhD thesis focused on the role of integrins and their associating molecules in bone physiology and bone metastasis. In 2009, I moved to the CNIO in Spain to Prof. Erwin Wagner's lab as a postdoc where I am now a Staff Scientist. My research focus here is to understand multi-organ crosstalk in the context of inflammation. We have recently documented a role of the inflammatory cytokine IL-17A in linking skin inflammation to bone loss. Currently I am exploring the role of the microbiota and inflammation in skin-bone crosstalk. I have a lot of expertise in vivo as well in vitro models of bone research. I have supervised students at all stages and enjoy discussing science.</p>