

Nano2Life External Newsletter

Dear reader,

welcome to the 2nd issue of the Nano2Life newsletter in 2007. You will find reports about the winners of the young scientists writing contest, read about the visit of our EU project reviewer at the annual meeting, interesting events, and much more...

Happy Reading!

The editors

Comments and contributions to n2l@bioanalytik-muenster.de

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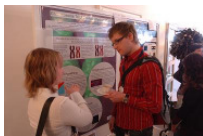
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3rd Annual Meeting in Saarbruecken, 19th – 21st March



This year's Nano2Life annual meeting was hosted by NanoBioNet e.V. in Saarbruecken, Germany. The event was attended by some 200 researchers from all over Europe exhibiting their research in a well received poster session, and exchanging ideas in workshops and tutorials. Prizes were awarded to recognise outstanding scientists and their efforts.

All together this year's annual meeting was a successful event, superbly organised by the host NanoBioNet e.V. Thanks to the organizing team!

Find - [pictures](#) and [background info](#)

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Session of EU Project Reviewer Manuela Arrata with Young Scientists



Manuela Arrata is the official EU project reviewer of Nano2Life. She evaluates the network activities and gives advice how to improve activities in a report to the European Commission. Her special interest is devoted to young people, their hopes and chances for the future. Therefore a special session with Nano2Life's young scientists was organized to realize a direct exchange of ideas and expectations.

She interviewed the participants covering many subjects like project opportunities, salary balances, and the use and experience with the mobility programme of N2L. The majority of the young Nano2Life-ists proved to be well informed about what is going on in Nano2Life. The main outcome of the meeting was that all of them had already profited personally by being a member of Nano2Life. The advantages of the e-mentor programme for the development of a scientific career and the easy access to the mobility programme received positive feedback. It was stressed that Nano2Life gives the opportunity to collaborate with other European labs in an informal and fast way and that it is especially useful to use it as a platform to look for potential collaboration partners for FP7 projects. Most of the young people enjoyed the temporary visit to other labs, but stressed the fact that most of them are reluctant to leave their home country for more than a postdoctoral leave. - All in all the session proved to be a successful experiment in the end.

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Nano2Life Awards for the Year 2006

One major goal of Nano2Life is to motivate and support young scientists to communicate their scientific results in an attractive way to the scientific community but also to the general public. To achieve this goal several prizes are awarded to the best contributions in different categories at each annual meeting. The following people were honoured at the annual meeting at Saarbruecken:

Poster

1. Torsten Vielhaber, University Muenster, Germany, Nanophosphors as Luminescent Labels for Bioanalysis
2. Kevin Heyries, CNRS, Université de Lyon, France, Protein Immobilization for Specific Cell Attachment
3. Anna Ruiz, JRC, Italy, Protein Patterning on Plasma PEG Surfaces by Microcontact Printing

Best Publication submitted by a Young Scientist



Fabrication of Polypyrrole-Based Nanoelectrode Arrays by Colloidal Lithography
Anal. Chem., 78 (21), 7588 -7591, 2006. Andrea Valsesia, Patrícia Lisboa, Pascal Colpo, and François Rossi

Best Young Scientist of Nano2Life

Criteria:

- Most active young scientist, participating in N2L, using mobility programme, visiting summer and research schools, attending e-mentor programme and PROGRESS Course, attending annual and scientific meeting, good interactions with junior and senior scientists

7 candidates:

- Valerio Beni, Tyndall
- Marcella Burke, Tyndall
- Laura Ceriotti, JRC
- Kevin Heyries, CEA
- Jacob Lange, Lund
- Petra Schneider, Kaiserslautern
- Andrea Valsesia, JRC

Winners:

- Female winner: Laura Ceriotti, JRC
- Male winner: Valerio Beni, Tyndall

Writing Contest – Communicating Science to Non-Scientists

1. Christer Spegel, University Lund, “Micro- and Nano-Technology. Assisting in the battle against Parkinson’s Disease”
2. Petra Schneider, University Kaiserslautern, “Cells on surfaces – exploring new environments”
3. Santiago Rodriguez, IBEC, Barcelona, “Stem cells differentiation as a “normal” human life line”

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EON – Meeting of Experts in Saarbruecken, March 2007

In their 3rd meeting 18 experts of OMNT and Nano2Life prepared the next issue of the EON report. Research and development in Nanobiotechnology is monitored in the joint collaboration between Nano2Life and the French “Observatory for Micro and Nanotechnologies”. Emerging trends, significant achievements and applications are detected here. Nano2Life and OMNT share knowledge, alert about new developments and perform a common information platform via their common EON activities. The third issue is released in May 2007.

Reports published now are EON n°1, April 2006 , Eon n°2, October 2006 and EON n°3, May 2007. Please find samples of the EON reports on the omnt website (www.omnt.fr) and obtain the full report by request to omnt@cea.fr.

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Video Lectures of 3rd Annual Meeting Available

Jack Barokas from Tel Aviv University provided video recordings of tutorials, key note lectures and elevator pitches. As usual he was there to preserve the annual meeting for the eyes and ears for those who could not attend the meeting as he did before at all previous annual, summer and research meetings. The recordings are available on the Nano2Life [videowebsite](#).

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e-Mentoring Programme - Sharing Experiences and Expertise



This programme is designed to improve networking among participants of the different partners. Young scientists (mentees) can profit from the opportunity to have a more experienced colleague (a mentor) to acquire professional knowledge, personal skills and self-confidence. Mentors may, through sharing insight about their profession and working approach with the mentee, reflect on their own professional role and role as leader.

Participants e-mail each other, but face-to-face meetings are also included, especially in the Nano2Life meetings. Money for travel expenses can be applied for through Nano2Lifes mobility grants.

Both mentors and mentees can get ideas and help from an interactive home page (e-Mentoring Nano2Life) containing information material addressed to both parties. It also serves as a “safe place” where no one else can access communication between the programme participants. Interesting features are included, devoted to strengthen networking among the participants, such as chats and forum facilities.

The programme was started one year ago, and so far there are 26 participants.

Contact: [Elena Martínez](#)

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events

Linnaeus Summer School in Nanoscience, Örestrand, 19th - 24th August

The school is aimed for graduate students in experimental as well as in theoretical nanophysics. The School is jointly organized by the Linnaeus projects in Lund and in Göteborg. Students outside the Linnaeus program are also welcome to participate in the School. School and staying costs will be covered for all accepted students.

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European Congress on Biotechnology, Barcelona 17th - 19th September

Don't miss Europe's leading biotechnology event! Run by and for Europe's biotechnologists and biotech stakeholders. The European Congress on Biotechnology is the longest running international and multidisciplinary biotechnology congress in Europe.

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MNE 2007, Copenhagen 23rd - 29th September

Micro- and Nano-Engineering (MNE) is an international conference on micro- and nanofabrication using lithography and related techniques. The conference brings together engineers and scientists from all over the world to discuss recent progress and future trends in the fabrication and applications of micro- and nanostructures. On average the MNE conference has 400-500 participants. The conference proceedings are published in *Microelectronic Engineering*.

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Publications

Best Young Scientist Publication 2006 - Valsesia et al.

Fabrication of Polypyrrole-Based Nanoelectrode Arrays by Colloidal Lithography

Read the best publication 2006 by a Nano2Life young scientist and his group:

This paper describes a novel technique to produce polypyrrole-based nanoelectrodes for electrochemical detection purpose. The fabrication process relies on the creation of patterned nanotemplates i.e., nanometric gold spots surrounded by an electrically insulating material (SiO_x).

Andrea Valsesia, Patrícia Lisboa, Pascal Colpo, and François Rossi*, *European Commission, Joint Research Center, Anal. Chem.*, 78 (21), 7588 -7591, 2006. 10.1021/ac0609172 S0003-2700(06)00917-6, Web Release Date: September 26, 2006, Copyright © 2006 American Chemical Society, Received for review May 18, 2006. Accepted August 10, 2006.

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Communicating Science – Spegel, Schneider, Rodriguez-Segui

Communicating science with the World around us is an important task for researchers. Non experts are also eager to learn about new technical, medical, and biological challenges. Read the best publications of young scientists for non-scientists (Christer Spegel, Lund, Sweden, Petra Schneider, Kaiserslautern, Germany, Santiago Rodriguez-Segui, PCB, Spain). Go to the [public website](#) for the full texts.

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Plenty Of Room For Biology At The Bottom

An introduction to bionanotechnology. Written by a leading nanobiologist actively involved at the forefront of the field both as a researcher and an educator, this book takes the reader from the fundamentals of nanobiology to the most advanced applications. The book includes a glossary and a selected list of companies actively involved in nanobiotechnology and will be an important reference for those interested in the application aspects of the field.

Ehud Gazit, Tel Aviv University, Israel, *Plenty Of Room For Biology At The Bottom - An introduction to bionanotechnology*. Imperial College Press, Pub. date: Mar 2007, 200pp, ISBN 978-1-86094-677-6

news from the partners

Associated Academic Partner in Budapest: Chemical Research Center Hungarian Academy of Sciences

With more than 200 highly trained scientist CRC-HAS is the leading research institute in the field of chemistry and its adjacent fields in Hungary. Fields under investigation range from biomolecular, structural chemistry to surface chemistry and catalysis and beyond.

The institute is also well-provided in terms of scientific equipment: wide range of SPMs (Digital Instrument, Molecular Imaging, NTMDT, Nanoindenter Hysitron, ellipsometer, SEM, EDS and LB Film Balance) are at disposal just to name a few.

The Department of Surface Modification and Nanostructures, coordinator of one and partner to 5 FP6 projects, has gained expertise in the following fields:

- Electrochemical study of the mechanisms of corrosion processes and the inhibition
- Study of microbiologically influenced corrosion and its inhibition by biostatic or biocide type chemicals
- Preparation of self-assembled mono- and multilayers on metal surfaces
- Study of anti-corrosive and anti-microbial activity of LB mono- and multimolecular layers
- Development of anticorrosive layers on metal surfaces produced by sol-gel methods from inorganic oxides

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