



# Research Infrastructures mobilisation in response to COVID-19: lessons learned

Virtual workshop hosted by the OECD and Science Europe

11 May 2021, via Zoom, 11:30-15:30 CET (Paris time)

[Http://oe.cd/SCIENCEEUworkshop](http://oe.cd/SCIENCEEUworkshop)



## *Biographies*

### Introduction

#### **Carthage Smith**



Carthage Smith joined the Global Science Forum Secretariat in June 2014 as Lead Co-ordinator. He is responsible for overseeing the Forum activities and working with members and delegates to define the overall strategy and priorities. He was originally trained as a biochemist, with a PhD in neuroscience (Newcastle University, UK). Prior to joining the GSF secretariat, he was Deputy Executive Director of the International Council for Science (ICSU, Paris) for twelve years. In this position he led the strategic development of a number of major global science initiatives, in areas ranging from environmental science to urban health, and managed a number of science for policy and policy for science activities. Prior to moving to France, he spent six years at the UK Medical Research Council, where he was Head of International Science Policy.

#### **Lydia Borrell-Damián**



Lidia Borrell-Damián is the Secretary General of Science Europe. She holds overall responsibility for the strategy and functioning of the organisation. Prior to this she worked for the European University Association (EUA) between 2006 and 2014. During the last five years in EUA she served as its Director for Research and Innovation (R&I), holding responsible for the overall strategy and activities of EUA in the area, working with EUA individual universities as well as the National Rectors' Conferences. She also worked on doctoral education through the EUA-Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE) and coordinated scientific policy input to the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) through the European Platform of Universities in Energy (EUA-EPUE).

Lidia Borrell-Damián holds a Doctorate in Chemistry (Chemical Engineering Specialty; Solar Energy) from the University of Barcelona. Prior to joining EUA, she was Director of Research at Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona from 2003-2005. Before then she was Visiting Scholar at the University of Western Ontario (1999-2001) and at the North Carolina State University (1997-1998).

## Petr Bartunek



Dr. Bartunek is Group leader at the Institute of Molecular Genetics (IMG, Prague), Czech Republic and Director of CZ-OPENSSCREEN: National Infrastructure for Chemical Biology. He graduated in biochemistry from Charles University, Prague in 1987 and received his PhD from Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in 1991. He did the postdoctoral training at the Research Institute of Pathology (IMP, Vienna) and in 1995 he moved to Max-Delbrueck Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC, Berlin) to work as a staff scientist. The main interest of his laboratory is to use small molecules to dissect the molecular mechanism of cell fate determination. The focus is on the signaling pathways that regulate self-renewal and differentiation of hematopoietic and embryonic stem cells. Dr. Bartunek is co-author of 85+ publications and several patents. He has received Wichterle, EMBO/HHMI Scientist and Fulbright Awards.

## Session 1: Adapting RI processes in emergency situations

### Christos Arvanitidis



Dr Arvanitidis is currently the CEO of LifeWatch ERIC, Seville, Spain. He is also Research Director in the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research, Institute of Marine Biology, Biotechnology and Aquaculture, and the former head of the Biodiversity laboratory.

Dr Arvanitidis' research focuses on marine biodiversity, biodiversity informatics, functional diversity, and coastal ecosystems. He works on the comparisons of marine biodiversity information patterns deriving from various biological organization levels and scales of observation, trying to develop new approaches to explore their interrelationships. He has been involved in over 70 research and education projects, coordinated 10 of them. He is the author of more than 100 peer-reviewed scientific articles, including 3 monographs, and Associate Editor in 3 major scientific journals.

Dr Arvanitidis is acting as reviewer in more than 45 international peer-reviewed journals and is a member of several international expert teams (for the UN World Ocean Assessment, the GES Descriptor "Biodiversity" to EU, the EU Task Group on the seafloor integrity...). He is coordinator of the LifeWatchGreece Research Infrastructure and national delegate to LifeWatch ERIC.

### Philip Gribbon



Dr Gribbon is currently Head of Discovery Research at the Fraunhofer Institute for Translational Medicine and Pharmacology in Hambourg. Philip Gribbon received his undergraduate and PhD degrees (Biophysics) from Imperial College, London. Following post-doctoral studies at the University of Manchester, he worked on early-stage drug discovery (DD) teams within Pfizer and GlaxoSmithKline. He was the coordinator of the EU-OPENSSCREEN research infrastructure at the Leibniz-Institut für Molekulare Pharmakologie, Berlin, Germany before becoming Co-Head of the

ScreeningPort Department, Fraunhofer Institute of Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology (IME), Hamburg.

### **Makoto Tsubokura**



Makoto Tsubokura is a professor of computational fluid dynamics at Kobe University, and a team leader of complex phenomena unified simulation research at RIKEN center for computational science.

He graduated from the University of Tokyo in 1998 with a PhD degree.

His main interest is to develop simulation frameworks for turbulence and its coupled phenomena, including structure deformation, chemical reaction or aero-acoustics, on massively parallel computing systems.

He has been involved in national projects of developing flagship supercomputers in Japan, such as Earth Simulator, K computer and supercomputer “Fugaku”.

Last year he led a droplet/aerosol infection risk team of the COVID-19 project on the supercomputer “Fugaku”, and conducted various

droplet/aerosol transmission simulations to evaluate the risk and propose the countermeasures: some of them include office room, class room, hospital room, concert hall, restaurant, live house, commuter train, taxi, airplane, commuter bus, ambulance, and so on.

These results were reported through 314 TV/radio, 275 news papers, and 1150 web news.

This activity has been taken over this year as well, and contributes to establish and modify guidelines for COVID-19 by working closely with the government.

## **Session 2: Preparedness and Response of life science and health RIs**

### **Michaela Mayrhofer**



Michaela Th. Mayrhofer is a political scientist and historian by training. She was educated in Vienna, Louvain-la-Neuve, Essex and Paris. In 2010, she has earned her PhD from both the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales and the University of Vienna, which was shortlisted by the Austrian Society for Political Science for the ‘best thesis 2010’ young scientist award.

Her academic career led her to the Centre de Recherche Médecine, Sciences, Santé et Société, the University of Vienna, the Institute of Technology and Society Studies at the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt/Vienna/Graz, the Technical University of Vienna, the Fondation Brocher and the Medical University of Graz. She is experienced in the scientific lead as well as management of national and

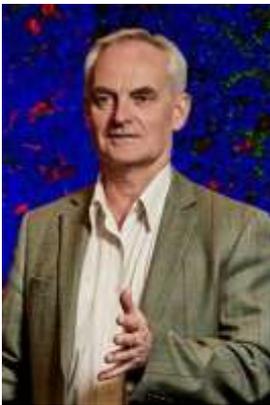
international research projects (EUCAN-Connect, ADOPT BBMRI-ERIC, CY-Biobank). To date, she retains her Research Fellowship at the Institut für Technik-und Wissenschaftsforschung at the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, the University of Newcastle and was member of the editorial staff of the Austrian Journal of Political Science (2013-2017). She serves in several (S)EABs, including the EAB of the Human Brain Project as its chair. Since 2018, she leads the Code of Conduct for Health Research initiative, which aims at developing a code along article 40 of the EU GDPR, considering the specific features of processing personal data in the area of health. Since 2019, she is Head of ELSI Services and Research of BBMRI-ERIC. Between February-September 2020, she served as Interim Co-Director

### **Volker Gerdts**



Dr. Volker Gerdts is the Director and CEO of the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO), located at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Canada. He previously served as Associate Director of Research of VIDO from 2007 until 2018. Dr. Gerdts is also a Professor for Veterinary Immunology in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan. He received a DVM in 1994 from Hanover Veterinary School and a German PhD equivalent from the Federal Research Institute for Animal Health, Island of Riems and Hanover Veterinary School, Germany in 1997. He has served in various administrative roles and served on various editorial boards and national and international scientific review panels including NIH, CEPI, STAR-IDAZ, CIHR, CFI, NSERC, the Gairdner Foundation, etc.

### **Bryan Charleston**



Prof Bryan Charleston obtained a BVetMed from the Royal Veterinary College, University of London, UK in 1982. After a period of time in Large Animal Practice, he studied for a Masters degree in Molecular Biology at University College London in 1988, then a PhD degree, as a Wellcome Trust Scholar, from the University of London, UK, in 1991. He then carried out postdoctoral research, as a Wellcome Trust Post-doctoral fellow, at the Royal Veterinary College and the Babraham Institute, Cambridge for three years.

He joined The Pirbright Institute in 1994 and focused on studies of the immune response to viral infections in cattle. In addition, he provided advice and expertise on the design of infectious disease challenge models for a wide range of pathogens in important agricultural species. His research is focused on understanding the immune response to foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDV) in cattle to develop novel vaccines.

### Session 3: Policy lessons learned from COVID-19, and potential role of research infrastructures in future crises

#### Martin Taylor



Martin Taylor is serving a seven-year term as Executive Director of the Canadian Research Data Centre Network based at McMaster University. He is Professor Emeritus of Geography at the University of Victoria, adjunct professor in the School of Geography and Earth Sciences at McMaster University, and adjunct professor in the School of Public Health and Health Systems at the University of Waterloo. From 2007-2012, he served as Founding President and CEO of Ocean Networks Canada. Prior to that, he was the

University of Victoria's first Vice-President Research (1998-2007). He has extensive governance experience with a broad range of research organizations. He served on the Council of Canadian Academies Expert Panel on the assessment of Canadian ocean science (2012-13) and the research management committee of the MEOPAR NCE. He holds a BA (Hons Geography) from Bristol University and an MA and PhD in Geography from UBC. A Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, he is the author of two books and over 100 peer-reviewed publications in the field of environmental and community health.

#### Yazdan Yazdanpanah



Dr Yazdan Yazdanpanah was appointed in 2021 as Director of the French ANRS emerging infectious diseases Agency that fund and coordinates research on HIV, Hepatitis, STIs, Tuberculosis and emerging and reemerging infections. He is a member of the Scientific Council for COVID-19 of President Emmanuel Macron. He is also since 2017 the Director of the Institute I3M (Immunology, Inflammation, Infectiology, and Microbiology) which gathers the main stakeholders of this thematic in France in the frame of Aviesan, the

French National Alliance for Life Sciences and Health. Yazdan Yazdanpanah is currently the head of an Inserm team on decision analysis in Infectious Diseases. He is heading the Infectious Disease department at Bichat Claude Bernard Hospital, and is Professor of Medicine at Paris Diderot University, France. In May 2019, he was appointed The Chair of « The European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership » (EDCTP) board. He is the Vice-Chair of the « Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness (GloPID-R) board. Yazdan Yazdanpanah became MD from the Lille School of Medicine, France in 1996. He qualified from the same institution first as a hepato-gastro-enterologist in 1996 and next an infectious disease specialist in 2002. He obtained a Master of Science degree in epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, US in 2000, and a Ph.D degree in public health from the Bordeaux School of Public Health in 2002.

### Antonio Zoccoli



Professor Zoccoli is President of the Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN) since July 2019. Antonio Zoccoli is professor of physics at the University of Bologna. He carries out experimental research in the field of fundamental, nuclear and subnuclear physics and has been a member of several international collaborations, at Rutherford Lab in UK, at CERN in Switzerland and at the DESY laboratory in Hamburg (Germany). Since 2005 he is a member of the ATLAS collaboration at CERN, which, together

with the CMS collaboration, announced the first observation of the Higgs boson in July 2012. He is the chair of the Giuseppe Occhialini Foundation for the dissemination of physics culture.

### Lukáš Levák



Mr Lukáš Levák joined the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of Czechia in 2009, after completing studies (Latin America Studies) at the Charles University. Before he was appointed the Director of Department for R&D (2014), he had been in charge of development of bilateral cooperation of Czechia in R&D, and participation of Czechia in the Joint Technology Initiatives ARTEMIS and ENIAC under the 7th EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. Since 2014, Mr Lukáš Levák has been the Director of Department for R&D, which consists of the Unit for Research Infrastructures and the Unit for European Research Area. His duties and responsibilities, therefore, comprise in particular policy-making and public funding of research infrastructures (including membership of Czechia in international R&D organisations and ERIC consortia),

and formulation and implementation of strategy for international collaboration of Czechia in R&D within the framework of the European Research Area (including agenda of the EU Competitiveness Council of Research Ministers). As of 2014, Mr Lukáš Levák is the delegate of Czechia to ERAC (*European Research Area and Innovation Committee*), and also serves as the Czech delegate to ESFRI (*European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures*) as of 2019.