



Bioeconomy school: from basic science to a new economy

Lake Como School of Advanced Studies, 24-28 may 2021

SPEAKERS:

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Garabed Antranikian studied Biology at the American University in Beirut. At the University of Goettingen he completed his PhD in Microbiology in 1980 in laboratory of Gerhard Gottschalk and since 1989 he was appointed to a professorship in Microbiology at the Hamburg University of Technology (TUHH). He coordinated EU, BMBF and DBU network projects on extremophiles and industrial biotechnology. In 2004 he was awarded the most prestigious prize for environment protection by the president of the Federal Republic of Germany. From 2011 to 2018 he was appointed as president of TUHH. Since February 2018 he is CEO of the “Center for Biobased Solutions” focusing on interdisciplinary projects on bioeconomy and Chair of the Board of Advisors of Foundation for Armenian Science and Technology (FAST).



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Piero Morandini graduated in Chemistry at Università di Torino (Italy) in 1986. After spending 6 years in research centers in Munich (DE) and Cambridge (UK) working on the molecular biology of a soil amoeba, he returned to Italy in 1993 by joining a plant physiology lab at the Università degli Studi di Milano, where he later became Researcher in Plant Physiology. He is author of almost 40 publications on international journals in the field of Molecular Biology, Plant Physiology and Biotechnology. His research focused on developing molecular tools to study gene expression in a soil amoeba, then on the regulation of ATP-dependent pumps in plants and more recently on the control of metabolism.





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Loredano Pollegioni graduated in Biology at the Università degli studi di Milano (Italy) and spent post-doc periods at the Universitat Konstanz (Germany) and at the University of Michigan (USA). He is full professor of Biochemistry and President of Fondazione Regionale per la Ricerca Biomedica. He is author of 230 publications on main international journals in the field of Biochemistry, Molecular and Structural Biology and Biotechnology. His scientific career focused on the investigation of human enzymes involved in pathologies and in important biochemical processes and on the evolution of enzymes for biotechnological applications.



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I am trained as a chemist (ETH Zürich) but gained a broad understanding of protein chemistry and structure function relationships during my PhD, Postdoc (UC Berkeley) and my time at Novozymes. In the 7 years at Novozymes I have been involved in a broad range of projects and more recently transitioned into the role as department manager. The past 2.5 years I first headed the microbial enzyme discovery in Denmark which was then merged to Molecular Discovery. In the department, we have a strong focus on identifying new backbones or tailoring promising enzymes to a specific industry applications.





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Ralf Grote is Chief of Staff at Hamburg University of Technology (TUHH) and is responsible for the efficient operation of the president's office, including management of strategies, staffing, internal and external communication and fundraising.

Ralf has a master's degree in biology from the University of Marburg and holds a PhD in microbiology from the Hamburg University of Technology. He was senior research associate at the Institute of Technical Microbiology at the TUHH and the co-coordinator of three nation-wide research clusters in the field of industrial biotechnology. In these clusters groups from academia and industry jointly developed a new generation of environment-friendly biotechnological processes.



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Raffaello Seri is Professor of Econometrics at the Department of Economics of the University of Insubria, member of the Center for Nonlinear and Complex Systems, Como (I), and of the Research Centre for Computational & Organisational Cognition, University of Southern Denmark (DK). He has also been a visiting fellow at ICERM, Brown University (USA). His research has been published in several international journals in decision sciences (*Management Science*, *European Journal of Operational Research*, *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*), mathematical psychology (*Journal of Mathematical Psychology*), numerical analysis (*Mathematics of Computation*, *Journal of Complexity*), engineering (*IEEE Communications Letters*), operations research (*Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications*, *SIAM Journal on Optimization*), management (*Business and Society*), econometrics (*Journal of Econometrics*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*), statistics (*Statistical Science*, *Computational Statistics and Data Analysis*) and probability theory (*The Annals of Probability*, *Stochastic Processes and their Applications*).



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David Bolzonella graduated in Environmental Sciences at the University Ca Foscari of Venice and got a PhD in Biotechnology at the University of Verona where he started his academic career in 2005. He is full professor in Chemical Engineering and was visiting scholar at the University of California Irvine (USA) and at the University of Southampton (UK). He co-authored 130 publications, cited 7800 times for a H index of 47 (Google Scholar, April 21). He participated as PI in 30 European, National and Regional research projects. His main research interest is the development of biotechnological processes for the production of biofuels and biochemicals from agricultural/civil/industrial organic by-products and waste.



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Fabrizio Adani graduated in Agricultural Science on 1988 at University of Milan, Italy. From 1988 to 1999 he worked for private firm on biomass recovery and waste management. From 1994 to 1996 he worked as contract researcher at G. Natta Institute of Politecnico of Milan, Italy. From 1996 he is working for the University of Milan where he is full professor of Biomass and Waste Recovery Promoting the Circular Economy and scientific responsible of the Gruppo Ricicla labs.

Bibliometric data: Documents = 208; Citation 9597 (Google Scholar); HI = 59 (Google Scholar); Citation = 6692 (Scopus); HI = 50 (Scopus).





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Daniela Ubiali is Associate Professor of Fermentation Chemistry and Biotechnology at the University of Pavia (Italy). She received her PhD in Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Technology in 2000. As a graduate student she worked at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and at GLSynthesis Inc. (Worcester MA, USA) under the supervision of Prof. G. E. Wright. Her current research interests focus on the development of active, stable and recyclable enzymes by immobilization for batch and continuous flow synthesis of biologically active molecules and API intermediates. Chemoenzymatic approaches are also exploited to upgrade agro-food waste into high-added value products (circular economy).

She is author of 61 publications in international peer-reviewed journals (Medicinal and Organic Chemistry, Biotechnology).



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Dr Mark Brewer is Rektor / Academic Dean of Lancaster University’s campus in Leipzig, Germany. Previously, Mark held academic and leadership posts in Europe and North America as well as worked as a corporate lawyer in the UK, the USA, and Germany. He received his PhD from the University of St Andrews (UK), his Juris Doctor from Cornell University (USA), and his MLLP from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Germany), and he is member in good standing of the bar of the State of New York. His academic research focuses on sustainability and human rights, corporate social responsibility, international corporate law, and the fashion industry and law.



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Davide Secchi is Associate Professor of Organizational Cognition at the Department of Language and Communication, Director of the Research Centre for Computational & Organisational Cognition, University of Southern Denmark, Slagelse. His research is organized around (a) rationality in distributed cognitive environments by using (b) empirical data and advanced computational simulation techniques, especially agent-based modeling, and (c) corporate and individual social responsibility. He is the author of more than 80 among journal articles, book chapters, and books. He is founder and convenor of the Agent-Based Models of Organizational Behavior Workshop Series, and has presented his work more than 100 times at major international conferences (2002-2020). Dr. Secchi sits on the editorial board of *Kybernetes*, *Team Performance Management* and, since March 2020, he is Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal of Organization Theory & Behavior* (Emerald).





Andreas Pyka

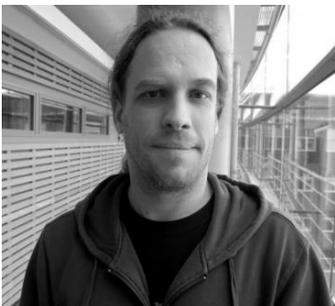
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Andreas Pyka is Professor for Innovation Economics at the University of Hohenheim in Stuttgart, Germany. His recent research interests include transformation processes towards a sustainable and climate neutral economy and the role of innovation in the transition process. He is involved in several national and international research projects dealing with the impacts of the bioeconomy, Artificial Intelligence and Robots, and Mobility and Energy Change. His theoretical background is evolutionary and complexity economics. He graduated with a PhD in economics at the University of Augsburg where he also finished his habilitation in 2004. In the last years he was visiting professor at the TU Delft, at the Università degli studi dell'Insubria in Varese and the Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.



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Matty Janssen holds a PhD in chemical engineering from École Polytechnique de Montréal (Canada), and has an MSc in bioprocess engineering from Wageningen Agricultural University (The Netherlands). He is an associate professor of environmental systems analysis at Chalmers University of Technology. He has expertise in life cycle assessment during technology development, specifically its application to assess technology that is in its early stages of development. Application areas are production of biofuels, bio-based chemicals and bio-based materials. He also works on LCA of circular economy solutions such as the second use of Liion batteries.





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Kerstin Kuchta is head of the research group “Sustainable Resources and Waste Management” at the Hamburg University of Technology and full professor at the Institute for Environmental Technology and Energy Economics.

Kerstin Kuchta graduated 1991 in Environmental Engineering at the Berlin University of Technology. She continued her academic carrier as a researcher at Darmstadt University of Technology and finalised her PhD in 1997. From 2002-2010 she was Full Professor for Energy and Environmental Management at Hamburg University of Applied Science and founding dean of the faculty of engineering at the German-Kazak University (DKU) in Almaty, Kazakhstan. In 2011 she moved as a full professor to the Hamburg University of Technology, established her research group and is Vice President for higher Education and Academic Affairs of TU Hamburg since 2019.

Her major research interests are bio economy, environmental sound waste management and the circular economy for biobased and conventional polymers. She is president of the board of trustees of the German waste management industry and is leading several work groups in the field of resource recovery and sustainability on the regional, national and international level.





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Martin Mahn is CEO of Tutech Innovation GmbH and of Hamburg Innovation GmbH, two knowledge and technology transfer companies owned by and serving the majority of Hamburg’s institutions of higher education and research. He is an Executive Board member of the Business Angels Network Elbeweser – fostering private investment into local startups, Der Wirtschaftsverein – a platform for businesses in Hamburg’s southern metropolitan region and Channel Hamburg – a regional development organization promoting the transformation of the Harburg inland port into a thriving innovation hub.

Martin Mahn was CEO of Humboldt-Innovation GmbH, the knowledge and technology transfer arm of Humboldt-Universität, Berlin and lectured in Innovation Management at the Berlin School of Economics and Law. He held a number of senior management roles in the Display Optic Lighting Division of OSRAM AG, served as an environmental consultant for SMEs and was a founding member of the Managing Board at the Institute for Resource Conservation, Innovation and Sustainability.

Martin Mahn has a degree in biology from Freie Universität Berlin. He has studied at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and holds a postgraduate qualification in Environmental Economy and Environmental Management from the Berlin School of Economics and Law.



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Katrin Elster is a specialist for Strategic Co-Creation and LEGO® Serious Play® from Hamburg, Germany. She designs and facilitates transformations with a strong emphasis on innovation, play and co-design. She is a founder and entrepreneur (Hoffmann Consulting GmbH in 1999, StrategicPlay® in 2006, CoCreACT® in 2015, Crea Germany e.V. in 2016). She likes to build communities and organize and host un-conferences (play4agile since 2011 and play4innovation since 2015). She facilitates LEGO® Serious Play® since 2006 and trains it since 2010.





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Armen Orujyan, PhD, is the Founding CEO of the Foundation for Armenian Science and Technology (FAST) - a nonprofit organization that enhances Intellectual, Financial, and Network capacities of the science and technology ecosystem in Armenia and beyond.

Armen is also the founder and former Chairman of Athgo Corporation, one of the world's leading entrepreneurship platforms in consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council, UN Department of Public Information, and the World Intellectual Property Organization.

In 2006, Armen joined the UN's Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID) as a Founding Member. Under the auspices of the Chief Information and Technology Officer of the UN, he was appointed by the Secretary General of the UN and served through 2013 as co-Chairman of GAID. He was also named a UN e-Leader for ICT and Youth and selected as one of the top under-40 young leaders by the Asia Society. Armen further served as a Commissioner on the UN's venerated Broadband Commission for Digital Development through 2015.

In 2017, Armen joined Rice University' Baker Institute for Public Policy as a Member of the Board of Advisors. He is also a member of Asia Society's Global Council.

Armen earned his Bachelor of Arts degree with Honors in Political Science from UCLA and received his Master of Arts degree as well as PhD from the School of Politics and Economics at Claremont Graduate University (CGU). He is a recipient of CGU's Distinguished Alumni Award.





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Dr Christina Vafeiadi is a Senior Scientist at Nestlé Research, currently leading the Biology Department. From 2017 until 2020, she was leading the Enzymes Group at the same Department. She holds a PhD in Biotechnology and MSc in Chemical Engineering from the National Technical University of Athens. She was appointed as a Lecturer at the same University between 2009-2011.

She joined Nestlé in 2012 as Scientist in the Biotransformation and since then she is being leading projects related to enzyme technology for food applications. She is mainly specialized in carbohydrate biochemistry and biotransformation and is a co-author in 25 peer-reviewed publications in the field.



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Ilaria Re serves as the Director of EU Project Office at Consorzio Italbiotec, the Italian leading no-profit organisation on biotechnology, providing innovation management consulting services for SMEs, universities and research institutions, turning ideas into sustainable innovation.

In the international cooperation area, she leads the technical coordination of the Bioeconomy Pilot of the Vanguard Initiative, the European network of regions committing to use their Smart specialisation strategy to boost new growth through bottom-up entrepreneurial innovation.

She is an adjunct professor at the University of Milan in the Department of Food, Environmental and Nutritional Sciences and the University of Bologna in the Department of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, where she teaches international R&D project management in the biotechnology field.

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She obtained an MSc in Humanities studies at the University of Pavia and a Master in Economics, International and EU public affairs at the Sole24Ore Business School.





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Luisa Marelli is acting head of the Bioeconomy Unit, in the Sustainable Resources Directorate of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. The Bioeconomy unit provides scientific support to EU policies related to the bioeconomy; contributes to the sustainable management of forests and forest resources by developing a knowledge base to protect natural capital and the services it provides; develops methods and models to monitor forest resources and carbon emissions and to improve our knowledge of biomass supply, demand and flows both at EU and global levels.

She has been official of the European Commission - JRC since 2003, where she started working in the European Reference Laboratory for Air Pollution.

Before joining the Bioeconomy Unit in March 2018, Luisa was responsible for the JRC research programs on biofuels and bioenergy, under the Sustainable Transport Unit. Her research activities in this framework focused on the assessment of environmental and climate impacts, technological development and performances of biofuels, alternative fuels and bioenergy.

She has a degree in Physics and a master degree in Optics.

