

RE-SEARCH

The Path of Discovery

Goals, setbacks and future horizons in life science

ANNUAL WORKSHOP • OCTOBER 2nd, 2026 • PHD SCHOOL CELLULAR AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

LOCATION: FACOLTÀ DI ECONOMIA, AULA TL (Edificio A, Piano Terra) • Via Columbia, 2, 00133 Roma



9:30 - 10:00 | Registration & Opening remarks

SESSION I - (RE)SOURCES: Foundational organisms and stress responses

- 10:00 - 10:30 | **Cristina Mazzoni**, *Sapienza University of Rome* – *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* as a model for ageing and cell death
- 10:30 - 11:00 | **Petronia Carillo**, *University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli* – An unexpected journey from plant physiology to agronomy
- 11:00 - 11:30 | Coffee break

SESSION II - (RE)ACTIONS: Cellular battlefields in disease

- 11:30 - 12:00 | **Giulia Guarguaglini**, *Institute of Molecular Biology and Pathology - CNR* – The Aurora-A kinase in cell division and cancer
- 12:00 - 12:30 | **Elisabetta Vulpis**, *Institute of Molecular Biology and Pathology - CNR* – Regulation of Natural Killer cell immunosurveillance by Multiple Myeloma-derived extracellular vesicles
- 12:30 - 13:00 | **Paola Vacca**, *Bambino Gesù Hospital* – Multifunctional engineered NK cells overcome tumor immunosuppression by combining PD-L1 and HLA-E targeting and endogenous IL15 production in glioblastoma models
- 13:00 - 13:30 | **Sabrina Di Bartolomeo**, *University of Molise* – Dissecting the oncosuppressive role of autophagy
- 13:30 - 14:30 | Lunch break

SESSION III - (RE)VEAL: New frontiers in technology and AI

- 14:30 - 15:00 | **Federico Ortenzi**, *Yeastime SRL* – Cell-based processes may unlock the sustainability of production systems. Is microbial optimisation at its plateau? A tech-transfer story on bioacoustics: from Accademia to Startup
- 15:00 - 15:30 | **Caterina Baldi**, *Novogene* – From Academic Research to Industry: An Overview of Novogene
- 15:30 - 16:00 | **Claire McWhite**, *University of Arizona, Tucson* – The promise of biological language models
- 16:00 - 16:30 | Coffee break

SESSION IV - (RE)LATE: Bringing science and society

- 16:30 - 17:00 | **Daniele Spinozzi**, *Italian Laboratory, Giulianova (TE)* – Is there Life beyond PhD? Challenges and Strategies for Biomedical Researchers
- 17:00 - 18:00 | Round table and Closing remarks



TOR VERGATA
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI ROMA