



EPNOE Newsletter - January 2023

Connecting the international polysaccharides community



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Editorial

Dear Readers,

Tomorrow we will launch the **EPNOE Research Roadmap 2040**, in Leuven (Belgium)!

Our research strategy summarises the most relevant **scientific questions around biomass and polysaccharides** to be answered during the coming decades. Key messages to policy and decision-makers have been clearly identified.

This launch event is just the beginning! You can participate in the future discussions by following the hashtag **#EPNOEResearchRoadmap2040** on our social media platforms.

I kindly invite you to engage in this dialogue with us. A more sustainable future will be secured only through collaboration and dialogue among **scientists, innovators, policy-makers, industry, and other different stakeholders.**

Consumers and citizens play a relevant role as well, and we plan on engaging them in this dialogue. We are committed to raise awareness on the **advantages of polysaccharides and their benefits for the health of the planet, humans, and society.**

Join us in this beautiful journey. Become an EPNOE member!

Pedro Fardim
President of EPNOE **us on**



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... News & Announcements

Welcome to our VP Innovation and VP Education!



We are glad to announce that we have introduced a new role in our Executive Board: **the VP Innovation!**

A warm welcome to **Katariina Torvinen (VTT, Finland)** from the EPNOE team!

She will help **EPNOE to interact with technology platforms**, and coordinate events targeting innovation/tech, transfer/co-creation with polysaccharides.



Tiina Nypelö (Chalmers University of Technology) will be our new **VP Education!**

She will take care of the **Education Roadmap** and other **Education-related projects**. We are looking forward to expanding EPNOE Education network!



Open call for abstract submissions in view of the 8th International EPNOE Conference in Graz (Austria)

In view of the 8th International EPNOE Conference in Graz (Austria), we kindly invite you to submit your **oral and poster contributions** (about science, technology, ecology and economy of polysaccharides), **by 15 April 2023**.

Information on acceptance of the abstracts received will be provided during the **first week of May 2023**.

For more information and to download the abstract template, please visit **[this webpage](#)**.

More information



Funding for BOKU PhD school ABC&M has been extended

The Advanced Biorefinery - Chemistry and Materials (ABC&M) PhD School has been granted a **second period from 2023 to 2026** for another **25 PhD students**. Students follow a dedicated curriculum (40 ECTS) on chemical, biotechnological and material aspects of biorefinery process streams.



BOKU PhD school ABC&M visits three Japanese Universities

Fifteen PhD students of the BOKU doctorate school ABCM ("Advanced Biorefineries - Chemistry and Materials") visited three internationally leading Japanese institutions in this field during a twelve-day excursion: **Shinshu University** (fiber science), **Kyoto University** (chemistry of lignocellulosics) / **Kyoto University - Uji Campus** (nanocelluloses and composites) and **Kyoto Institute of Technology** (processing of renewable resources).



BOKU Researcher selected as “Emerging Investigator” in the Journal of Materials Chemistry A

The Journal of Materials Chemistry A Emerging Investigators collection highlights every year the publications of young, internationally recognized researchers carrying out influential work with in future directions of materials chemistry.

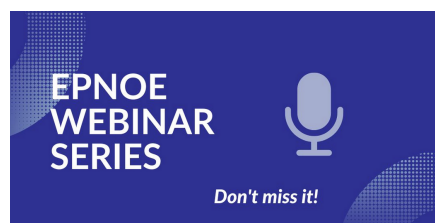
Dr. Marco Beaumont, junior research group leader from the **Institute of Chemistry of Renewable Resources at BOKU**, was **one of the 83 young researchers selected for the 2023 issue**.

Together with researchers from Finland, Sweden, and Germany, he published the review article “*Spatioselective surface chemistry for the production of functional and chemically anisotropic nanocellulose colloids*”.

In this article, the authors showcase **recent developments in the chemical modifications of nanocelluloses**, which enable highly selective and controlled modification of its surface.

Katja Heise, Tetyana Koso, Alistair W. T. King, Tiina Nypelö, Paavo Penttilä, Blaise L. Tardy and Marco Beaumont, J. Mater. Chem. A, 2022, 10, 23413–23432.

For more information: read [here](#).



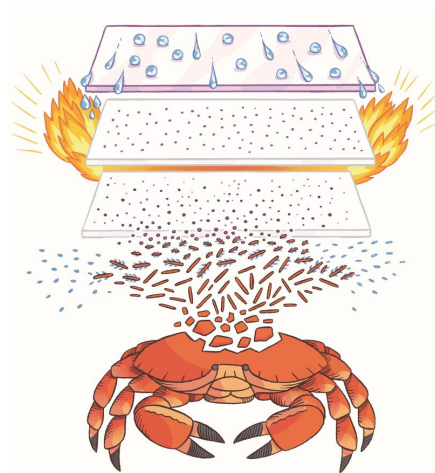
Upcoming EPNOE Webinars

The EPNOE webinars are back this month!

Our speakers are experts who aim to offer some interesting insights into relevant topics.

Visit the [webinar webpage](#) to find out more!

... Research



Can we design and fabricate superhydrophobic surfaces using natural biopolymers, with a fluorine-free approach?

At the **Surface Engineering and Fluid Interfaces Laboratory (SEFI Lab)**, in the Department of Materials Science, **University of Milano-Bicocca**, Italy, we have addressed this challenge in a recent publication on *Carbohydrate Polymers*: "Chitosan-based coatings with tunable transparency and superhydrophobicity: A solvent-free and fluorine-free approach by stearoyl derivatization."

For more information, visit [this webpage](#).

Illustration by Héloïse Chochois.

Open Positions

Postdoc/Research Associate (m/f/d) – Biobased Membranes TU Freiberg Germany

The aim of the project is to fabricate reactive membranes based on natural resources for applications in water remediation, biomedicine and catalysis. The junior group starts as a newly established (starting February 2023) team at TU Freiberg. The group therefore searches for a highly motivated early-stage (ideally max. 4 years after completing the PhD) researcher with a background in natural or material sciences and technology. In selected cases, e.g. with specific, postdoc-equivalent experiences in the project's research field, also applications without a previously completed PhD might be considered.

For more information click [here](#).

- Start date: From 01.04.2023 or later
- Deadline to apply: February 15th 2023
- Contact e-mail: Dr. Katja Heise - Katja.Heise@extern.tu-freiberg.de

PhD candidates for the doctoral school Advanced Biorefineries: Chemistry & Materials (ABC&M) University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU, Austria)

TOPICS:

Analysis, modification, and valorization of lignin from different sources
Modification and analysis of cellulose for material applications
Analysis and utilization of recycled cellulose fibers for spinning applications
Isolation, modification, and analysis of aquatic biomass for packaging

For more information click [here](#).

- Start date: As soon as possible
- Deadline to apply: February 28th 2023
- Contact e-mail: antje.potthast@boku.ac.at

Recent Scientific Publications of EPNOE Members

Check out the recent scientific [publications of our members!](#)

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For more information, please contact us at contact@epnoe.eu

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