

TO POLAND FOR SCIENCE

SPP Meetup Warsaw

4 November 2023



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EVENT AGENDA

Friday, November 3rd, 16:30 - 19:30 CET
IDEAS NCBR: Chmielna 69, 00-801 Warsaw

16:30 - 17:00 Doors open

17:00-17:10 **Welcome and Host Introduction Session**

17:10 - 17:45 **Discussion panel - IDEAS: Innovation, Discovery, and Exchange Among Scientists**

- Noor Ullah (IDEAS NCBR)
- Przemysław Musiański (IDEAS NCBR)
- Agnieszka Ławrynowicz (Poznan University of Technology)
- Tomasz Włodarski (Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics Polish Academy of Sciences)
- Karolina Weryńska (Polonium Foundation)

17:45 - 19:30 Evening Refreshments and Networking

Saturday, November 4th, 9:00 - 17:30 CET
Pałac Staszica, Nowy Świat 72, Warsaw

9:00 - 9:30 Registration and Coffee

9:30 - 10:20 **WORKSHOP: Strategies for Effective Outreach by Zuzanna Mazurek**

10:20 - 10:30 Coffee Break (Registration cont.)

10:30 - 10:45 **Official Event Opening**

- Agnieszka Gawda & Karolina Weryńska (Polonium Foundation)
- Prof. Natalia Sobczak (Polish Academy of Sciences)
- Karolina Zdrodowska (Dyrektorka, UM Warszawa)

10:45 - 11:25 **OPENING KEYNOTE: Alvaro Véliz Osorio (Riverlane)**

11:25 - 12:00 **Speaker session I: Science and Technology**

- Shumaila Razzaque (Institute of Physical Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences)
- William J. Pearson (National Centre for Nuclear Research)

12:00 - 13:30 Lunch and Group Photo

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13:30 - 14:00	Speaker session II: Humanities & Social Sciences <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Giulio Fornaroli (Jagiellonian University)● Joanna Pottle (Humanity in Action)
14:00 - 14:50	Navigating Research Funding Programs and Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Katarzyna Pietruszyńska (Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange)● Bartosz Wawrzynów (Foundation for Polish Science)● Katarzyna Bester-Ostrowska (National Science Center)● Joanna Błogowska (Polish Academy of Sciences)
14:50 - 15:00	Exploring Polish-International Academic Partnerships: Sudipta Seal (University of Central Florida)
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee Break
15:30 - 15:35	Polonium Mentoring: Ewa Garbarz
15:35 - 16:05	Speakers session III: Life Sciences <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Priyanka Dahate (Małopolska Centre of Biotechnology)● Tinotenda Mangadze (Poznań University of Life Sciences)
16:05 - 16:50	CLOSING KEYNOTE: Cecilia Winata (International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology in Warsaw)
16:50 - 17:00	Closing remarks
18:00 - 21:00	Networking Evening and Dinner at Paloma (Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie 47)

WORKSHOP



Zuzanna Mazurek

Strategies for Effective Outreach

Zuzanna is an expert in communication, storytelling, and team efficiency. With over a decade in public relations and a background working with major brands, Zuzanna is the go-to person for enhancing your communication skills.

Zuzanna is a certified business coach, trainer, and former President of the International Coach Federation (ICF) in Poland. Her expertise includes behavior and communication styles, team roles, and motivation.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/zuzanna-mazurek/>

OPENING KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Alvaro Véliz Osorio

Riverlane

Alvaro Véliz Osorio is a theoretical physicist from Guatemala. He has master's degrees in Theoretical Physics and Mathematics from Utrecht University, Netherlands and a PhD in Physics from the Instituto Superior Tecnico, Portugal. He held research positions at the Mandelstam Institute of Theoretical Physics in South Africa, Queen Mary University of London, and Jagiellonian University. In 2019 Alvaro transitioned into industry as an innovation consultant supporting early-stage quantum technology firms. Over the last three years, he led the quantum practice at Zaz Ventures, where he and his team helped quantum startups raise over €100M. By supporting innovative teams in their journey to the market, he discovered what he truly loves doing: helping brilliant people turn their ideas into reality. Now, he works as the head of technology partnerships at Riverlane.

LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/alvaro-veliz-osorio-45036413/>

CLOSING KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Cecilia L. Winata

International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology

Dr. Cecilia Winata obtained her Bachelor's degree in Biology at the National University of Singapore. In 2009, she obtained her PhD in 2009 from the National University of Singapore under the supervision of Profs. Gong Zhiyuan and Vladimir Korzh. She then joined the Genome Institute of Singapore as a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Dr. Sinnakaruppan Mathavan, where she picked up genomics and applied them to study gene regulation in maternal to zygotic transition and functional characterization of the Zic3 transcription factor. Since 2014, she became a Max Planck/IIMCB group leader at the International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology in Warsaw, Poland. Her lab studies transcriptional regulation and epigenetics during heart development, as well as post-transcriptional regulation of maternal mRNAs in early embryonic development in zebrafish.

Lab Twitter: [@ZebraFishLab](https://twitter.com/ZebraFishLab)

LikedIn: [linkedin.com/in/cecilia-winata-31442958](https://www.linkedin.com/in/cecilia-winata-31442958)

STEM TALKS



Shumaila Razzaque

Institute of Physical Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences

Dr. Shumaila Razzaque is an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Physical Chemistry of the Polish Academy of Sciences. She received her PhD in 2017 from the Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China. Shumaila has been awarded a best researcher award in 2017 by the Science Council of Huazhong University of Science and Technology. After her PhD journey, she joined UK-Nano Energy Materials Research Centre (2018-2021) as a postdoctoral research fellow. Besides her research activities, Shumaila has had the opportunity to work as a teacher at the University of Management and Technology, where she has taught Master's students. Currently, she is working as a research fellow under the PASIFIC program. Her main research interests are the development of microporous polymers and their composites for the purpose of adsorption and catalysis.

LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/shumaila-razzaque-0b59634a>

STEM TALKS



William J. Pearson

National Centre for Nuclear Research

Dr. William J. Pearson is an astrophysicist originally from the UK. He gained his Master's degree from Imperial College, London, UK, in physics, with his dissertation looking at galaxies that are extremely bright in infrared wavelengths and supervised by Dr. David Clements. After finishing his degree in, Dr. Pearson moved to the Netherlands for his PhD. William undertook his PhD in the Netherlands Institute for Space Research and The University of Groningen under Prof. Floris van der Tak and Dr. Lingyu Wang. Dr Pearson's PhD focused on what causes galaxies to form stars and introduced him to merging galaxies and artificial intelligence. After receiving his PhD in late 2019, William moved to Poland in early 2020 to work in the National Centre for Nuclear Research (NCBJ), continuing his work on using artificial intelligence to study and understand merging galaxies. While at NCBJ, Dr. Pearson received an OPUS grant from the Polish National Science Centre, to aid his work using artificial intelligence, as well as becoming a Foundation for Polish Science START laureate and a recipient of a young scientist stipend from the Polish Ministry of Science and Education in 2022.

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/william-pearson-7459b1182

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES TALKS



Giulio Fornaroli

Interdisciplinary Center for Ethics, Jagiellonian University

Giulio Fornaroli is a Polonez Postdoctoral Fellow at the Interdisciplinary Center for Ethics, Jagiellonian University. He works across moral, political, and legal philosophy.

He is currently pursuing a project on the ground and content of corrective duties: he tries to understand what it means for a moral agent to commit and to correct a wrong and how (liberal-ish, democratic) states can legitimately incorporate corrective practice within the law. He further investigates whether it makes sense to correct historical wrongs.

He obtained a PhD in political theory at University College London School of Public Policy in 2019 and spent two years as a postdoctoral fellow at the Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas in Mexico City.

Twitter handle [@GiulioFornaroli](https://twitter.com/GiulioFornaroli)

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES TALKS



Joanna Pottle

Humanity in Action

Joanna Pottle is an American artist, educator, and researcher based in Kraków, Poland, and serves as the Network and Community Engagement Manager for Humanity in Action (HIA Inc). She is an alumna of the U.S. Fulbright Program to Poland (2019-2020/21), the Kosciuszko Foundation and Humanity in Action (2022-23). She holds a BFA in Studio Art, BA in Art History with an Art Education Track, earning an MA at the Jagiellonian University (2020-2022) to research the intersection of art in public space, cultural / dissonant heritage, collective memory and identity, and democracy.

Joanna has worked and exhibited internationally including a US Embassy in Poland grant (2020-21) to engage the art and culture sector in the US and Poland remotely during COVID-19, the International Mark Rothko Painting Symposium (Latvia, 2021), and The Old School Residency (Bulgaria, 2022), US Department of State Exchange Alumni's Citizen Action Diplomacy Fund (CDAF, 2023) to facilitate art and discussion based workshops to connect migrant and non-migrant communities.

Her studio practice combines abstract mixed media techniques including painting, printmaking, drawing, and installations and her research primarily investigates the intersection of mapping, public art and space, contemporary art, post-colonial and post-soviet/communist studies, democracy and pluralism, tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and collective memory and identity, with educational work focused on multicultural contexts.

Linkedin:

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LIFE SCIENCES TALKS



Priyanka Dahate

Małopolska Centre of Biotechnology

After finishing Masters in Biochemistry from the University of Hyderabad, India, She worked as a Project-Junior Research Fellow (JRF) at CSIR-CCMB, Hyderabad, India to understand the proof-readers of translation. After a brief stint as a guest researcher at ZMBH, Heidelberg, Germany, she got interested in the ubiquitin biology and joined for the doctoral studies at Malopolska Center of Biotechnology, Jagiellonian University, Krakow through a very prestigious Implementation PhD Program in collaboration with Captor Therapeutics, Wrocław. She is working at the interface between industrial and academic research groups. She is working towards understanding the mechanistic aspects of the protein degradation machines for developing small molecules to target specific proteins for degradation.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/PriyankaDahate>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/priyanka-dahate/>

LIFE SCIENCES TALKS



Tinotenda Mangadze

Poznan University of Life Sciences

Dr. Tinotenda Mangadze is a freshwater ecologist with a strong academic background and a passion for understanding and preserving aquatic ecosystems. She obtained her Master's degree from Chinhoyi University of Technology, Zimbabwe, in Aquatic Ecology. After finishing her Master's degree, Dr. Tinotenda Mangadze was awarded the prestigious Organization for Women in Science in the Developing World (OWSD) PhD fellowship Award to study at Rhodes University, South Africa. Her PhD work focused on using biomonitoring techniques for ecological assessment of a temperate river system in South Africa. In her PhD work, Tinotenda collaborated with several esteemed researchers across Africa, and she managed to publish her research findings in top local and international peer review journals.

After receiving her PhD in late 2019, Tinotenda got accepted for a postdoctoral position at University of KwaZulu-Natal under the National Research Foundation (NRF): Earth Systems Science Research Programme (ESSRP) (2020-2021) of South Africa, furthering her contributions to the field of aquatic ecology.

In 2022, Dr. Mangadze's commitment to freshwater ecology research led her to the Ulam NAWA Programme, where she continues her valuable work in assessing the global impact of climate change and human activities on freshwater ecosystems. She conducts this research at Poznan University of Life Sciences in Poznan, Poland.

LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/tinotenda-mangadze-2ab88067](https://www.linkedin.com/in/tinotenda-mangadze-2ab88067)

GUEST SPEAKER



Sudipta Seal

University of Central Florida

Sudipta Seal joined the Advanced Materials Processing and Analysis Center and UCF in 1997. He has been consistently productive in research, instruction and service to UCF since 1998. He has served as the Nano Initiative coordinator for the vice president of research and commercialization. He served as the director of AMPAC and the NanoScience Technology Center from 2009 to 2017. Seal is currently the chair of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, as well as a Pegasus Professor and a University Distinguished Professor.

PARTNER TALKS - FUNDING LANDSCAPE



Katarzyna Pietruszyńska

Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange

Coordinator of grant programmes supporting the international mobility of researchers. She has been working with the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA) since 2018. As the coordinator for the Polish Returns programme, she is responsible for its overall management. She has also a strong background in R&D grants management, a peer review process, technology assessment, innovation support and foresight research.



The Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (Polish: Narodowa Agencja Wymiany Akademickiej, NAWA) is a governmental agency in Poland established to carry out tasks related to the academic mobility between Poland and other countries. NAWA provides both Polish and foreign students, researchers and higher education institutions with scholarships and grants in four different scopes: programs for students, for scientists, for institutions and Polish language programs. List of current funding opportunities and details can be found on the [NAWA's website](#).

PARTNER TALKS - FUNDING LANDSCAPE



Bartosz Wawrzynów

Foundation for Polish Science

Project Coordinator at the FNP Foundation for Polish Science, and an experienced senior researcher with a demonstrated history of working in the biotech industry, and research background in Life Science and STEM sectors.



The Foundation For Polish Science (Polish: Fundacja na rzecz Nauki Polskiej, FNP) is a non-governmental, non-political, non-profit institution which pursues the mission of supporting science. It is the largest source of science funding in Poland outside of the state budget. Foundation For Polish Science supports research groups and individual scientists – regardless of the citizenship of candidates – through individual prizes, grants and scholarships awarded by FNP, including the Prize of the Foundation for Polish Science (so called “Polish Nobel”). List of current funding opportunities and details can be found on the [FNP's website](#).

PARTNER TALKS - FUNDING LANDSCAPE



Katarzyna Bester-Ostrowska

National Science Centre

Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities, in performance studies. Since 2021 she works as Scientific Coordinator at the National Science Center. Previously, she has worked for four years as a Foreign Affairs Officer at the Jagiellonian University. She combined work in scientific diplomacy with activity as theater and dance researcher, lecturer at the Jagiellonian University, theater expert, critic and curator.



NARODOWE CENTRUM NAUKI

The National Science Centre (Polish: Narodowe Centrum Nauki, NCN) is a governmental grant-making agency responsible for providing financial support for the conduct of basic science research in Poland and various programs to assist scientists throughout their careers. The National Science Center finances research projects in the field of fundamental, basic, and applied research. List of current funding opportunities and details can be found on the [NCN's website](#).

PARTNER TALKS - FUNDING LANDSCAPE



Joanna Błogowska

Polish Academy of Sciences

Prior to joining the Excellence in Science Department of the Polish Academy of Sciences in August 2016, she worked at several European and international organizations, such as the European Commission (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Unit), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).



The Polish Academy of Sciences (Polish: Polska Akademia Nauk, PAN) is a Polish state-sponsored institution of higher learning. Headquartered in Warsaw and with over 70 years of tradition, PAN is responsible for spearheading the development of science across the country by a society of distinguished scholars and a network of research institutes. List of current funding opportunities and details can be found on the [PAN's website](#).

DISCUSSION PANEL

IDEAS: INNOVATION, DISCOVERY, AND EXCHANGE AMONG SCIENTISTS



Noor Ullah

Ideas NCBR

Postdoctoral Research Scientist at IDEAS NCBR, explores areas like Game Theory, Graph Theory and Complex Networks, Social Network Analysis, and Ethical AI, striving to contribute significantly to these domains amidst the dynamic environment of his institute and his inspiring team.



Przemysław Musiański

IDEAS NCBR

A computer science professor at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, leader of the Computer Graphics research group at IDEAS NCBR. The group focuses on developing innovative techniques and methodologies in the field of computer graphics.

DISCUSSION PANEL

IDEAS: INNOVATION, DISCOVERY, AND EXCHANGE AMONG SCIENTISTS



Tomasz Włodarski

Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics Polish
Academy of Sciences

Department of Bioinformatics at the Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics Polish Academy of Sciences, his scientific focus lays on unravelling the complexities of protein co-translational folding and expand into the implications of ribosome evolution.



Agnieszka Ławrynowicz

Poznań University of Technology

Associate Professor at the Poznan University of Technology in AI and data science, a researcher with a passion to engineer knowledge ranging from knowledge acquisition, to its modelling and processing, and combining machine learning with symbolic approaches such as knowledge graphs.

POLONIUM MENTORING



"If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants."

~ Isaac Newton

POLONIUM MENTORING



Join as a Mentor *if you*

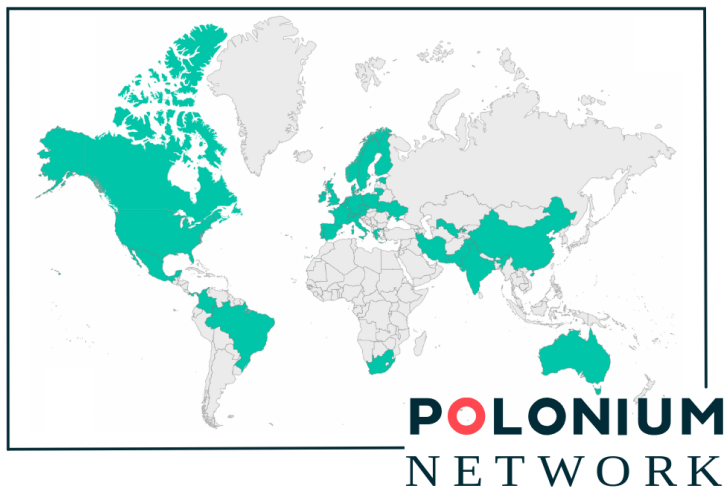
- are a skilled professional with a great knowledge of your field
- want to become a Leader and establish your own team
- want to learn new, translational skills
- love meeting other professionals of diverse backgrounds
- appreciate peer-to-peer mentoring and networking
- believe that you can help others navigate their career

Join as a Mentee *if you*

- seek guidance as an expat researcher
- explore new projects
- need tips in grant applications
- anticipate career transition
- plan a postdoc
- aim to establish your own research group



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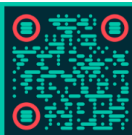
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Polonium Network is a platform that connects researchers worldwide, fostering collaboration, information exchange, and job opportunities while championing inclusivity and Polish identity.

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Polonium Foundation is an independent non-profit NGO. We are turning Polish brain drain into brain circulation by unlocking the potential of Polish research diaspora. We connect its members at our events, research the community, and provide policy recommendations. Our community gathers highly skilled professionals working in academia and industry, all around the world. We are creating a community that fosters collaboration, exchange of ideas, and sharing of knowledge.



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ORGANIZING TEAM



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*Vice-President and CBO
SPP Meetup Warsaw coordinator*



Agata Dymarska

Scientific Content Officer



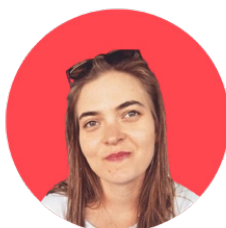
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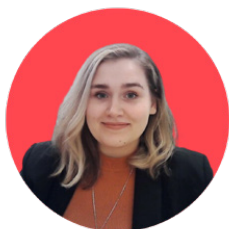
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CCO

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