

Lorena DIÉGUEZ – CV

Group Leader, Medical Devices, International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory

Education/Training

2012 PhD Cum laude BioNanoEngineering, University of Barcelona & IBEC, Spain

2007 M.Sc. Nanoscience & Nanotechnology, University of Barcelona, Spain

2005 B.Sc. Physics, University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain

A. POSITION AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Positions and Employment

2018- to date Group Leader, INL, Portugal

2018- to date CEO, RUBYnanomed

2020-2021 Health Cluster Coordination Team, INL, Portugal

2014-2018 Staff Researcher, International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory, Portugal

2010-2013 Research Associate, Ian Wark Research Institute, UniSA, Australia

2009-2010 Lecturer, Electronics Department, UB, Spain

2007-2009 Postgraduate Research Scholarship, Electronics Department, UB, Spain

2006-2007 Visiting Scientist, Laboratory of Biosensors and Bioelectronics, ETH, Switzerland

2005-2007 Research Assistant, Electronics Department, UB, Spain

2004-2005 High school teacher, Barreiro High School, Spain

2003-2005 IT Assistant, Engineering School, USC, Spain

Career History

Since 2005 I have been dedicated to full time research in five different institutions: The University of Barcelona (UB) in Spain, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zürich (ETH) in Switzerland, the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC) in Spain, the University of South Australia (UniSA) in Australia, and the International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory (INL) in Portugal. I undertook my PhD between the Electronics Department at the UB and the Nanobioengineering Laboratory at the IBEC, with Prof. Mauricio Moreno and Dr. Elena Martínez as supervisors. I was awarded a PhD scholarship by the UB (only 2 scholarships are given by department per year). I completed my PhD research in September 2010 at the University of Barcelona (UB). My thesis received a Cum Laude award and a European Mention. While completing my PhD research, I received an award from the UB to go on an internship to the ETH, which I did in 2006. Since my visit produced very interesting results, the ETH offered me a short-term contract as a Visiting Scientist to further extend our collaboration in 2007, under the supervision of Prof. János Vörös. While writing my PhD thesis I applied for a postdoctoral position in the Ian Wark Research Institute at UniSA to work in a national funded project under the supervision of A/Prof. Benjamin Thierry. I joined the Wark in October 2010 for a 3-year contract. As Prof. Thierry's group was newly established, the first year of my contract as a Research Associate was greatly dedicated to setting up the new Bionanoengineering Laboratory at the Wark. In January 2014 I joined INL as Staff Researcher, where my first goal was to set up the microfluidics workstation in the cleanroom and the microfluidics laboratory. In January 2018 I incorporated a spin-off company RUBYnanomed to exploit commercially our system for non-invasive monitoring of cancer progression. Since May 2018 I am Leader of the Medical Devices research group. Currently, my research at INL is focused in the development of medical devices and mainly devoted to Translational Medical Research in close collaboration with Hospitals. My research activities are currently focused on the development of integrated nanobiosensing microfluidic diagnostics systems for the isolation and characterization of disease biomarkers from body fluids of patients, as well as in the development of organ-on-a-chip systems to model diseases. In 2012 I had a career interruption, when I went on maternity leave for 5 months, returning to work in a 0.6 time equivalent for 2 months before going back full time. In the second half of 2014 I went on maternity

leave for 5 months. Subsequently I returned to work full time from January 2015. In the second half of 2018 I went on maternity leave for 5 months, returning to work full time from January 2019.

Award

2022 Finalist EU Women Innovators
2020 INL Coordinator Health Cluster
2019 Chair WG Medical Devices, ETPN
2018 Vice-chair WG Business, ETPN
2017, 2020 INL Staff Council
2016 INL Nomination for Excellent Performance
2016 INL Conflict of Interest Committee
2013 UniSA ECR Development Program
2012 European Doctorate Award
2012 PhD Cum Laude, UB
2008 Travel grant, UB
2007 PhD scholarship BRD-UB
2007 Travel grant, UB
2006, 2007 Conference travel grant, ESF

