

> IUBMB TI – Your Monthly Minutes

Your favorite monthly newsletter



Hello everyone and Welcome in 2023!

Let's start together into another fruitful year for the IUBMB TI! Really glad to see you again. Today we will hear from Nefeli Boni-Kazantzidou a member of the FEBS region and, additionally get some insights into Greek culture ;)

> *Who Nefeli is*

I am born in
Greece

–

I do my PhD
in Proteomics



My hobby,
playing the
Piano

–

I Love to learn
languages



I studied Chemistry and afterwards, I did my Master in Molecular Biomedicine in Athens. Although I was always very interested in Biochemistry and my Master thesis was focused on Molecular Biology, at the end I found a strong love for Proteomics.



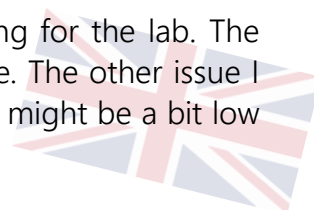
Currently, I study a model of lung cancer which is caused by a mutation in the EGFR gene. We use mostly cell culture systems to investigate pathways involved in drug resistances in these carcinoid cells using mass-spectrometry.



Since you are from Greece, what should we see when going there? I would advise to visit Rhodes – it is a big island, thus, there you can find everything, from beaches to a medieval town – your opportunity to dive into Greek culture. In terms of food, try Souvlaki! In fact, street food is what you should go for, and be assured it is not as expensive as around here in Liverpool.

Nefeli, since you are currently living in the UK, I have to ask, how is it going with science regarding the Brexit?

Actually, we are allowed to wait quite a bit after ordering anything for the lab. The same counts for packages I want to exchange my family in Greece. The other issue I see is that PhD stipends for students are not too high, hence, they might be a bit low on money at the moment (especially given the high study fees).



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About the TI

I remember very vividly that not too long after we founded the IUBMB TI, we were organizing the event with David Baker (code name Fold IT who doesn't remember ;) I really enjoyed designing the posters.

Still, during the event everything was quite stressful, especially taking care of the Q&A. However, that is a great opportunity to learn how to handle lots of information at once and bundle two or three questions into one.



Our Purpose

In my opinion, we should identify the needs of trainees. We should find out, where the gaps are! Which resources are trainees all around world missing? Just think about doing research on a budget, that is something limiting for many scientists. However, differences in the research-environment are great around the world. We are there to offer support and fill these gaps. Let's give all of them a voice!



Stay tuned

What I am looking forward to in the near future, is our FEBS-FAOBMB project about science communication. Actually, I have once been volunteering for the Greek science festival (scico.gr) for 6 months. Making students aware that science communication is not an ivory tower, and that exchange (even amongst disciplines) is something really important.



An idea for you

Let me (the author) sneak in: What Nefeli points to there is very much true! Communicating science is as much a question of how to reach the public as well as others researchers. Just think about the times when you have to convince your PI to go for a project you are passionate about. To share an amazing source to learn how to pursue your journey in science communication is in fact the [Science Communication Accelerator Podcast](#) by our next speaker [Julius Wesche](#).

> *Our Future*

Having a look in our future, I would love to see that we have an online framework to guide people to resources they need. Also, it would be amazing if we could establish a funding scheme for students (which we maybe finance by sponsored events)

And that is already it for today -



- and we see next month again ;)

Trainee Initiative