

### **Curriculum Vitae**

**Name:** PhD, **Lecturer** Zorița Maria (Sconța) Diaconeasa

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**Gender:** Female, **Date of Birth:** 02.09.1984

**Research area:** Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Health& Nutrition

### **Education**

- **2014 - 2015:** Postdoctoral fellowship - Faculty of Food Science and Nutrition, UASVM, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Program POSDRU/159/1.5/S/132765
- **2012 -2013:** PhD fellowship, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, Department Food Science and Technology (Prof Monica Giusti), Ohio State University, USA
- **2012:** PhD in Biotechnology - University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca, <http://www.usamvcluj.ro/files/teze/en/2012/sconta.pdf>
- **2008 - 2010:** Master Degree-Applied Biosciences-Controlled Environmental Agriculture, UASVM, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- **2003 - 2008:** Bachelor Degree, Faculty of Horticulture, UASVM, Cluj-Napoca

### **Work (professional) experience**

- **2016 - on:** Lecturer, Biochemistry, UASVM, Cluj-Napoca
- **2019-2021:** Maternity leave
- **2013 - on:** Founder & principal investigator at *SC AroBioPharm SRL, Cluj Napoca (nutraceutical and cosmetics)*
- **2015 - on:** Senior collaborator - Romanian Center for Alternative Test Methods (ROCAM), Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- **2016 - on: Researcher** - Life Science Institute, “*Regele Mihai I al României*” Cluj-Napoca, Romania (Leading the *in vitro* experimental studies)
- **2008-2010:** Undergrad volunteer Center for Research and Development in Biotechnologies Applied in Diagnosis and Molecular Therapies, Cluj-Napoca

### **Research abroad**

- **July-August 2018:** Internship - Liquid chromatography–mass spectrometry, The James Hutton Institute, Scotland
- **July 2018, 2023:** Summer School in Applied Human Nutrition, Cambridge University, UK
- **January-March 2018:** Internship - University of Arizona Comprehensive Cancer Centre, *Chemoprevention & Biomarkers in melanoma*
- **2017 -** Wolfson Advanced Microscopy course-Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine, University of Oxford, UK
- **2012 -**Training LC-MS Resteck, New Albany, New York, USA
- **Jun 2015:** Training Episkin Academy - Replacement methods based on 3D human skin models (OECD Test guideline 439) - Skin Irritation on skin ethic RHE model, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

- **May 2008 – Oct 2008:** Scholarship - Evesham Vale Grovers Ltd. UK

#### **Technical skills and competences**

- **Phytochemistry:** solid phase extractions of plant metabolites (anthocyanins, carotenoids)
- **Analytical chemistry:** analysis of phytochemicals using LC/MS/MS and TOF/MS techniques) and evaluation of antioxidant activity (DPPH, TEAC, FRAP, ORAC, HPS assays)
- **Molecular Biology:** *In vitro* evaluation of cellular metabolism, (viability, and cytotoxicity tests) cell culture manipulation, microscopy, electrophoresis (Western blotting), immunocytochemistry staining, and the effect of polyphenols at cellular and molecular level

#### **Member in editorial boards or reviewer of the following journals:**

- Journal of Food, Nutrition and Dietetics; Food Chemistry; Journal of Advanced Nutrition and Human Metabolism; Molecules; Antioxidants; Medicina; Biomolecules, Agronomy; BMC Chemistry; OncoTargets and Therapy, Phytochemistry Letters, Food Frontiers

#### **Didactic activities**

- Over 30 Bachelor theses (6 ongoing), 4 MSc thesis and 3 Ph.D. thesis co-supervised (2 ongoing)

#### **Visibility and prestige**

- Member of International Academy of Nutrition educators, Romanian Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, American Chemical Society, *International Liposome Society*, *Biochemical Society*, Slow Food Transylvania

#### **Organizing committee member**

- 22<sup>nd</sup> International Conference” Life Sciences for Sustainable Development, September 2023
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the FA1006-COST Action "*Plant natural Products: From science to bioproducts*", Cluj-Napoca (Romania), September 2012
- 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop on Alternative Methods, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, June 2015
- 8th Congress - Pigments in Food, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, July 2016

#### **Visibility/Publications:**

- 6 chapters in International Publishing and 6 scientific/university teaching books
- Over 80 papers in ISI journals, 20 BDI (h-index: WoS=25, Google Scholar=29, Scopus=26)
- Led 3 national grants (340.000 EUR) and she created a team of young researchers
- Member/responsible of more than 15 National projects, relevant for the topic
- 10 invited presentations in peer-reviewed (inter)national conferences and courses:
  - ✓ 4th Annual International Summit: Conference on Medical and Public Health Nutrition Education and Research, 19-20 July, University of Cambridge, UK (top 3 ARWU Ranking)
  - ✓ 8th International Conference on Polyphenols and Health, Québec City, Canada
  - ✓ 30th Conference of the European Colloid and Interface Society 4th to 9th September 2016, University of Rome “La Sapienza”

- More than 40 contributions to international conferences (4 as oral communications)
- **RO Patents** OSIM (5) and gold/silver/bronze medals in different international exhibitions
- Commissions of trust: 3 Editorial Board Member (Biomolecules, Antioxidants, Food Frontiers, PhD. committee membership; student's symposium evaluator; reviewer for < 30 ISI journals
- 10 UEFISCDI prizes for ISI articles published (e.g. LWT, Antioxidants, Molecules, Phytochem)
- Gold Medal-International Conference of Young Scientists, Germany, April 2017 (as student's coordinator)
- 2 travel awards in international conferences
- The Award for Excellence "Teaching Assistant of the Year 2018 -2020", granted by USAMV Council

Cluj-Napoca

20.07.2023

Zorița Diaconeasa,

