



EU-LIFE Woman Postdoc Mentoring Programme

Short bios of mentors



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Professionally, I followed a quite traditional academic career path. After completing my PhD at ETH Zurich I left my home country Switzerland for a postdoc at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), and started my own group in Belgium in May 2021. I'm currently heading a lab of 10 researchers (1 technician, 1 bioinformatician, 2 postdocs, 2 PhD students and 4 undergrads) and teach courses on biochemistry and genetics. My research focuses on development of cutting-edge CRISPR technologies for high-throughput genome engineering and functional genomics in microbes, and application of these technologies in the model eukaryote *S. cerevisiae* to study complex eukaryotic genetics.

As a mentor I think my strengths are good listening capabilities, help with identifying strengths and weaknesses and with making decisions, and open and honest feedback. I only recently started my own research group, and while I am still developing my leadership I can share my experience of how to navigate that process. The past 2 years have also taught me a lot about the importance of a good work-life balance and personal strategies to improve it despite a demanding career.