

Curriculum vitae, Amelia–Elena Rotaru

Personal

Born: 4 March 1980

Address: University of Southern Denmark, Dept. Biology, Campusvej 55, Odense, 5230, DK;

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Degrees

09/06/2009

Dr. Rer. Nat. in Marine Microbiology (*magna cum laude*); University of Bremen and Max Planck Institute of Marine Microbiology, Bremen, DE

13/04/2005

M.Sc. in Marine Microbiology, International Max Planck Research School of Marine Microbiology, Bremen, DE

06/2002

B.Sc. in Biochemistry (4 yr. program) University of Bucharest, RO

Career

2018 – now

Associate Professor (*tenured*) SDU, DK

2017 (6 mo.)

Guest Ass. Professor, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA

2015 – 2018

Assistant Professor, SDU, DK

2013 – 2015

Postdoc FNU Fellow, SDU (Thamdrup-lab), DK

2010 – 2013

Postdoc, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (Lovley-lab), USA

2009 – 2010

Postdoc, iNANO, AU (Meyer-lab), DK

2003

Researcher, Institute of Biochemistry of the Romanian Academy, RO

Research grants and management: Received external funding for 5 different projects as main-investigator or as work-package leader totaling circa 32 million Dkk.

2015 – 2019

DFP Sapere Aude Start Up grant (7 million Dkk); Role: PI

2015 – 2018

Novo Nordisk individual research grant (2.5 million Dkk); Role: PI

2014 – 2019

InnovationsFond (ca. 20 million Dkk); Role: WP-leader

2013 – 2015

FNU MOBILEX individual research grant (2 million Dkk); Role: PI

Other roles on grants: Co-investigator, mentorship and hosting

2019 – 2022

Academy of Finland grant awarded to Lotta Purkamo at the Geological Survey Finland (My role: mentor, host at SDU and Co-I)

2020 (pending)

Portuguese Foundation of Science and Technology, PIs: Gilberto Martins and Madalena Alves at the University of Minho (My role: Co-I)

Academic awards, honors and fellowships

2016

Fyens Stiftidsende Prize for Researcher of the year (25 000 Dkk.)

2016, 2019

Invited lecturer travel grants; by SIAM (2016) and EMBO (2019)

2013

Individual postdoc fellowship; Dale T. Mortensen AIAS (*declined*); Århus University, DK (2.4 million Dkk, over 3 years)

2006

Teaching award; International Max Planck Research School, DE

2003 – 2005

M.Sc. fellowship; Max Planck Society, DE (ca. 100 000 Dkk)

2000 – 2002

Excellence study fellowship II (top of the class), Uni. Bucharest, RO

1998 – 1999

Excellence study fellowship I (3rd best entrance exam of 1000 applicants), Uni. Bucharest, RO

Publications, conferences and outreach

35 publication, of which **8 highly cited** (top 1% according to ESI, WoS). Of the 35, 32 were peer reviewed and the other 3 were invited: a perspective for Science, a book chapter, and an editorial
h-index: 22 (according to Google Scholar), so 22 papers cited at least 22 times

3990+ citations on 34 papers (according to Google Scholar)

25+ invited talks at conferences & universities, of which **4 keynotes**

Invited lecturer: international Ph.D. summer school EMBO Breathless Microbes (2019)

Outreach: invited public lecture for the Fyens Stiftstidende award; interviews with media and featured on various media outlets; author of a behind the paper blog for the *Nature Research Community*; manager of the Nordcee Twitter account, promoting new publications.

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Supervision

2020 – now **Currently:** 1 guest postdoc (KU), 2 B.Sc. thesis students & 1 lab tech
2015 – 2019 **Supervised:** 3 postdocs, 2 Ph.D. students, 1 B.Sc. thesis & 6 B.Sc. research projects
Co-supervised (with AU): 1 M.Eng. student on a project initiated in my lab
Past **Lab supervised:** 3 Ph.D., 2 M.Sc., 1 B.Eng., & 4 B.Sc. students.

Teaching, lab instructor and teacher training

2019 **Ph.D. summer school** EMBO's "Breathless Microbes", NL
2015 – now **Teaching:** 4 undergraduate courses for natural science students, SDU, DK.
Instructor: 1 lab course; SDU, DK
Past **Teaching:** 2 undergraduate courses (SDU, DK), yearly invited graduate lectures on interspecies interactions (MPI, DE); **Instructor:** yearly graduate lab courses in prokaryotic biology; **Tutor:** thermodynamics (MPI, DE)

Training

2020 **Leadership Training** Sessions with a personal coach, SDU
2019 **Ph.D. supervision course**, SDU
2016 – 2017 **Lecturer Training Program** including courses in active learning and teaching (2016); interactive lecturing (2016) and Questioning for learning and assessment (2017), SDU

Professional Services

- **Member Sustainability Committee**, Natural Science Faculty, SDU (2020 – now)
- **Organizer Departmental Lecture Series**, Dept. of biology, SDU (2019 – now)
- **Editor**, 5 *Frontiers in* journals (Guest 2012 – 2019; From 2020 editor for *Front. Microbiol.*)
- **Peer reviewer** for *Science*, *PNAS*, *ISME Journal*, *AEM*, *mBio Water Research*, *Scientific Reports*, *Bioelectrochemistry* and others see [Publons Reviewer account](#) (2011 – now)
- **Grant assessor** for the European Research Council (REA-FET Open); National Science Foundation (USA); German Research Foundation; Dutch Research Council (2017 – now)
- **Referee or chair Ph.D. defenses:** 5 in Denmark (2 DTU, 1 AU, 1 SDU) and 3 abroad (1 Uni. Queensland, AU; 1 Uni. Helsinki, FI; and 1 Radboud Uni., NL) (2016 – now)
- **Ph.D. committee member**, 1 Uni. Cincinnati, USA (2020 – 2025)
- **Qualifying exam opponent**, 1 AU (Dept. Bioscience; 2019)
- **External Referee B.Sc. & M. Sc. projects:** 1 at SDU (Dept. Biology), 1 at AU (Dept. Bioscience) and 2 at KU (Dept. Geography)

Research expeditions: Baltic Sea transect, Sweden (2014); and Lago La Cruz, Spain (2014)

Scientific focus areas: Electrobiological • Methanogen physiology • Sustainable biotechnologies • Interspecies interactions • Bioremediation • Biodeterioration • Microbial mediated iron corrosion •

International relations: I have a diverse international network built by studying, working, or participating in expeditions in different countries (DK, DE, USA, ES and SE).

- This is reflected in a large number of **trans-national publications** (see map).
- My network has recently expanded due to the visibility of my research (PT, FI, more Universities in the US like Stanford and Cincinnati), resulting in **joint grant applications** (see collaboration grants), **conferences invitations** and inclusion in **Ph.D. thesis committees**.

