

Going Global: the PhD Programs of the Agripolis Campus, University of Padua

26 February 2026

Sala Agricoltura, Corte benedettina, Legnaro

This workshop brings together the four doctoral programs of the Agripolis Campus of the University of Padua – Animal and Food Science, Crop Science, Land Environment Resources and Health, Veterinary Science and Food Safety - for a full day dedicated to the international dimension of doctoral education, research, and academic collaboration.

Conceived as a first pilot initiative, the event aims to establish a shared space for dialogue and exchange among the doctoral programs of the Agripolis Campus and a selection of invited international doctoral programs, with the long-term objective of developing stable and structured activities focused on internationalisation.

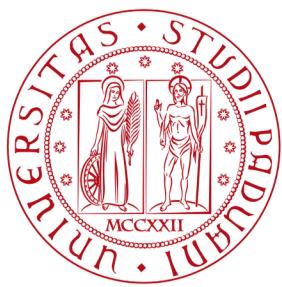
The workshop will open with a set of transversal keynote lectures to provide a common framework and to stimulate discussion across disciplines, fostering a shared vision of internationalisation in doctoral training.

Then, all the PhD programs will be given the opportunity to present their research focus, training structures, and international opportunities to promote both incoming and outgoing mobility, encouraging PhD candidates to undertake research periods abroad while attracting international doctoral students and early-stage researchers to the Agripolis Campus and the University of Padua.

The event aims to enhance the visibility and value of Italian PhD candidates by encouraging their active participation in international research environments. At the same time, it represents an opportunity to showcase the research activities carried out at the University of Padua to a broader audience, including external stakeholders, visiting scholars, and potential international collaborators.

Link for registration: <https://forms.gle/AVCQnS7r9YLJG3sw5>

Funding: CARIPARO project, Internationalization of the PhD Programs of the University of Padua (Call 2025)



PROGRAM

9:30-10:00 Welcome and Institutional Greetings

10:00-11:00 Invited talks

10:00-10:20 - The story of the story of domestication

Greger Larson, Director, Palaeogenomics & Bio-Archaeology Research Network, School of Archaeology, University of Oxford

10:20-10:40 - Clade 2.3.4.4b highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 virus: an emerging public health threat

Alice Fusaro, European Union Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease SCS5 – Research and Innovation, Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie, Legnaro, Padua

10:40-11:00 – Early detection across scale: Remote sensing for the early detection and mapping of the European spruce bark beetle outbreaks in the South-Eastern Alps"

Aurora Bozzini, Department of Agronomy, Food, Natural resources, Animals and Environment, University of Padua

11:00-12:00 Going global: Research areas and projects of the PhD programs in Animal and Food Science

11:30-11:40 PhD Program: Animal and Food Science

Angela Trocino, Department of Agronomy, Food, Natural resources, Animals and Environment, University of Padova

11:40-11:50 PhD Program: Ciencia y Tecnología de la Producción Animal

Juan Francisco Asturiano Nemesio, Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain

11:50-12:00 PhD Programs: the University of Sydney

Sabrina Lomax, The University of Sydney, Australia

12:00-12:10 The omics revolution in dairy cow welfare

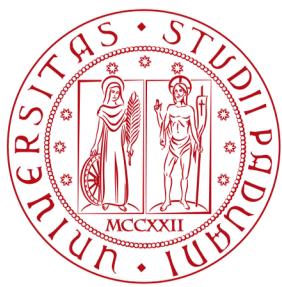
Alice Vanzin, PhD Animal and Food Science, University of Padova

12:10 – 12:20 Adaptations of agro-pastoral livestock systems to the management of multiple risks

Morgane Virapin, PhD Animal and Food Science, University of Padova

12:20-12:30 Ocean Warming and Emerging Contaminants: Physiological and Molecular Reproductive Impacts on Marine Species

Fátima Fernández García, Ph.D. Program Ciencia y Tecnología de la Producción Animal



12:00-13:00 Going global: Research areas and projects of the PhD programs in Land, Environment, Health and Resources

12:00-12:10 The PhD Program Land, Environment, Resources and Health (LERH)

Marco Borga, Department of Land, Environment, Agriculture and Forestry, University of Padova

12:10-12:20 The PhD Program Fundamental and System Biology

Jorge Castro, University of Granada, Spain

12:20-12:30 Future changes in extreme precipitation under a warming climate: added value of km-scale climate models

Rashid Akbary, PhD LERH. University of Padova

12:30-12:40 From machine learning to large language models to advance food systems

Aref Sepehr, PhD LERH. University of Padova

12:40-13:00 Discussion

13:00-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:30 Going global: Research areas and projects of the PhD programs in Crop Science

14:30-14:40 PhD Program: Crop Science

Massimo Faccoli, Department of Agronomy, Food, Natural resources, Animals and Environment, University of Padova

14:40-14:50 PhD Program: Food chemistry, Biophysical chemistry

Stanislav Obruca, Institute of Food Science and Biotechnology, Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic

14:50-15:00 PhD Program: Evolution, Ecosystems, Microbiology, Modelling (E2M2)

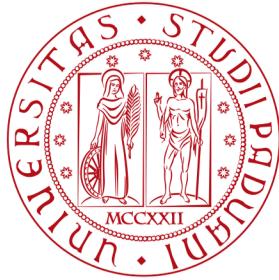
Mathias Choquer, Microbiology, Adaptation and Pathogeny (MAP), University of Lyon 1, France

15:00-15:10 PhD Program in Agricultural Sciences

George Manganaris, Department of Agricultural Sciences, Biotechnology & Food Science, Cyprus University of Technology, Cyprus

15:10-15:20 PhD Programs: Auburn University

Steven Hague, Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences, Auburn University, USA



15:20–15:30 Innovative Approaches to Industrial End-of-Life Bioplastics Management: an Italy–South Africa Biotechnological Journey

Daniele Vezzini, PhD Crop Science, University of Padova

15:30-15:40 Mity Research, Mighty Journey: An International PhD Story

Ahmad Dayoub, PhD Crop Science, University of Padova

15:40-15:50 Thermophilic Aneurinibacillus: A New Player in Polyhydroxyalkanoate Research

Veronika Řeháková, PhD Program Food chemistry, Biophysical chemistry

15:50-16:00 At the interface between a necrotrophic fungus and its host plant: the role of the fungal cell wall in adhesion and immune evasion mechanisms

Marion Fresse, PhD Crop Science, University of Lyon, France

16:00-16:20 Coffee break

16:20-17:10 Going.global: Research areas and projects of the PhD programs in Veterinary Science and Food Safety

16:20-16:30 PhD Program: Veterinary Science and Food Safety

Massimo Milan, Department of Comparative Biomedicine and Food Science, University of Padova

16:30-16:40 Doctoral Training Programme Ghent University: Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

Ilias Chantziaras, Department of Internal Medicine, Reproduction and Population Medicine. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University, Belgium

16:40-16:50 - Molecular investigation of aMPV circulation in wild and domestic birds. A model virus to understand transmission pathways over different interfaces.

Baston Riccardo, PhD Veterinary Science and Food Safety, University of Padova

16:50–17:00 Reproduction in the queen revisited: insights into ovulation, hormonal control, reproductive behaviour and vaginal cytology

Maria Pereira, PhD Veterinary Science and Food Safety, University of Padova

17:00–17:10 My PhD journey: working with the next generation of biosecurity products

Julia Da Mata Goes Silva, Doctoral Training Programme Ghent University - Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

17:10-17:30 Discussion and conclusions