

THE SCIENTIFIC LEADERSHIP



Piero Carninci, geneticist, Head of **Genomics Research Centre** – Functional Genomics Programme.

He is currently Team Leader of the Laboratory for Transcriptome Technology and Deputy Director of the RIKEN Centre for Integrative Medical Sciences in Yokohama (Japan). He completed his studies in Biology at the University of Trieste. From 1990 to 1995 he invented and developed various technologies for DNA sequencing.

He has been living in Japan for the past twenty years with a long career at the RIKEN Institute where he contributed to the development of CAGE technology for DNA sequencing.

His activity within the Genomics Centre will be focussed on the mechanisms that govern gene expression and on how heritable genetic information is translated into phenotypic traits.

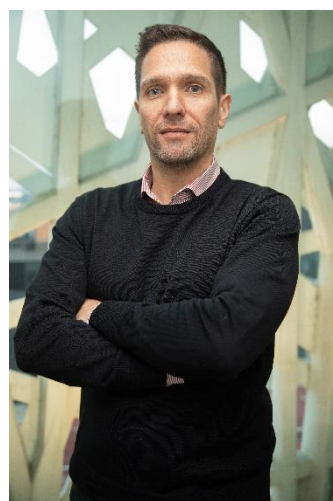


Nicole Soranzo, geneticist, Head of the **Genomics Research Centre**, Medical and Population Genomics Programme.

She is also a senior group leader at the Wellcome Sanger Institute and a professor of human genetics at the University of Cambridge.

After graduating in biological sciences at the University of Milan, she obtained a PhD in genetics and biotechnology at the University of Dundee in Scotland and then carried out research activities at prestigious Italian and international institutes and universities. Since 2007 she has been working at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute (Cambridge, UK) and since June 2012 she has led the Human Complex Traits group.

Her research focuses on the application of large-scale genomic analysis to understand how genetic variations are associated with cardio-metabolic and immune diseases and how they interact with non-genetic and environmental stimuli.



Alessandro Vannini, molecular biologist and biochemist, Head of the **Structural Biology Research Centre**.

He holds a PhD in biochemistry and molecular biology from University of Rome Tor Vergata (2006). In 2012 he joined the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) in London as deputy head of the Division of Structural Biology.

After almost eight years spent in the United Kingdom as principal investigator and deputy head of division at the Institute of Cancer Research in London, from September 2019 he has been operating in Milan at Palazzo Italia to support director Iain Mattaj in the development of the Structural Biology Research Centre whose objective is to acquire a precise knowledge of the structure of macromolecules and of their organisation within cells in order to understand their functioning.



Gaia Pigino, biologist, Associate Head of the Structural Biology Research Centre.

She graduated in natural sciences with a doctorate in biology from the University of Siena. She was previously responsible for a research group at the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics in Dresden, Germany. Her laboratory uses cryo-EM microscopy - a powerful technology that reveals the three-dimensional structure of molecules - to understand the assembly of the cilium and any defects that can cause kidney, liver and central nervous system problems.

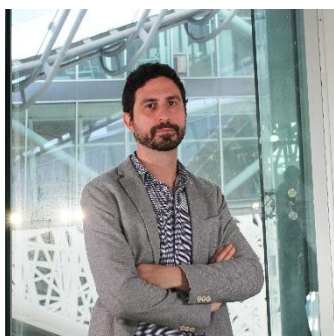


Giuseppe Testa, molecular biologist, is Head of the **Neurogenomics Research Centre**.

He is full professor at the Department of Oncology and Hemato-Oncology of the University of Milan, previously he was director of the Stem Cell Epigenetics Laboratory of the European Institute of Oncology.

He holds a doctorate from the European Molecular Biology Laboratory and a master's degree in bioethics and bio-law from the University of Manchester. In 2006, he was co-founder of the European School of Molecular Medicine's interdisciplinary doctoral program in "Life Sciences: Fundamentals and Ethics."

Giuseppe Testa is the coordinator of the "LifeTime for COVID" project which will analyse the effects of the Covid-19 virus on single cells at DNA and RNA level and on organoids. "LifeTime for COVID", launched by the European LifeTime consortium, brings together over 120 leading scientists from over 90 European research institutes.



Andrea Sottoriva, is the Head of the Computational Biology Research Centre. Previously he was the Director of the Centre for Evolution and Cancer at the Institute of Cancer Research in London, where he also covered the role of Deputy Head of the molecular pathology division.

After graduating in computer science at the University of Bologna in 2006, he obtained a master's in computational studies at the University of Amsterdam in 2008. During his studies he carried out research activity at the National Institute of Nuclear Physics and High Energies (NIKHEF) in the Netherlands where worked on experiments of the ANTARES neutrino telescope.

His research focuses on developing new computational approaches to measure the evolutionary process of cancer in patients, with the aim to

forecast the development of the disease and designing new treatments that aim at controlling their resistance to drugs.



Emanuele Di Angelantonio, doctor, statistician and epidemiologist, is Head of the Health Data Science Centre.

Trained in cardiovascular medicine in Italy and France, Emanuele is currently professor of clinical epidemiology at the University of Cambridge. He has made fundamental contributions to clinical epidemiology and applied health research and is the author of numerous studies published in important international scientific journals. In 2020, he was included in Clarivate's "Highly Cited Researchers 2020" list, which recognizes the authors of the most influential research papers around the world.

Human Technopole – Media Relations

SEC Newgate via Ferrante Aporti 8, Milano - press@fht.org

Laura Arghittu – 335 485106 – arghittu@segrp.com

Federico Ferrari – 347 6456873 – ferrari@segrp.com

Elisa Barzaghi – 347 5448929 – barzaghi@segrp.com

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