

CRISTINA ULIVIERI CURRICULUM VITAE ET STUDIORUM

Associate professor in Molecular Biology, Department of Life Sciences, University of Siena.

Education and training

1996	Degree in Biological Sciences Graduates “Magna cum laude” University of Siena
1995-1996	Experimental thesis work in Molecular Biology Chiron Vaccines, Siena
1997	Professional qualification as Biologist
2001	Master in Evolutionary Biology, University of Siena
2004	PhD Degree in Evolutionary Biology, University of Siena
2013	Professional qualification as person responsible for directing animal experiments. FELASA (Federation of European Laboratory Animal Science Associations) certification
2025	National Scientific Qualification Molecular Biology 05/E2- Full professor

Attendance to practical course

2000	Practical course of flow cytometry -Becton Dickinson, Milano
2002	SICiCS Workshop on cytometry –I.R.C.C.S. Roma
2003	Confocal microscopy and applications -Leica Microsystem, Siena
2007	IV Interactive Course in Cytometry -SIICA, Modena
2013	Laboratory Animal Science (LAS) Course VI (FELASA accredited course, code C) EMBL, Monterotondo, Italy

Important academic appointments

2002-2003	Lecturer in Molecular Genetics and OGM, University of Siena
2003-2004	Lecturer in Recombinant DNA Technology, University of Siena
2003-2005	Lecturer in Electronic Microscopy, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry laboratory, University of Siena
2003-2006	Lecturer in Molecular Biology, Master in Bioinformatics “Alberto del Lungo”, University of Siena
2005-2021	Assistant professor of Molecular Biology, University of Siena. Teaching activities: Molecular Biology and Recombinant DNA, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Molecular Biology of Immune Response, Molecular Genetics, Molecular Biology.
2007-2010	Member of Teaching Committee First cycle degree in Biological Sciences, University of Siena
2005-2009	Member of PhD program Evolutionary Biology, University of Siena.
2005-present	Thesis supervisor (57 Thesis: First cycle degree, Biological sciences. Second cycle degree, Cellular and Molecular Biology, Biology; 19 Doctoral Thesis: Evolutionary Biology and Life Sciences PhD programs).
2009- present	Member of PhD program in Life Sciences, University of Siena
2012- 2023	Lecturer in PhD program in Life Sciences, University of Siena
2012-2014	Member of Teaching Committee Second cycle degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Siena
2013- present	Member of the Animal Welfare Body, University of Siena
15-01-2018	External examiner of PhD thesis, dell'Ecole Doctorale Sciences de la Vie et de la Sante, Agronomie, Environment, University of Clermont Auvergne, France
2022-present	Associate Professor of Molecular Biology, University of Siena. Teaching activities: Molecular Biology, Epigenetics and Epigenome.
2017-2023	Coordinator of faculty-student joint committee (Commissione Partetica Docenti Studenti) for quality assurance activities of Degree courses, Department of Life Sciences, University of Siena
2023-2024	Member of faculty-student joint committee (Commissione Partetica Docenti Studenti) for quality assurance activities of Degree courses, Department of Life Sciences, University of Siena
2024-present	Delegate for Research, Department of Life Sciences, and Member of the University Research Committee (2024–2027), University of Siena
2026	Member of the University Quality Assurance Board (2026–2029), University of Siena

Other appointments

2019- present	Responsible for Animal Welfare, Animal Care, and the Operation of Equipment at the Centralized Animal Breeding and Housing Facility (“Nuovi Istituti Biologici”), Polo Scientifico di San Miniato, University of Siena. Appointed by the Italian Ministry of Health.
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Research Experience

1995-1996	Internship, Research center IRIS, Chiron Vaccines, Siena
1997-1998	Fellow researcher, University of Siena, Department of Evolutionary Biology, University of Siena
1999-2001	Fellow researcher, Federazione Italiana per la Ricerca sul Cancro (FIRC), Department of Evolutionary Biology, University of Siena
07-1999	Visiting scientist, The Basel Institute for Immunology (Lab. Dr. Ed Palmer), Switzerland
10-2000	Visiting scientist, The Basel Institute for Immunology (Lab. Dr. Ed Palmer), Switzerland
2000-2003	Ph.D. Student at the Department of Evolutionary Biology, University of Siena
2002-2004	Staff researcher/Post-doctoral researcher, Department of Evolutionary Biology/Life Sciences, University of Siena
2005-2021	Permanent position as Assistant Professor in Molecular Biology (SSD BIO/11), Department of Life Sciences, University of Siena
2022-present	Associate Professor in Molecular Biology (05/E2), Department of Life Sciences, University of Siena

Research Activities

She has extensive expertise in molecular and cellular immunology with a focus on signal transduction pathways in lymphocyte activation, differentiation and apoptosis and dysregulation of these processes in immune and pathogen-related diseases. She has expertise in flow cytometry applied to immunology as well as in the *in vivo* analysis of the immune response in the mouse. Her research has been focused on the molecular characterization of antigen receptor and chemokine receptor signaling in lymphocytes and dysregulation of these processes by drugs (NSAIDs, statins) and pathogens (*H. pylori*, *B. anthracis*, *cytomegalovirus*, *hepatitis C virus*, *human Immunodeficiency virus*) as well as to the identification of signaling dysfunctions in immune related diseases (Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, Multiple Sclerosis, Common Variable Immunodeficiency, B Cell Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia). Recently she focused her research on the EAE mouse model of MS as well as in the study of neuroinflammation, addressing the contribution of astrocytes to this process. Her interest in anti-cancer therapy has resulted in novel information on the immune response induced by vaccine or chemo-immunotherapy in lung and colorectal cancer patients and in the demonstration of pro-apoptotic and anti-proliferative effects of pyrrolonaphthoxazepines compounds and novel cyclic peptide. Moreover, she recently focused her research on the molecular mechanism underlying the host response to GMMA-based vaccine.

Research support

from 1997-present: Active member of the research unit coordinated by Prof. Cosima Baldari funded by European Union, Italian Ministry of Education, University & Research, Italian Association for Cancer Research, Telethon, Italian Association for Multiple Sclerosis.

Principal Investigator (PI) of the Research contract funded by GSK Vaccines S.r.l. “Deep characterization of the molecular Mode of Action of host responses to GMMA vaccines” (2019-2022), “Advanced in vitro Human Immune Profiling of GMMA-based vaccines” (2022-2025) and “Comparative Study of Adult and Infant Immune Responses to new Vaccine Formulations Using Advanced Human In Vitro Models” (2025-2028). Grant from Istituto Toscano Tumori (ITT)-Regione Toscana GRANT PROPOSAL 2013. Project: “Overcoming chemo-resistance: elucidation of the molecular mechanism of pyrrolo-1,5 benzoxazepines (PBOXs) as innovative anticancer agents” (Unit 2 coordinator); Grant from University of Siena (PAR 2006). Project: “COX2: a molecular target for cancer therapy?” and Young Researchers program 2001. Project: “Functional analysis of Grb2 binding sites on the Shc adaptor in T cell activation and proliferation” Principal Investigator

She published 73 full papers in international peer-reviewed journals

(<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Ulivieri+C.&sort=date&size=100>), *h*-index: 27, citations: 2175 (Scopus)

Memberships

2024-present Società Italiana di Biofisica e Biologia Molecolare (SIBBM)

Peer reviewing

13-10-2020-present

Review Editor Frontiers in Immunology and Neurology section Multiple Sclerosis and Neuroimmunology

03-07-2024-present

Associate Editor Frontiers in Molecular Biosciences per la sezione Molecular Diagnostics and Therapeutics

Ad hoc Reviewer for peer reviewed journal including Cardiovascular Drugs and Therapy, Cell Communications and Signalling, Cells, European Journal of Inflammation, Frontiers in Immunology, Frontiers in Neurology, Human Immunology, Immunology and Cell Biology, Immunology Letters, International Immunopharmacology, International Journal of Cancer, International Journal of Immunopathology and Pharmacology, International Journal of Molecular

Sciences, Journal of Clinical Medicine, Journal of Immunological Sciences, Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology
Journal of Proteome Research, Medical Sciences, PlosOne, Scientific Report, Tissue and Cell.

Scientific Event Organization

Co-organizer of the conference “21st SIBBM Seminar Frontiers in Molecular Biology: Molecular Mechanisms of Cell Response to Biological Sensing”, held in Siena, Italy, 16–18 June 2026.

Third Mission activities

From 2016

Tutor for incoming students. Department of Life Sciences. University of Siena
Seminars at high school

2002-2014

Academic advisor for incoming students. Project “Nuovi-Per-Corsi di Qualità” Department of Life Sciences. University of Siena