

**VERBALE N. 02 DEL CONSIGLIO DEL DIPARTIMENTO DI BIOSCIENZE,
BIOTECNOLOGIE E BIOFARMACEUTICA DEL GIORNO 30.01.2020**

Il giorno **30 gennaio 2020** il Consiglio del Dipartimento di Bioscienze, Biotecnologie e Biofarmaceutica, convocato con nota prot. n. 117-II/9 del 23.01.2020 ed integrato con nota email del 27.01.2020, si è riunito alle ore 09,30 nell'Aula 1, ubicata al 1° piano del Palazzo dell'ex Facoltà di Scienze Biotecnologiche - Labo-Biotech – Via G. Fanelli n. 204 – Bari, per discutere e deliberare il seguente Ordine del Giorno:

Approvazione Verbali del 19.12.2019 e del 09.01.2020;

Comunicazioni del Direttore;

- 1. Selezione pubblica per la chiamata di un professore universitario di II fascia, ai sensi dell'art. 18, comma 4, della legge 240/10, SSD BIO/10 – Biochimica, settore concorsuale 05/E1- Biochimica Generale, codice concorso PA 334/2019: proposta motivata in ordine alla chiamata del vincitore;**
- 2. Approvazione della relazione Tecnico-Scientifica sull'attività di ricerca e didattica del Dott. Vito Porcelli, relativa al I anno di attività come ricercatore a tempo determinato di tipo b), ai sensi dell'art. 12 del D.R. n. 2819 del 05.08.2015 - sostituito dal Regolamento emanato con D.R. n. 841 del 14.03.2018;**
- 3. Copertura degli insegnamenti per l'Anno accademico 2019/2020:**
 - a) affidamento di incarichi di insegnamento a seguito di bando di vacanza;**
 - b) proposte di variazione alla copertura degli insegnamenti;**
 - c) definizione dei docenti di riferimento dei Corsi di Studio gestiti dal Dipartimento;**
- 4. Offerta formativa 2020-2021: modifiche agli ordinamenti didattici;**
- 5. Cultori della materia;**
- 6. Variazioni al Bilancio di Previsione sezionale 2020;**
- 7. Discarico inventariale e cessione a terzi di apparecchiature obsolete e non funzionanti;**
- 8. Individuazione referenti del Dipartimento e gruppi di lavoro: nomina referente del Dipartimento per il Job Placement;**
- 9. Nomina tutor per assegnisti di ricerca;**
- 10. Richieste di stipula di contratti di lavoro autonomo;**
- 11. Nulla osta per assunzione di incarichi di insegnamento;**
- 12. Richieste assegnisti per svolgimento di attività di supplenza presso la scuola: parere del Dipartimento;**
- 13. Nulla osta per affidamento di incarichi extra istituzionali a docenti del Dipartimento;**
- 14. Richieste di autorizzazione a frequentare il Dipartimento;**
- 15. "Illumina 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative": adempimenti in merito;**
- 16. Varie ed eventuali.**

Il Consiglio risulta così composto:

Presente (P), Giustificato (G), Assente (A)

	Docenti I Fascia		(P)	(G)	(A)
1	BARILE	Maria	X		
2	CALAMITA	Giuseppe	X		
3	COTECCHIA	Susanna	X		
4	DELL'AQUILA	Maria Elena	X		
5	FIERMONTE	Giuseppe	X		

6	NICCHIA	Grazia Paola	X		
7	PALMIERI	Luigi	X		
8	PESOLE	Graziano			X
9	VALENTI	Giovanna	X		

	Docenti II Fascia		(P)	(G)	(A)
10	AGRIMI	Gennaro			X
11	ATTIMONELLI	Marcella		X	
12	BRUNI	Francesco	X		
13	CASSANO	Giuseppe	X		
14	CASTEGNA	Alessandra	X		
15	CIANI	Elena	X		
16	COLELLA	Matilde		X	
17	DEBELLIS	Lucantonio	X		
18	GISSI	Carmela	X		
19	LIUZZI	Grazia Maria		X	
20	LOGUERCIO POLOSA	Paola	X		
21	PANARO	Maria Antonietta	X		
22	PROCINO	Giuseppe	X		
23	RESHKIN	Joel Stephan			X
24	ROBERTI	Marina	X		
25	SCALERA	Vito	X		
26	STORELLI	Maria Maddalena	X		
27	TAMMA	Grazia	X		

Entra alle 10,30

	Ricercatori		(P)	(G)	(A)
28	CALVELLO	Rosa	X		
29	CARDONE	Rosa Angela		X	
30	CAROPPO	Rosa	X		
31	CHIMIENTI	Guglielmina		X	
32	CIANCIULLI	Antonia	X		
33	CORMIO	Antonella	X		
34	DE GRASSI	Anna		X	
35	D'ERCHIA	Anna Maria	X		
36	DE PALMA	Annalisa	X		
37	DE VIRGILIO	Caterina	X		
38	DI MISE	Annarita	X		
39	DI NOIA	Maria Antonietta	X		
40	FRATANTONIO	Deborah	X		
41	GUARAGNELLA	Nicoletta	X		
42	GUERRA	Lorenzo	X		
43	LA PIANA	Gianluigi		X	
44	LATRONICO	Tiziana	X		
45	LEZZA	Angela Maria Serena		X	
46	MAGNIFICO	Maria Chiara	X		

47	MALLAMACI	Rosanna	X		
48	MAROBPIO	Carlo	X		
49	MELELEO	Daniela Addolorata	X		
50	MILANO	Serena	X		
51	PESCE	Vito	X		
52	PICARDI	Ernesto		X	
53	PIERRI	Ciro		X	
54	PISANI (*)	Francesco		X	
55	PISANO	Isabella	X		
56	POETA	Luana			X
57	PORCELLI	Vito	X		
58	RAINALDI	Guglielmo	X		
59	RANIERI	Marianna			X
60	SCARCIA	Pasquale	X		
61	VOLPICELLA	Mariateresa	X		
62	VOZZA	Angelo			X

Entra alle 10,15

Entra alle 09,40

	Personale Tecnico/Amm.vo		(P)	(G)	(A)
63	DE LEONARDIS	Francesco			X
64	EVANGELISTA	Angela	X		
65	GRAVINA	Roberta	X		
66	LONGO	Rosanna	X		
67	MOLA	Maria Grazia		X	
68	STORELLI	Arianna		X	

Entra alle 10,30

	Rappresentanti degli Studenti		(P)	(G)	(A)
69	ABBATANGELO	Elena			X
70	ACQUAVIVA	Francesca	X		
71	BRUNO	Francesco			X
72	CANNARELLA	Marco Santo			X
73	DIGREGORIO	Alessandro	X		
74	GALLUZZI	Giovanni			X
75	LADISA	Francesco		X	
76	MANDORINO	Camilla			X
77	OSELLA	Chiara			X
78	PICCIRILLO	Giulia			X
79	SURIANO	Clelia			X
80	TRIPEDI	Vincenzo			X

	Rappresentanti dei Dottorandi		(P)	(G)	(A)
81	LAERA	Luna			X
82	TARANTINO	Nancy	X		

Entra alle 09,55

(*) in congedo

TOTALE COMPONENTI: N. 82; PRESENTI N. 51 GIUSTIFICATI N. 14 ASSENTI N. 17.

In assenza del Coordinatore del Dipartimento, la Dott.ssa Silvana De Leo, Responsabile dell'U.O. Servizi Generali, Logistica e Supporto informatico, che partecipa normalmente alle sedute del Consiglio offrendo il suo supporto alla verbalizzazione, assume, *per relationem*, le funzioni di Segretario verbalizzante.

Il Direttore, verificata la presenza del numero legale, alle 09,35, dichiara aperta la seduta.

Si dà inizio ai lavori.

Approvazione Verbali del 19.12.2019 e del 09.01.2020;

Il Direttore sottopone all'approvazione del Consiglio del Dipartimento il verbale relativo alla seduta del 19.12.2019.

Il Consiglio, con l'astensione degli assenti alla suddetta riunione, approva il verbale relativo alla seduta del 19.12.2019.

In merito al verbale testé approvato, il Direttore riferisce che con nota del 13.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 167-I/13 del 29.01.2020), a firma dei Proff.ri Luigi Palmieri, Giovanna Valenti, Giuseppe Calamita, Grazia Paola Nicchia, Graziano Pesole, Susanna Cotecchia, Maria Elena Dell'Aquila, Antonio Frigeri, Giuseppe Corriero, Angelo Tursi, Nicoletta Archidiacono, Teodoro Miano, Donato Gallitelli, Giacomo Scarascia Mugnozza, Maria Grano, Domenico Otranto e Canio Buonavoglia, i docenti afferenti ai Dipartimenti di didattica e di ricerca della Macroarea 2, firmatari in data 24.09.2019 della proposta di conferimento del titolo di Professore Emerito alla Prof.ssa Maria Svelto, chiedono che la loro proposta sia considerata ritirata.

Il Consiglio prende atto.

Il Direttore sottopone, quindi, all'approvazione del Consiglio del Dipartimento il verbale relativo alla seduta del 09.01.2020.

Il Consiglio, con l'astensione degli assenti alla suddetta riunione, approva il verbale relativo alla seduta del 09.01.2020.

Comunicazioni del Direttore;

- A) con nota prot. n. 5108-III/13 del 20.01.2020 (ns. prot.A. n. 95-III/13 del 21.01.2020), da parte della Direzione Ricerca, Terza Missione e Internazionalizzazione, è stata data informativa che il Presidente dell'ANVUR ha emanato, con Decreto n. 1 del 03.01.2020, il bando VQR 2015/2019 che disciplina i criteri e le modalità del processo di valutazione della qualità della Ricerca e della Terza Missione delle Istituzioni;
- B) con nota prot. n. 5110-II/3 del 20.01.2020 (ns. prot.A. n. 94-II/3 del 21.01.2020), da parte del Capo di Gabinetto del Rettore, è stato trasmesso il DR n. 154 del 20.01.2020, con il quale è stato decretato che alla Prof.ssa Antonietta Curci, Professore Ordinario di questa Università, sia affidata la responsabilità della Linea di azione relativa ai servizi agli studenti e al diritto allo studio;
- C) con nota prot. n. 4321-III/14 del 17.01.2020 (ns. prot.A. n. 93-III/14 del 20.01.2020), da parte della Direzione Ricerca, Terza Missione e Internazionalizzazione, è stata data informativa che il Senato

Accademico di questa Università, nella seduta del 12.12.2019, ha approvato l'Accordo Quadro tra l'Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro (Dipartimento di Bioscienze, Biotecnologie e Biofarmaceutica) e l'Istituto di Ricerca Pediatrica "Città della Speranza", previa modifica dell'art. 11, come di seguito riportato:

"Il presente Atto è assoggettato a registrazione solo in caso d'uso, ai sensi del D.P.R. 26.04.1986 n. 131; le spese relative saranno a carico del richiedente";

- D) con nota Prot. n. 2788-VII/11 del 14.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 52-VII/11 del 14.01.2020), della Direzione Risorse Umane, è stata comunicata l'assenza giustificata della Dott.ssa Guglielmina Alessandra Chimienti, ricercatore confermato presso questo Dipartimento, a decorrere dal 04.01.2020 e fino al 02.02.2020, per complessivi 30 giorni;
- E) con nota Prot. n. 3092-VII/4 del 14.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 78-VII/4 del 16.01.2020), della Direzione Risorse Umane, è stata data comunicazione che, in esito alla nota del 30.12.2019, la Dott.ssa Daniela Loiacono, cat. D1 - area amministrativa gestionale, può svolgere, a titolo gratuito, l'attività di vice Presidente della Domus Sabina Coop. Edilizia, sita in Bari, senza preventiva autorizzazione da parte dell'Amministrazione centrale, così come stabilito dall'art. 4/d del "Regolamento sulle incompatibilità e sul rilascio delle autorizzazioni al conferimento di incarichi retribuiti esterni al personale dirigente, tecnico amministrativo e C.E.L. dell'Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro";
- F) con nota Prot. n. 2808-VII/4 del 14.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 60-VII/4 del 14.01.2020), della Direzione Risorse Umane, è stata trasmessa copia del D.R. n. 40 del 10.01.2020, con cui, a decorrere dal 15.01.2020, è stata disposta la mobilità del Prof. Pietro Favia da questo Dipartimento al Dipartimento di Chimica;
- G) con nota Prot. n. 6000-VII/2 del 22.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 105-VII/2 del 22.01.2020), della Direzione Risorse Umane, è stata data comunicazione che il Sig. Giuseppe Gasparre, lavoratore in possesso dei requisiti per il trattamento di pensione anticipata "quota 100", cesserà dal servizio in data 01.12.2020;
- H) con nota (ns. Prot.A. n. 58-III/13 del 14.01.2020), da parte della Direzione Offerta Formativa e Servizi agli Studenti - Sezione Servizi agli studenti - U.O. Servizi agli studenti e collaborazioni studentesche, è stato trasmesso il Bando di concorso: "Una vita per la legalità, gli animali e l'ambiente" - Premio Maurizio Santoloci, figura storica di impegno istituzionale e personale per gli animali e l'ambiente, prematuramente scomparso. Il bando richiede ai laureati ed ai ricercatori di tutta Italia di inviare una loro ricerca a carattere scientifico per gli animali. Verrà premiata una ricerca presentata negli ultimi due anni accademici o in quello in corso che abbia caratteri di novità e di proposta e che sia confluita in tesi di laurea, di dottorato o specializzazione o in una pubblicazione universitaria a carattere scientifico, anche monografica, che sia dedicata alla posizione degli animali nella società ed alla promozione dei loro diritti in ottica giuridica, economica o sociale, in linea con i principi dello Statuto della LAV (www.lav.it/chi-siamo/statuto). I 4 migliori lavori saranno premiati

da una Commissione tecnica altamente specializzata in materia. Il concorso ha già ottenuto il patrocinio del Ministero dell'Ambiente e dell'Associazione Nazionale Magistrati;

I) con nota Prot. n. 2709-IX/3 del 13.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 106-VII/12 del 22.01.2020), della Direzione Generale, è stata data comunicazione che sono state elaborate le procedure di sicurezza da adottare nei Laboratori biologici e in ogni ambiente dove le attività possono comportare l'esposizione ad agenti biologici o a materiali biologici potenzialmente pericolosi. Il rispetto di tali procedure consentirà di attuare buone prassi e comportamenti finalizzati al miglioramento delle condizioni di sicurezza e di tutela della salute nei luoghi di lavoro in attuazione con quanto previsto dal Regolamento per la tutela della salute e di sicurezza nei luoghi di lavoro dell'Università degli Studi di Bari (D.R. n. 1144 del 18.04.2018).

Il Consiglio prende nota.

Il Direttore apre, quindi, la discussione sul primo punto all'O.d.G.:

1. Selezione pubblica per la chiamata di un professore universitario di II fascia, ai sensi dell'art. 18, comma 4, della legge 240/10, SSD BIO/10 – Biochimica, settore concorsuale 05/E1-Biochimica Generale, codice concorso PA 334/2019: proposta motivata in ordine alla chiamata del vincitore;

Entra, alle ore 09,40, il Dott. Vozza.

Il Direttore riferisce che, con D.R. n. 201 del 24.01.2020, sono stati approvati gli atti della procedura di valutazione per la chiamata di n. 1 posto di professore universitario di II fascia, bandita con D.Dec. n. 334 del 17.07.2019, presso questo Dipartimento per il SSD BIO/10 - Biochimica, settore concorsuale 05/E1 (codice concorso PA 334/2019), dal quale risulta che il **Dott. Francesco Massimo Lasorsa** è il candidato più qualificato.

Il Direttore invita il Consiglio a deliberare in ordine alla chiamata del Dott. Francesco Massimo LASORSA, ricordando che il voto è limitato alla sola componente di professori di I e II fascia e che la chiamata deve avere luogo a maggioranza assoluta di tali componenti.

Sono presenti 8 professori di I fascia su 9 membri del Consiglio e 13 professori di II fascia su 18 membri del Consiglio.

Si svolge sul punto un dibattito nel corso del quale la Prof.ssa Cotecchia, tra gli altri, chiede ed ottiene chiarimenti in merito alla nota del MIUR - Dipartimento per la formazione superiore e per la ricerca, a firma del Capo Dipartimento Prof. Avv. Giuseppe Valditarà, inviata via email a tutti i membri del Consiglio, con la quale sono stati forniti chiarimenti in merito ai soggetti ai quali è preclusa la partecipazione a procedure di selezione riservate (**allegato A**).

"Nel corso del dibattito, interviene la Prof.ssa Barile sollevando la questione relativa alla politica di sviluppo che il settore BIO/10 vorrà adottare. La prof.ssa Barile auspica che ricercatori dell'IBIOM-CNR BARI, che di fatto è ente "fratello" all'università, possano fare rapida carriera nel CNR, così da evitare svuotamenti, e che il settore BIO/10 possa attrarre, con concorsi ai sensi dell'ART. 18 comma 4, forze nuove da realtà accademiche diversificate."

"Interviene la Prof.ssa Valenti che auspica che nel futuro i concorsi ai sensi dell'articolo 18, comma 4 della Legge 240/10, rappresentino un'opportunità per ampliare le competenze del Dipartimento rispetto a quelle già esistenti."

"Interviene la Prof.ssa Cotecchia esprimendo il suo sostegno agli auspici espressi dalle colleghe Barile e Valenti."

"Interviene la Prof.ssa Nicchia che esprime perplessità, a suo avviso, circa alcuni elementi illegali nell'intervento della Prof.ssa Barile. La Prof.ssa Barile, infatti, sollevando l'auspicio che il settore BIO/10 metta in atto una politica che non vada a "svuotare", con queste procedure concorsuali, un "ente fratello" come il CNR di Bari, di ricercatori validi come il Dott. Lasorsa, ma vada a favorire forze nuove da realtà accademiche diversificate, esprime implicitamente l'auspicio che le procedure di reclutamento dell'Università di Bari siano condotte a scapito dei ricercatori CNR aventi sede a Bari. La Prof.ssa Nicchia ricorda che le procedure di selezione bandite ai sensi dell'Art. 18 comma 4 sono concorsi pubblici ai quali il personale del CNR è legittimato a partecipare e pertanto anche a vincere. Così come sarebbe illegale, in nome di una "politica del settore BIO/10", condizionare le valutazioni della Commissione giudicatrice sulla base dell'afferenza del candidato, altrettanto illegale sarebbe privare i ricercatori di un Ente del diritto di partecipare a procedure di selezione di un altro Ente."

"Interviene il Prof. Marobbio il quale esprime soddisfazione per la chiamata del Dott. Lasorsa, in quanto valido ricercatore con competenze utili per la crescita del settore."

"Interviene il Direttore che evidenzia come i fatti si incaricano di dimostrare come l'assunto della Prof.ssa Barile che presuppone un legame tra il reclutamento dell'Università e quello del CNR sulla base di una presunta "politica di sviluppo del settore BIO/10", sia del tutto privo di fondamento. Il CNR determina in totale autonomia le proprie linee di sviluppo e queste non hanno né possono avere alcuna relazione con le linee di sviluppo dell'Università e tantomeno di un singolo settore scientifico disciplinare. Il CNR infatti non prevede alcun settore scientifico disciplinare ed è caratterizzato da una molteplicità di interessi scientifici che vanno ben al di là dei confini di un settore scientifico disciplinare ed in particolare del settore BIO/10 come dimostrato dal fatto che, anche recentemente, ricercatori del CNR sono risultati vincitori di procedure di selezione dell'Università per settori scientifico disciplinari diversi dal BIO/10 e, viceversa, ricercatori universitari afferenti a settori scientifico-disciplinari diversi dal BIO/10 sono risultati vincitori di procedure di selezione del CNR."

Il Consiglio, preso atto del suddetto decreto e ritenendo le competenze didattiche e scientifiche del Dott. Lasorsa perfettamente coerenti con le linee strategiche didattiche e di ricerca del Dipartimento, approva, all'unanimità degli aventi diritto al voto, la chiamata del Dott. Francesco Massimo Lasorsa nel ruolo dei professori di II fascia del Settore BIO/10 Biochimica.

La suddetta deliberazione è approvata seduta stante.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del secondo punto all'O.d.G.:

2. Approvazione della relazione Tecnico-Scientifica sull'attività di ricerca e didattica del Dott. Vito Porcelli, relativa al I anno di attività come ricercatore a tempo determinato di tipo b), ai

sensi dell'art. 12 del D.R. n. 2819 del 05.08.2015 - sostituito dal Regolamento emanato con D.R. n. 841 del 14.03.2018;

Il Direttore illustra al Consiglio la relazione presentata dal Dott. Vito Porcelli, Ricercatore a tempo determinato di tipo b) per il Settore Scientifico Disciplinare BIO/10 - Biochimica, ai sensi di quanto disposto dall'art. 12 del vigente Regolamento di Ateneo per il reclutamento dei Ricercatori con contratto a tempo determinato (DR 2819 del 05.08.2015 - sostituito dal Regolamento emanato con D.R. n. 841 del 14.03.2018).

Relazione tecnico-scientifica sull'attività di ricerca e didattica svolta nel periodo di riferimento: 27.12.2018 - 26.12.2019.

Ne enuclea di seguito i punti salienti:

ATTIVITÀ DI RICERCA

Il Dott. Porcelli dichiara di aver focalizzato la propria attività di ricerca sull'identificazione e caratterizzazione funzionale di mutazioni patologiche in geni nucleari codificanti per proteine mitocondriali e sulla caratterizzazione funzionale di nuovi trasportatori mitocondriali appartenenti alla famiglia dei carrier mitocondriali (SLC25). In particolare, nel periodo di riferimento ho partecipato principalmente a tre differenti linee di ricerca, la cui attività era iniziata tempo addietro e svolte in collaborazione con studiosi Italiani e stranieri.

PUBBLICAZIONI: 4 lavori pubblicati nel periodo di riferimento.

ATTIVITÀ DIDATTICA: titolare dell'insegnamento di Laboratorio di Biochimica e Tecnologie Biochimiche AA 2019-2020 (SSD BIO/10 Biochimica, Corso di Laurea Triennale di I livello, Biotecnologie Mediche e Farmaceutiche, Dip. di Bioscienze, Biotecnologie e Biofarmaceutica dell'Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro), per un totale di 56 ore (8 ore di lez. frontali + 48 di ore laboratorio).

Titolare dell'insegnamento di Biochimica I (in corso) AA 2019-2020 (SSD BIO/10 Biochimica, Corso di LM a ciclo unico in Medicina veterinaria, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro), per un totale di 65 ore (40 ore di lez. Frontali + 25 ore di laboratorio).

Il Consiglio, unanime, prende atto dei contenuti della relazione presentata dal Dott. Porcelli e l'approva.

Entra, alle ore 09,55, la Dott.ssa Laera.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del terzo punto all'O.d.G.:

3. Copertura degli insegnamenti per l'Anno accademico 2019/2020:

a) affidamento di incarichi di insegnamento a seguito di bando di vacanza;

Il Direttore illustra le domande, pervenute entro i termini posti dal Bando di Vacanza Prot. n. 27 del 10.01.2020, di seguito indicate distintamente per ciascun Corso di Laurea.

Corso di Laurea Triennale in Biotecnologie Industriali e Agro-Alimentari – Classe L-2

Corso di Laurea Triennale in Biotecnologie Mediche e Farmaceutiche – Classe L-2

Insegnamento	Modulo	Anno	Semestre	SSD	CFU Lez.	CFU Lab/E	Tot. ORE	Domande 20/01/2020	pervenute
--------------	--------	------	----------	-----	-------------	--------------	-------------	-----------------------	-----------

Inglese scientifico (facoltativo) (Corso comune ai due Corsi di Laurea)		3	2	/	3		24	c) BATES Lynell (Titolo Oneroso) 600+oneri Esperto madrelingua Inglese
---	--	---	---	---	---	--	----	--

Per il suddetto insegnamento, il Direttore, essendo pervenuta un'unica domanda, propone di affidare l'insegnamento di Inglese scientifico (facoltativo) al Dott. Bates Lynell, già affidatario del medesimo affidamento nel precedente anno accademico. L'incarico è conferito a titolo oneroso ai sensi dell'Art.4 del D.R. n.2674 del 05.06.2019, secondo trattamento orario previsto dalla delibera del Consiglio di Amministrazione nella seduta del 24/09/2014. La spesa, quantificata in 600 euro lordi al percettore oltre oneri a carico dell'amministrazione calcolati ad aliquote vigenti, graverà sui fondi disponibili in bilancio per contratti di insegnamento.

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva.

Il Direttore passa, quindi, ad esaminare la questione relativa all'insegnamento di Fisica applicata con laboratorio, riferendo che sono giunte due domande, come da tabella sotto riportata:

Fisica applicata con laboratorio (Corso comune ai due Corsi di Laurea)		1	2	FIS/0 7	7 (56 ore)	1 (12 ore di esercit az.)	68	c) BISCEGLIE Emanuele (Titolo Oneroso) 1.700+oneri Professore a contratto d) MASTROMARCO Mario (Titolo Oneroso) 1.700+oneri Assegnista di ricerca INFN - Bari
--	--	---	---	------------	---------------	---------------------------	----	--

Il Direttore propone di nominare una Commissione istruttoria per verificare la congruità dei titoli posseduti con gli incarichi da ricoprire costituita dai seguenti docenti: Prof.ssa Susanna Cotecchia, Prof.ssa Maria Elena Dell'Aquila e Prof. Roberto Bellotti e di ritornare sul punto in questione nella prossima riunione di questo Consiglio.

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva.

b) proposte di variazione alla copertura degli insegnamenti;

Entra, alle ore 10,15, la Dott.ssa Poeta.

Il Direttore introduce l'argomento ricordando che ai Proff. Gianluca Farinola e Maria Annunziata Capozzi, del Dipartimento di Chimica, erano stati affidati i seguenti insegnamenti:

L-2 (DM 270/2004) Biotecnologie Industriali e Agro-Alimentari (BIAA)															
INSEGNAMENTO										DOCENTE					
Disciplina	SSD	Anno	Sem.	Curr.	CFU					Nominativo	SSD doc.	Qual.	Dipartimento	Note	Docente di Riferimento
					Lez	Eserc	Lab	TOT	ORE						
Chimica organica con laboratorio	CHIM/06	1°	2°	IND. AGR.	7*	1		8	12	Farinola Gianluca	CHIM/06	PO	Chimica	*Corso comune con BMF	

L-2 (DM 270/2004) Biotecnologie mediche e farmaceutiche (BMF)															
INSEGNAMENTO										DOCENTE					
Disciplina	SSD	Anno	Sem.	Curr.	CFU					Nominativo	SSD doc.	Qual.	Dipartimento	Note	Docente di Riferimento
					Lez	Eserc	Lab	TOT	ORE						
Chimica organica con laboratorio	CHIM/06	1°	2°		7	1		8	68	Farinola Gianluca	CHIM/06	PO	Chimica	Corso comun con BIAA	X

LM-8 (DM 270/2004) Biotecnologie industriali ed ambientali (BIA)															
INSEGNAMENTO										DOCENTE					
Disciplina	SSD	Anno	Sem.	Curr.	CFU					Nominativo	SSD doc.	Qual.	Dipartimento	Note	Docente di Riferimento
					Lez	Eserc	Lab	TOT	ORE						
Chimica organica applicata	CHIM/06	1°	2°		5		1	6	52	Capozzi Maria Anna	CHIM/06	R	Chimica		

Con nota pervenuta via email e assunta al protocollo di questo Dipartimento al n. 134 del 24 gennaio 2020, il Prof. Farinola ha comunicato di rinunciare all'incarico sopra riportato relativo all'insegnamento di Chimica organica con laboratorio (corso comune ai Corsi di Laurea BIAA e BMF), così composto: 7 CFU=56 ore di lezioni frontali a comune tra i due CdL Triennali, mentre i CFU di esercitazioni sono divisi per Corso di Laurea, 1 CFU=12 ore di esercitazioni per il CdL Triennale in Biotecnologie Mediche e Farmaceutiche e 1 CFU=12 ore di esercitazioni per il CdL Triennale in Biotecnologie Industriali e Agro-Alimentari =tot ore 80, e di essere disponibile a coprire 1 CFU di laboratorio=12 ore di esercitazioni di laboratorio, dell'insegnamento di Chimica organica applicata per il C.L.M. BIA che, a suo tempo, era stato affidato alla Prof.ssa Capozzi.

A sua volta la Prof.ssa Capozzi, con nota pervenuta via email e assunta al protocollo di questo Dipartimento al n. 135 del 24 gennaio 2020, ha comunicato di rinunciare all'insegnamento di Chimica organica applicata per il C.L.M. BIA di 6 CFU, a suo tempo affidatole, ma di essere disponibile a coprire i 5 CFU di lezioni frontali=40 ore dei 6 CFU totali nei quali si sostanzia il suddetto insegnamento. Ella si è dichiarata, inoltre, disponibile a coprire anche l'insegnamento di Chimica organica con laboratorio (corso comune ai Corsi di Laurea BIAA e BMF), che a suo tempo era stato affidato al Prof. Farinola. Il Direttore fa presente che il Dipartimento di Chimica ha già discusso e fatte proprie le suddette proposte.

Il Direttore, anticipando la discussione del sub c) al presente punto, propone di approvare quanto testé esposto, sub condizione che per il Corso di Laurea in Biotecnologie mediche e farmaceutiche venga individuato un altro professore di I o II fascia quale docente di riferimento e che sia possibile modificare la scheda SUA per introdurre la partizione in due unità didattiche dell'insegnamento di Chimica organica applicata, come da tabella sotto riportata:

L-2 (DM 270/2004) Biotecnologie Industriali e Agro-Alimentari (BIAA)															
INSEGNAMENTO										DOCENTE					
Disciplina	SSD	Anno	Sem.	Curr.	CFU					Nominativo	SSD doc.	Qual.	Dipartimento	Note	Docente di Riferimento
					Lez	Eserc	Lab	TOT	ORE						
Chimica organica con laboratorio	CHIM/06	1°	2°	IND. AGR.	7*	1		8	12	Capozzi M.A.	CHIM/06	PO	Chimica	*Corso comune con BMF	

L-2 (DM 270/2004) Biotecnologie mediche e farmaceutiche (BMF)															
INSEGNAMENTO										DOCENTE					
Disciplina	SSD	Anno	Sem.	Curr.	CFU					Nominativo	SSD doc.	Qual.	Dipartimento	Note	Docente di Riferimento
					Lez	Eserc	Lab	TOT	ORE						
Chimica organica con laboratorio	CHIM/06	1°	2°		7	1		8	68	Capozzi M.A.	CHIM/06	PO	Chimica	Corso comun con BIAA	X

LM-8 (DM 270/2004) Biotecnologie industriali ed ambientali (BIA)															
INSEGNAMENTO										DOCENTE					
Disciplina	SSD	Anno	Sem.	Curr.	CFU					Nominativo	SSD doc.	Qual.	Dipartimento	Note	Docente di Riferimento
					Lez	Eserc	Lab	TOT	ORE						
Chimica organica applicata	CHIM/06	1°	2°		5			5	40	Capozzi Maria Anna	CHIM/06	R	Chimica		
Chimica organica applicata	CHIM/06	1°	2°				1	1	12	Farinola Gianluca	CHIM/06	PO	Chimica		

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva.

c) definizione dei docenti di riferimento dei Corsi di Studio gestiti dal Dipartimento;

Entrano, alle ore 10,30, il Prof. Agrimi ed il Dott. De Leonardis.

La questione risulta già affrontata nel sub b).

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del quarto punto all'O.d.G.:

4. Offerta formativa 2020-2021: modifiche agli ordinamenti didattici;

Il Direttore introduce l'argomento ricordando che questo Consiglio nella seduta del 26 Settembre 2019 aveva deliberato di aprire la SUA in modalità "modifica" per tutti i Corsi di Studio gestiti dal Dipartimento, fatta eccezione per il CLM in Biologia cellulare e molecolare (BCM), innovato di recente, per il quale si sarebbe proceduto in modalità "aggiorna". Tanto allo scopo di favorire la più ampia discussione sull'offerta formativa.

La Commissione Didattica di Dipartimento si è riunita più volte per discutere le possibili innovazioni da introdurre. In ultimo si sono riunite, nella giornata del 28 u.s., sia la Commissione Paritetica che la Giunta del Dipartimento.

Una particolare attenzione è stata dedicata ai Corsi di Studio dell'Interclasse di Biotecnologie (corsi L-2, LM-8 e LM-9) ed, in particolare, al CdL magistrale in "Scienze Biosanitarie"(LM-6).

Per quest'ultimo corso di studio, nel ringraziare il Consiglio Interclasse di Biologia per il prezioso contributo di idee, il Direttore riferisce che le modifiche ipotizzate, comunque, non necessitano di cambiamenti nell'ordinamento didattico per cui la proposta che emerge dal lavoro sin qui svolto dagli organi citati è quella di operare modifiche del piano di studio per l'a.a. 2020-21 su tale corso di studio, come per BCM, agendo in modalità "aggiorna". Per quanto concerne i corsi di studio in Biotecnologie, il Direttore riferisce che pur avendo la Commissione Didattica apprezzato in linea di principio le proposte relative alle modifiche dell'ordinamento Didattico del Corso di Laurea in Biotecnologie Industriali ed Agroalimentari elaborate con il concorso dei colleghi del DISSPA, Egli ritiene, dopo aver consultato la Giunta, doversi rinviare ogni modifica ordinamentale per i Corsi di Laurea in Biotecnologie ad una valutazione complessiva di tutti i corsi di studio.

Viceversa, per quanto riguarda il Corso di laurea Magistrale in Scienze della Nutrizione per la Salute Umana (LM-61), sia la Commissione Didattica di Dipartimento che la Commissione Paritetica e la Giunta, hanno ritenuto necessario una modifica all'ordinamento didattico. Pur emergendo, infatti, che tale corso, istituito nel 2016-17, gode di una buona attrattività e di un buon giudizio espresso dagli studenti, sono emerse delle criticità per cui sono state enunciate, tra l'altro, le seguenti proposte di modifica:

- l'insegnamento di Gastroenterologia (MED/12) necessiterebbe di un numero maggiore di CFU (da 3 a 6) per l'inquadramento anamnesico e la definizione di piani alimentari per cui è stato proposto di inserire il settore MED/12 fra quelli caratterizzanti;
- è stata rilevata l'opportunità di inserire un nuovo insegnamento di psicologia e psicopatologia del comportamento alimentare;
- è stata rilevata l'opportunità di aumentare i CFU dell'insegnamento di Scienze tecniche dietetiche (MED/49) da 3 a 6 in quanto questo settore è ritenuto di particolare rilevanza per gli obiettivi formativi del corso per cui è stato proposto di inserire il settore MED/49 fra i settori caratterizzanti;
- è stata rilevata l'opportunità di aumentare i CFU dell'insegnamento della Biochimica (BIO/10) da 6 a 9 anche al fine di inserire nel corso delle informazioni relative al metabolismo e alla nutrizione nello sport;
- è stato proposto di aumentare i CFU dell'insegnamento delle tecnologie alimentari (AGR/15) da 6 a 9 anche al fine di inserire, nel programma del corso, informazioni relative alla conservazione degli alimenti.

Le proposte di modifica sono complessivamente racchiuse in una proposta di nuovo piano degli studi già inviato a tutti i componenti del Consiglio (**Allegato B**).

Dopo breve discussione il Consiglio, riservandosi di apportare eventuali ulteriori miglioramenti in sede di approvazione del Manifesto degli studi, unanime, approva il nuovo piano degli studi e chiede l'apertura della SUA in modalità "modifica" per il Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Scienze della Nutrizione per la Salute Umana (LM-61), onde consentire l'implementazione del piano degli studi approvato, dando mandato al Direttore, con la collaborazione del Prof. Debellis, coordinatore del CdL magistrale in Scienze della Nutrizione per la Salute Umana, a redigere un documento illustrativo delle modifiche dell'ordinamento per gli Organi Centrali. Per tutti gli altri Corsi di Laurea gestiti dal Dipartimento il Consiglio, unanimemente, chiede di procedere con la modalità "aggiorna".

Il Direttore, inoltre, riferisce che con nota Prot 7107 del 27 Gennaio 2020 (ns Prot A 173 del 27/1/2020) la Direzione Offerta Formativa e Servizi agli Studenti, nella persona della Dott.ssa Amati, ha chiesto se anche per l'anno accademico 2020/2021 questo Dipartimento intenda partecipare all'attivazione dei Corsi di laurea interateneo in Ingegneria dei Sistemi Medicali (L8 e LM21) che hanno sede amministrativa presso il Politecnico di Bari. Ha chiesto, inoltre, anche relativamente a tali corsi di laurea, se si prevedano modifiche all'ordinamento.

Il Direttore invita il consiglio ad esprimersi in proposito.

Il Consiglio, unanime, conferma la partecipazione del Dipartimento ai Corsi di laurea interateneo in Ingegneria dei Sistemi Medicali (L8 e LM21) che hanno sede amministrativa presso il Politecnico di Bari anche per l'anno accademico 2020/2021. Per tali Corsi di Studio non sono previste modifiche agli ordinamenti.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del quinto punto all'O.d.G.:

5. Cultori della materia;

Il Direttore illustra le seguenti proposte di attribuzione della qualifica di cultore della materia avanzate da docenti titolari di insegnamento nei Corsi di Studio gestiti da questo Dipartimento e redatte su apposito modulo di cui al D.R. 1313 del 10.04.2014:

- la Prof.ssa Grazia Paola Nicchia, titolare dell'insegnamento di Fisiologia cellulare ed elementi di biofisica, Corso di Laurea in Biotecnologie mediche e farmaceutiche, in relazione all'insegnamento del SSD BIO/09, propone la nomina della **Dott.ssa Maria Grazia Mola**. La suddetta richiesta ha ottenuto il parere favorevole della Giunta del Consiglio Interclasse di Biotecnologie (delibera del 21.01.2020);
- la Prof.ssa Grazia Paola Nicchia, titolare dell'insegnamento di Neurofisiologia e Biotecnologie in neuroscienze, Corso di Laurea in Biotecnologie mediche e medicina molecolare, in relazione all'insegnamento del SSD BIO/09, propone la nomina della **Dott.ssa Maria Grazia Mola**. La suddetta richiesta ha ottenuto il parere favorevole della Giunta del Consiglio Interclasse di Biotecnologie (delibera del 21.01.2020);
- il Prof. Giuseppe Procino, titolare dell'insegnamento in Funzioni integrate e fisiologia umana, Corso di Laurea in Biotecnologie mediche e farmaceutiche (LM-2), in relazione all'insegnamento del SSD BIO/09, propone la nomina della **Dott.ssa Maria Grazia Mola**. La suddetta richiesta ha ottenuto il parere favorevole della Giunta del Consiglio Interclasse di Biotecnologie (delibera del 21.01.2020);
- il Prof. Michele Barone, titolare dell'insegnamento in Nutrizione nelle malattie dell'apparato digerente, Corso di Laurea in Scienze della nutrizione per la salute umana, in relazione all'insegnamento del SSD MED/12, propone la nomina della **Dott.ssa Maria Teresa Viggiani**. La suddetta richiesta ha ottenuto il parere favorevole della Giunta del Consiglio Interclasse di Scienze della nutrizione per la salute umana.

Il Direttore precisa che dai curricula presentati dalle suddette dottoresse si evincono i requisiti richiesti dal Regolamento Cultore della Materia (D.R. 1313 del 10.04.2014) e dal Regolamento in materia adottato da questo Consiglio nella seduta del 24.04.2014.

Egli invita, quindi, il Consiglio a pronunciarsi in merito.

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva le richieste.

Il suddetto dispositivo è approvato seduta stante.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del sesto punto all'O.d.G.:

6. Variazioni al Bilancio di Previsione sezionale 2020;

Il Direttore sottopone all'attenzione del Consiglio la Variazione al Bilancio sezionale del Dipartimento 2020 tesa a permettere l'inserimento delle seguenti somme:

- € 20.000,00 anticipazione richiesta dalla Prof. Castegna con nota del 27.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 172-VIII/3 del 29.01.2020) sul progetto di ricerca SISBIO "Studio e validazione di protocolli innovativi per la valorizzazione salutistica di specie leguminose autoctone pugliesi: dal seme alla tavola" finanziato dal Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico (MISE) col codice F/200076/01-02/X45.

La suddetta Variazione è inserita in contabilità come **Variazione Ufficiale n. 289**.

Viene sottoposta, inoltre, una variazione che contempla gli storni, all'interno della medesima Unità Previsionale di Base (UPB), tra sottoarticoli di spesa in relazione alle richieste di spesa avanzate dai titolari dei fondi stessi (UPB). La suddetta Variazione è inserita in contabilità come **Variazione Ufficiale n. 54**.

Le variazioni suddette vengono approvate dal Consiglio all'unanimità.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del settimo punto all'O.d.G.:

7. Discarico inventariale e cessione a terzi di apparecchiature obsolete e non funzionanti;

Il Direttore illustra la nota del 24.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 160-X/3 del 28.01.2020), a firma del Dott. Francesco De Leonardis, responsabile della U.O. Laboratorio di Biochimica e Biologia Applicate, il quale evidenzia la necessità di provvedere al discarico dall'inventario dei seguenti beni presenti nella Stanza "acidi e basi" al piano interrato del Palazzo di Farmacia, sito Biochimica e Biologia Applicate:

- SEGA A NASTRO TOP 6 Num. inventario 9000470
- COMBINATA 7 LAVORAZIONI SICAR C/30 COMPLETA DI SERIE DI COLTELLI, DISCO WIDIAPER COMB., SERIE DI PUNTE E DI 6 LAME, DISCO W. PER TRONC., RIFILATORE Num. Inventario 9000469
- TRONCATRICE SAW 300 ST Num. Inventario 9000471

Le apparecchiature suddette, facenti parte delle attrezzature di una vecchia officina meccanica costituita presso l'ex Dipartimento Farmaco-Biologico e dismessa da svariati anni, risultano non funzionanti, obsolete e inutilizzate. Esse necessitano di essere rimosse per la riorganizzazione dello spazio occupato, in funzione delle esigenze attuali del Dipartimento. Il Direttore riferisce, altresì, che il Dott. De Leonardis ha svolto un'indagine per valutare la possibilità della cessione dei suddetti macchinari a privati e/o aziende che ne assicurino almeno, a loro spese, la rimozione ed il trasporto. L'unica proposta pervenuta è stata quella formulata dal Sig. Emanuele Campanelli, il quale offre la cifra di Euro 50,00, IVA inclusa, oltre ad assicurare il prelievo ed il trasporto a proprio carico.

Il Consiglio, all'unanimità, considerato che si tratta di beni completamente fuori uso, non riparabili e di nessun valore storico museale, ne autorizza il discarico inventariale e la dismissione degli stessi cedendoli al Sig. Emanuele Campanelli al prezzo di 50,00 euro IVA inclusa come da offerta dallo stesso presentata. La vendita andrà effettuata nel più breve tempo possibile in considerazione sia dell'urgenza di liberare i locali che dell'eventualità che possa venir meno l'interesse dell'acquirente.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione dell'ottavo punto all'O.d.G.:

8. Individuazione referenti del Dipartimento e gruppi di lavoro: nomina referente del Dipartimento per il Job Placement;

Il Direttore riferisce che il coordinatore della Commissione Terza missione ha proposto quale referente del Dipartimento per il Job Placement il nominativo del Dott. Marobbio. Egli invita, quindi, il Consiglio a deliberare in merito.

Il Consiglio, unanime, individua nella persona del Dott. Carlo Marobbio il referente del Dipartimento per il Job Placement.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del nono punto all'O.d.G.:

9. Nomina tutor per assegnisti di ricerca;

Il Direttore comunica che:

- con nota prot. n. 1960-III/13, del 10.01.2020 (ns. prot.A. n. 26-III/13 del 10.01.2020), della Direzione Risorse Umane, ci è stata inviata copia del contratto di assegno di ricerca stipulato dalla **Dott. Ruggiero GORGOGLIONE** (Bando D.R. n. 707 del 05.08.2019 – programma n. 05.113 - Richiedente Prof. Giuseppe Fiermonte). Egli, nel comunicare che il Dott. GORGOGLIONE ha iniziato l'attività in data 02.12.2019, invita ora questo Consiglio, ai sensi dell'art. 13 del Regolamento relativo agli assegni di ricerca, a nominare il tutor per il suddetto assegnista.

Il Consiglio, all'unanimità, nomina il Prof. Giuseppe Fiermonte quale tutor per l'assegnista Dott. Ruggiero GORGOGLIONE.

Il suddetto dispositivo è approvato seduta stante.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del decimo punto all'O.d.G.:

10. Richieste di stipula di contratti di lavoro autonomo;

Il Direttore sottopone all'attenzione del Consiglio la seguente richiesta di contratto:

- il **Prof. Lucantonio Debellis**, nell'ambito dell'attività didattica "Corso di Perfezionamento professionale post-laurea in Nutrizione umana", di cui è Coordinatore e titolare di fondi presso questo Dipartimento, chiede che sia bandita una selezione pubblica per soli titoli per la stipula di un contratto di lavoro autonomo ai sensi del Regolamento per il conferimento di incarichi individuali emanato con D.R. n. 1653 del 05.03.2010, per lo svolgimento della seguente attività:

elaborazione, preparazione e analisi del materiale da utilizzarsi per l'attività pratica dei corsisti perfezionandi in nutrizione umana (schede di rilevamento di parametri antropometrici e calcoli relativi, schede anamnesiche, formulari per l'elaborazione di diete finalizzate, ecc.).

Il Prof. Debellis dichiara che si tratta di attività meramente strumentale rispetto allo svolgimento delle attività didattiche nell'ambito del Corso di Perfezionamento professionale post-laurea in Nutrizione Umana nell'A.A. 2019/2020 e chiede che sia eseguita entro luglio 2020. Il corrispettivo che si chiede di corrispondere per tale prestazione, ritenendolo congruo, è stabilito in € 2.300,00 onnicomprensivo forfettario lordo anche di ogni onere previdenziale e fiscale a carico dell'amministrazione committente. Esso costituisce lo stanziamento di spesa. Il corrispettivo verrà versato in un'unica soluzione al termine

della prestazione resa e dietro attestazione del richiedente la stipula del contratto della sua corretta esecuzione. Il professionista emetterà regolare fattura elettronica.

Il Consiglio, nell'assicurazione resa dal richiedente che l'attività da commissionare a terzi è di natura meramente strumentale ed accessoria all'attività di ricerca, approva, all'unanimità, la stipula del contratto proposto.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione dell'undicesimo punto all'O.d.G.:

11. Nulla osta per assunzione di incarichi di insegnamento;

Il Direttore dà lettura della seguente richiesta:

- il **Dott. Pasquale Scarcia**, ricercatore confermato, con nota prot.A. n. 110-VII/4 del 23.01.2020, chiede il nulla osta, per l'anno accademico 2019-2020, per lo svolgimento della seguente attività didattica:
 - "Impiego di MOGM nei laboratori di Biochimica e Biologia", 4 ore, presso il Dipartimento di Farmacia - Scienze del Farmaco di Bari, nell'ambito del Corso di Formazione in Studiare e Lavorare in Sicurezza nei Laboratori dei Dipartimenti biologici, chimici e farmaceutici, nel periodo febbraio 2020 e giugno 2020.

Il Direttore invita, quindi, il Consiglio a pronunciarsi in merito, precisando che si tratta di incarico a titolo gratuito e che l'interessato si impegna al regolare svolgimento di tutti i compiti didattici ed al pieno adempimento di tutti i doveri connessi al proprio ruolo.

Il Direttore illustra, quindi, le seguenti richieste:

- la **Dott.ssa Rosa Calvello**, ricercatore confermato presso questo Dipartimento, chiede il nulla osta per lo svolgimento della seguente attività didattica, per l'anno accademico 2019/2020: Anatomia della cute e degli annessi, 2 CFU, 14 ore, presso il Dipartimento di Farmacia-Scienze del Farmaco di questa Università, presso il Master di II livello in Scienze dei prodotti cosmetici. Tale attività sarà svolta nel secondo semestre, a titolo retribuito;
- la **Dott.ssa Maria Antonietta Di Noia**, ricercatore confermato presso questo Dipartimento, chiede il nulla osta per lo svolgimento della seguente attività didattica, per l'anno accademico 2019/2020: Biochimica della cute e degli annessi cutanei, 1 CFU, 7 ore, presso il Dipartimento di Farmacia-Scienze del Farmaco di questa Università, presso il Master di II livello in Scienze dei prodotti cosmetici - V edizione. Tale attività sarà svolta nel secondo semestre, a titolo retribuito;

Il Consiglio, unanime, concede i nulla osta richiesti.

Il presente dispositivo è approvato seduta stante.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del dodicesimo punto all'O.d.G.:

12. Richieste assegnisti per svolgimento di attività di supplenza presso la scuola: parere del Dipartimento;

Il Direttore riferisce che la Dott.ssa Francesca Fiume, assegnista di ricerca del programma di ricerca n. 05.110, presso questo Dipartimento (docente responsabile Prof. Luigi Palmieri), ha richiesto

l'autorizzazione allo svolgimento di una supplenza breve presso la scuola A. Volta di Monopoli (BA), per un totale di n. 2 giorni, dal 21 al 22.01.2020.

Il Consiglio, unanime, esprime parere positivo.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del tredicesimo punto all'O.d.G.:

13. Nulla osta per affidamento di incarichi extra istituzionali a docenti del Dipartimento;

Il Direttore illustra la seguente richiesta:

- richiesta avanzata dalla Dott.ssa Marianna Ranieri, ricercatore a tempo determinato di tipo A presso questo Dipartimento, che, con nota del 20.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 111-VII/4 del 23.01.2020), chiede il nulla osta a svolgere il seguente incarico: "prestazione d'opera intellettuale a favore del Liceo Scientifico Salvemini di Bari". L'impegno suddetto si espletterà dal 01.02.2020 al 30.06.2020 per circa 13 ore a fronte di un compenso complessivo previsto di € 712,81. L'istante dichiara che il suddetto impegno non confligge con l'assolvimento dei propri compiti istituzionali, né vi reca pregiudizio.

Il Direttore invita, quindi, il Consiglio a pronunciarsi in merito.

Il Consiglio, unanime, concede il nulla osta richiesto.

Il presente dispositivo è approvato seduta stante.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del quattordicesimo punto all'O.d.G.:

14. Richieste di autorizzazione a frequentare il Dipartimento;

Il Direttore illustra la seguente richiesta redatta ai sensi del Regolamento per i laureati frequentatori (DR 3913 del 16/11/2015):

- del 20.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 124-VII/16, del 24.01.2020), a firma della **Dott.ssa Ilenia Saponara**, e vistata dal docente tutor, **Prof. Giuseppe Procino**, con la quale la Dott.ssa Saponara, in possesso della Laurea di II livello in Biologia cellulare e molecolare, chiede di essere autorizzata a frequentare il Dipartimento di Bioscienze, Biotecnologie e Biofarmaceutica, a decorrere dal 31.01.2020 e fino al 31.07.2020, per un periodo di formazione e/o ricerca al fine di migliorare le proprie competenze professionali.

Egli illustra, inoltre, le seguenti richieste:

- del 22.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 108-VII/16, del 23.01.2020), a firma del **Prof. Gennaro Agrimi**, con la quale quest'ultimo chiede che la **dottoranda Paola Albanese**, iscritta al XXXIV ciclo del Dottorato in Scienze Chimiche e molecolari dell'Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro (tutor Prof. Fabio Mavelli), frequenti i laboratori di questo Dipartimento, per un anno a decorrere dal 20.01.2020, per effettuare alcuni esperimenti di isolamento di mitocondri di lievito nell'ambito del suo progetto di tesi "ASAPs: Artificial Simplified-Autotroph Protocells";
- del 24.01.2020 (ns. Prot.A. n. 133-VII/16, del 24.01.2020), a firma del **Dott. Ernesto Picardi**, con la quale quest'ultimo chiede che la **Dott.ssa Renata Kleinova**, PhD student del programma di dottorato in RNA Biology (Prof. Michael Jantsch) attivo presso la Medical University of Vienna, frequenti i laboratori di questo Dipartimento, a decorrere dal 24.02.2020 e fino al 11.03.2020, per un periodo di

formazione e ricerca al fine di migliorare le proprie competenze bioinformatiche per l'analisi di dati trascrittomici volti allo studio dell'RNA editing.

Il Consiglio, unanime, autorizza le suddette richieste.

Il suddetto dispositivo è approvato seduta stante.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del quindicesimo punto all'O.d.G.:

15. "Illumina 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative": adempimenti in merito;

Il Direttore invita la Prof.ssa Ciani a voler relazionare in merito.

La prof.ssa Ciani ricorda al Consiglio che la stessa è risultata vincitrice della undicesima edizione dell'Illumina® Agricultural Greater Good Initiative Award. Il premio consiste nella produzione gratuita da parte di Illumina® di 20 terabasi di dati di sequenza genomica per la realizzazione di un progetto di ricerca finalizzato allo studio della diversità genomica della specie *Camelus dromedarius* e contestuale sviluppo di un array Illumina® per la genotipizzazione, in tale specie, di marcatori Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP). La prof.ssa Ciani, che ricopre il ruolo di coordinatore del progetto, partecipa ad esso in collaborazione con altri partner internazionali, in particolare: dr.ssa Pamela Burger (Vetmeduni, Vienna, Austria), prof.ssa Samantha Brooks (University of Florida, USA), prof. Faisal Almathen (King Faisal University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia). Al fine di formalizzare l'impegno reciproco nello svolgimento del progetto e le condizioni attuative, si rende necessario sottoscrivere, da parte di tutti i partner, ivi incluso il partner commerciale (Illumina®), un atto di impegno ("Cooperation Agreement", **allegato C** al presente verbale e parte integrante di esso) che la prof.ssa Ciani sottopone all'approvazione da parte del Consiglio di Dipartimento, quale tappa preliminare alla sottoscrizione da parte del legale rappresentante dell'Università degli Studi di Bari "Aldo Moro".

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva l'atto di impegno propedeutico allo svolgimento del progetto Illumina 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative.

In analogia al punto testé esaminato, il Direttore propone di discutere il seguente punto:

15 analogia "Artificial Intelligence Molecular Screen (AIMS) Grants - Drug Discovery and In Silico High-throughput Screening Grants": adempimenti in merito;

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva.

Il Direttore invita il Prof. Fiermonte a voler relazionare in merito.

Il prof. Giuseppe Fiermonte riferisce di aver partecipato, con esito positivo, al Bando Atomwise AIMS Awards, per un programma denominato "Artificial Intelligence Molecular Screen (AIMS) Grants - Drug Discovery and In Silico High-throughput Screening Grants". L'obiettivo di questo programma è quello di ampliare il pool di scienziati coinvolti nella scoperta di piccole molecole per il trattamento e l'indagine di patologie umane e possibile cura di alcune forme tumorali. Il premio non prevede nessun esborso monetario, bensì la messa a disposizione da parte della Atomwise di uno screening virtuale (piattaforma personalizzata per piccole molecole con tecnologia AtomNet™) e la fornitura al proprio laboratorio, ai fini della loro sperimentazione, di possibili inibitori (72 in tutto, in base al bando) di una proteina mitocondriale (UCP2), individuata da egli stesso come importante target metabolico per la cura

dell'adenocarcinoma duttale pancreatico. In sintesi, l'Atomwise, a sue spese, deve identificare questi inibitori, li deve fare sintetizzare, ne testerà l'identità e la stabilità post-sintesi e il laboratorio del Prof. Fiermonte procederà a testarli in vitro sulla proteina. Per avviare l'attività di sperimentazione, Atomwise, nella persona del partnering executive, dott. Andrea Lee, ha chiesto la sottoscrizione da parte del responsabile scientifico, Prof. Fiermonte e del legale rappresentante di Uniba del research agreement, **allegato D** al presente verbale.

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva l'atto di impegno propedeutico allo svolgimento del progetto Artificial Intelligence Molecular Screen (AIMS) Grants - Drug Discovery and In Silico High-throughput Screening Grants.

Il Direttore passa alla discussione del sedicesimo punto all'O.d.G.:

16. Varie ed eventuali.

Il Direttore propone di prendere in esame tra le varie ed eventuali il seguente argomento che riveste carattere di urgenza:

Questione spazi per i dottorandi.

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva.

Chiede ed ottiene la parola la Dott.ssa Laera la quale, in merito al punto indicato in oggetto, riferisce che i dottorandi che afferiscono al plesso "Farmacia" lamentano l'assenza di spazi destinati al consumo dei pasti e allo studio. I dottorandi, infatti, consumano il pasto sulle panche disposte all'esterno dell'edificio o nel corridoio del piano terra, non disponendo di alcun ambiente dedicato. Pertanto, chiede l'individuazione di spazi idonei al consumo del pranzo e/o allo studio per i dottorandi che svolgono il loro lavoro nel plesso di "Farmacia".

Si svolge sul punto un breve dibattito nel corso del quale viene ribadito che gli studenti che seguono il percorso di dottorato presso il plesso "Farmacia" possono ritenersi autorizzati a utilizzare gli spazi di studio comuni presso la biblioteca e gli ambienti di refezione disponibili nel Nuovo Palazzo sede dei Dipartimenti biologici.

Il Consiglio, unanime, prende atto.

Il Direttore propone, altresì, di prendere in esame tra le varie ed eventuali il seguente argomento che riveste carattere di urgenza.

Rappresentanza dei dottorandi nel Collegio docenti del Dottorato di ricerca.

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva.

Chiede ed ottiene la parola la Dott.ssa Laera la quale, in merito al punto indicato in oggetto, chiede di indire quanto prima le elezioni per garantire la rappresentanza dei dottorandi nel collegio docenti del dottorato, in base a quanto sancito dal Decreto Rettoriale n. 1154 del 19.04.2018 negli articoli 4, punto 21, e 8, punto 8. Tali punti, infatti, assicurano una rappresentanza nel collegio di dottorato per la trattazione di problemi didattici e organizzativi. La Dott.ssa Laera chiede, altresì, che le elezioni portino all'individuazione di almeno tre rappresentanti, uno per ciclo di dottorato attivo (33°, 34°, 35°).

Il Direttore fa presente che la suddetta richiesta non è di competenza del Consiglio di Dipartimento bensì del Collegio del Dottorato al cui Coordinatore, tale richiesta, verrà trasferita.

Il Consiglio, unanime, prende atto.

Il Direttore propone, infine, di prendere in esame tra le varie ed eventuali il seguente argomento che riveste carattere di urgenza.

Piano delle audizioni CdS/Dipartimenti.

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva.

Il Direttore riferisce che il Nucleo di Valutazione, con nota prot. n. 8195-III/11 del 29.01.2020, a firma del Coordinatore Prof. Marcantonio Catelani, ha informato che è in fase di definizione un piano di audizioni dei CdS e dei relativi Dipartimenti di afferenza in sinergia con il Presidio della Qualità di Ateneo. Come specificato nelle Linee Guida ANVUR 2019 per la Relazione annuale dei Nuclei di Valutazione, “...il NdV definirà (o aggiornerà) un Piano di audizioni (annuale o pluriennale) che coinvolgerà, a rotazione, quei CdS e/o Dipartimenti ritenuti degni di maggiori attenzioni, basando la selezione anche sugli indicatori quantitativi forniti da ANVUR (SMA), oltre che sui rapporti di riesame ciclico dei CdS, sugli esiti della rilevazione delle opinioni degli studenti e sull’esistenza di eventuali condizioni poste dalla CEV in occasione della visita di accreditamento periodico. Il NdV può decidere di svolgere queste attività insieme agli altri organi di AQ o in piena autonomia, purché sia possibile evincere dalla Relazione la motivazione della scelta. Il sistema delle audizioni dei CdS da parte del NdV, infatti, risulta essere uno dei principali strumenti di autovalutazione messi in atto dagli atenei. Pur essendo effettuato su un campione dei CdS, esso va a verificare sul campo quanto effettivamente dichiarato nei vari documenti (SUA, RR, Relazioni annuali dei PdQ e delle CPDS, ecc.) sulle buone pratiche o carenze che possano caratterizzare un corso, attraverso le visite alle strutture e i colloqui con i docenti, il PTA e gli studenti. È utile che ne vengano evidenziate sia le metodologie di selezione, sia quelle di valutazione, nonché le specificità di tutti i CdS interessati, siano essi stati ritenuti critici o, al contrario, particolarmente meritevoli. Il D.M. 6/2019, riferendosi all’accreditamento periodico dei Corsi di Studio (art. 5), stabilisce la possibilità di ridurre la periodicità triennale della valutazione esterna da parte dell’ANVUR di quei corsi evidenziati come critici all’interno della relazione annuale del NdV. L’accreditamento periodico, concesso ai corsi che soddisfano i requisiti per l’accreditamento iniziale e quelli del requisito R3 di cui all’allegato C del D.M. 6/2019, presuppone quindi un’attività di valutazione a due livelli, di cui quella interna svolta dai NdV rappresenta la base su cui viene effettuata quella a distanza da parte dell’ANVUR”.

Il metodo di selezione individuato dal Nucleo di Valutazione è la candidatura dei CdS che intendono partecipare alla iniziativa al fine di individuare, congiuntamente, le aree di miglioramento sulla quali sarebbe opportuno che il CdS intervenisse e le buone pratiche che potrebbero costituire esempio per altri CdS; successivamente, si procederà al sorteggio dei CdS da visitare. Sono esclusi dalla candidatura i CdS e i relativi Dipartimenti che sono stati oggetto di visita ANVUR nel novembre 2018. I CdS sorteggiati e i relativi Dipartimenti cui afferiscono saranno visitati nei tempi e nei modi che verranno

successivamente comunicati. Le audizioni saranno condotte congiuntamente dal Nucleo di Valutazione e dal Presidio della Qualità, ognuno per la parte di propria competenza.

Il Direttore, nel ritenere utile sottoporsi al sorteggio dati i vari risvolti positivi derivanti da un'attività di autovalutazione, propone di incaricare i Proff.ri Debellis, Dell'Aquila, Archidiacono, con il coordinamento della Prof.ssa Cotecchia, di riflettere sulla materia ed avanzare delle proposte in merito ai Corsi di Studio da indicare.

Il Consiglio, unanime, approva.

Non essendoci altri argomenti in discussione, il Direttore, alle 11,55, dichiara sciolta la seduta.

Il Responsabile dell'U.O. Servizi Generali,
Logistica e Supporto informatico
Dott.ssa Silvana De Leo

Il Direttore

Prof. Luigi Palmieri



Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca
Dipartimento per la formazione superiore e per la ricerca

Al Magnifico Rettore
Università degli Studi di Bari "Aldo Moro"

PEC: rettore@pec.uniba.it

Oggetto: Riscontro Nota del 3 giugno 2019 (prot. n. 42538) – Articolo 18, comma 4, Legge n. 240/2010.

Si riscontra la nota di codesto Ateneo n. 42538 del 3 giugno 2019 con la quale si richiede il parere di questa Amministrazione relativamente all'interpretazione dell'art. 18, comma 4 della Legge n. 240/2010 e si precisa quanto segue.

La disposizione in esame, ha l'intento di favorire l'acquisizione di competenze dall'esterno attraverso la riserva delle risorse corrispondenti ad almeno un quinto dei posti disponibili di professore di ruolo alla chiamata di coloro che nell'ultimo triennio non abbiano prestato servizio o non siano stati titolari di assegni di ricerca ovvero iscritti a corsi universitari nella stessa università.

La citata norma, di conseguenza, individua espressamente i soggetti ai quali viene preclusa la partecipazione a procedure di selezione riservate e, nello specifico, "**coloro che nell'ultimo triennio non hanno prestato servizio**", oppure, coloro che "**non sono stati titolari di assegni di ricerca**", oppure "**gli iscritti a corsi universitari**" nella stessa Università che ha indetto le procedure.

In proposito si ritiene che l'espressione "aver prestato servizio" identifichi un rapporto di lavoro subordinato svolto alle dipendenze dell'Università e non qualsiasi prestazione lavorativa, anche occasionale, operata da un soggetto non stabilmente incardinato nell'Ateneo. In caso contrario, il legislatore non avrebbe individuato espressamente la fattispecie degli assegnisti di ricerca, titolari di contratti di lavoro autonomo, in quanto già compresa nella categoria di coloro che a qualsiasi titolo hanno prestato servizio presso l'Ateneo.

In particolare, con riferimento ai contratti di insegnamento di cui all'articolo 23 della Legge n. 240/2010, si evidenzia che il comma 4 del medesimo articolo, come novellato dall'art. 1, comma 338, lettera a) della Legge n. 232/2016, prevede che "La stipulazione dei contratti per attività di insegnamento ai sensi del presente articolo non dà luogo a diritti in ordine all'accesso ai ruoli universitari, ma consente di computare le eventuali chiamate di coloro che sono stati titolari dei contratti nell'ambito delle risorse vincolate di cui all'art. 18, comma 4.", incidendo così sulla procedura di cui all'art. 18, comma 4 della Legge n. 240/2010 e chiarendo i dubbi interpretativi sull'inclusione della figura del "professore a contratto" tra i soggetti destinatari della disposizione in quanto figura non inserita nell'organizzazione dell'Università. La modifica dell'art. 23, comma 4, alla luce di tale chiarimento normativo deciso dal legislatore, non può che essere finalizzata a favorire, appunto, l'utilizzo dei finanziamenti e, pertanto, non può che significare che la categoria ivi contemplata (contrattisti ex art. 23 Legge 240/2010) possa partecipare alle procedure di cui all'art. 18, comma 4.

Si segnala, tuttavia, che il Consiglio di Stato, precedentemente alla modifica normativa della legge 232/2016, con sentenza n. 3626/2016 ha espresso un diverso orientamento, sostenendo che la



Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca

Dipartimento per la formazione superiore e per la ricerca

disposizione contenuta nell'art. 18, comma 4, "non può che interpretarsi nel senso che essa sia necessariamente riferita a qualunque genere di rapporto di lavoro, compreso l'insegnamento a contratto e quello ex art. 23 legge cit., giacché altrimenti non avrebbe senso alcuno la espressa comminatoria di esclusione di chi presso la stessa università sia stato assegnista o addirittura mero studente iscritto ai corsi di laurea."

Successivamente all'entrata in vigore della legge 232/2016, si sono pronunciati in modo analogo al Consiglio di Stato, il TAR Piemonte (sentenze n. 372/2016 e n. 698/2017) ed il TAR Toscana (sentenze n. 843 e 844 del 2018).

Occorre in proposito precisare che l'intervento normativo operato dal legislatore con l'art. 1, comma 338, lettera a) della Legge n. 232/2016, di modifica dell'articolo 23, comma 4 della legge 240/2010, successivo alla pronuncia del Consiglio di Stato 3626/2016, aveva l'intento specifico di intervenire col fine di includere i "professori a contratto" nella platea dei soggetti che possono concorrere alle procedure ex art. 18, comma 4 della Legge 240/2010.

Al riguardo è opportuno segnalare la Sentenza del TAR Campania – Sezione distaccata di Salerno che riconosce una cesura temporale rispetto alle procedure ex art. 18, comma 4 della L. 240/2010 bandite prima e dopo la modifica dell'art. 23, comma 4, della l. n. 240/2010, dovuta all'art. 1, comma 338, della legge 11 dicembre 2016, n. 232, riconoscendo per queste ultime la possibilità di ammettere anche candidati che abbiano prestato servizio presso l'ateneo in ragione di contratti stipulati ai sensi dell'art. 23 della Legge 240/2010.

Distinti saluti.

IL CAPO DIPARTIMENTO
Prof. Avv. Giuseppe Valditara

LM-61 2019-20

I ANNO			
Insegnamento	S.S.D.	CFU (Totali)	Prova di Valutazione
1° semestre			
Fisiologia degli organi e della nutrizione	BIO/09	9	Esame
Biochimica degli alimenti e della nutrizione umana	BIO/10	6	Esame
Nutrigenomica	BIO/11	6	Esame
Tecnologie Alimentari	AGR/15	6	Esame
Totale		27	4
2° semestre			
Biochimica ed Analisi Biochimico-Cliniche	BIO/12	6	Esame
Contaminanti dei sistemi agro-alimentari	AGR/13	6	Esame
Microbiologia Agraria	AGR/16	9	Esame
Nutraceutica	BIO/14	6	Esame
Totale		27	4
II ANNO			
Insegnamento	S.S.D.	CFU (Totali)	Prova di Valutazione
1° semestre			
Medicina Interna	MED/09	6	Esame integrato
Gastroenterologia	MED/12	3	
Endocrinologia	MED/13	6	Esame
Pediatria	MED/38	6	Esame
Scienze tecniche dietetiche applicate	MED/49	3	Esame integrato
Igiene generale e degli alimenti	MED/42	3	
Totale		27	3
2° semestre			
A scelta		8	
Tirocinio per la prova finale		25	
Prova finale		6	
Totale		39	
		120	11

LM-61 2020-21

I ANNO			
Insegnamento	S.S.D.	CFU (Totali)	Prova di Valutazione
1° semestre			
Fisiologia degli organi e della nutrizione	BIO/09	9	Esame
Biochimica degli alimenti e della nutrizione umana	BIO/10	9	Esame
Nutrigenomica	BIO/11	6	Esame
Tecnologie e qualità degli alimenti	AGR/15	9	Esame
Totale		33	4
2° semestre			
Biochimica ed Analisi Biochimico-Cliniche	BIO/12	6	Esame integrato
Contaminanti dei sistemi agro-alimentari	AGR/13	3	
Microbiologia alimentare	AGR/16	6	Esame integrato
Igiene degli alimenti	MED/42	3	
Nutraceutica	BIO/14	6	Esame
Totale		24	4
II ANNO			
Insegnamento	S.S.D.	CFU (Totali)	Prova di Valutazione
1° semestre			
Medicina Interna	MED/09	3	Esame integrato
Gastroenterologia	MED/12	6	
Endocrinologia della nutrizione	MED/13	3	Esame integrato
Scienze tecniche dietetiche applicate	MED/49	6	
Pediatria	MED/38	6	Esame integrato
Psicologia e psicopatologia del comportamento alimentare	M-PSI/08	3	
Totale		27	3
2° semestre			
A scelta		8	
Tirocinio per la prova finale		22	
Prova finale		6	
Totale		36	
		120	11

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

University of Bari "Aldo Moro" (hereinafter indicated as UNIBA), with its official address at Piazza Umberto I - 70121 Bari (Italy), represented by Prof. , President

and

University of Veterinary Medicine (hereinafter indicated as VETMEDUNI), with its official address at

, represented by Prof. , President

and

University of Florida (hereinafter indicated as UFL), with its official address at University of Florida, 207 Grinter Hall, Gainesville, FL 32611, represented by Lisa Stroud, Associate Director, Division of Sponsored Programs

and

King Faisal University (hereinafter indicated as KFU), with its official address at
, represented by Prof. , President

and

Illumina, Inc. (hereinafter indicated as ILLUMINA), with its official address at 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122 USA

hereinafter referred to individually as "the Party" or collectively as "the Parties", have entered into this Cooperation Agreement (hereinafter 'Agreement')

ARTICLE 1. PREAMBLE

The company Illumina, Inc. (<https://www.illumina.com/>) published, in 2018, the 11th Illumina Agricultural Greater Good Initiative Award call. The Agricultural Greater Good Initiative spurs critically needed research that will increase the sustainability, productivity, and nutritional density of agriculturally important crop and livestock species. Grant recipients receive donation of 20 terabases of Illumina NovaSeq sequencing data on samples of their choice (<https://www.illumina.com/areas-of-interest/agrigenomics/community.html>).

The partners UNIBA, VETMEDUNI, UFL and KFU, under the coordination of Prof. Elena Ciani (UNIBA), jointly submitted a project (**Annex 1**) to the 11th Illumina Agricultural Greater Good Initiative Award call. The main project goal is the characterization of the whole-genome DNA sequence variability in the *Camelus dromedarius* species. The above project has been selected as winner of the 11th Illumina Agricultural Greater Good Initiative Award call and the public announcement has been given during the Illumina Workshop at the XXVIII Plant and Animal

Genome (PAG) Conference in San Diego on January 15th 2019 (<https://www.illumina.com/company/news-center/feature-articles/greater-good-initiative-winner.html>).

All Parties share common interests in (i) achieving an effective implementation of the project, (ii) enhancing and disseminating scientific knowledge on genomics, genetic diversity, evolutionary history and molecular bases for phenotypic traits in the *Camelus dromedarius* species, and (iii) exploiting the generated knowledge, e.g. to design and develop commercial tools (SNP chips) by ILLUMINA for the high-throughput SNP genotyping of *Camelus dromedarius* animals, that may significantly boost large-scale genetic characterization and genetic improvement of commercial traits, such as milk and meat production.

ARTICLE 2. SUBJECT

The Parties agrees to establish a partnership and collaborate for the realization of a joint research project. Notably, the project will include the following activities:

Activity 1: Collection of biological material for DNA isolation

Activity 2: DNA isolation from newly collected or previously available biological material

Activity 3: Shipment of genomic DNA to a reference laboratory indicated by ILLUMINA

Activity 4: Generation of genomic sequence data on the received samples

Activity 5: Storage and controlled access to the genomic data generated

Activity 6: Bioinformatics analysis

Activity 7: Publication and dissemination of results

Activity 8: Project coordination

The Parties UNIBA, VETMEDUNI, UFL, KFU and ILLUMINA will be actively involved in the aforementioned activities according to the plan below. Changes to the work plan must be approved by a majority of the Project Management Committee (see following paragraphs).

Activity 1: Collection of biological material for DNA isolation

With regard to the collection of biological material for DNA isolation, UNIBA, in collaboration with the Parties, will activate specific agreements with Third Party(ies) for the transfer of biological material to VETMEDUNI. The latter will act as a collection and preparation center for the material in accordance with Article 12 to be sent to the reference laboratory indicated by ILLUMINA.

Activity 2: DNA isolation from newly collected or previously available biological material

This activity will mainly be in charge of VETMEDUNI, that will act as a collection center for biological material sent by Party(ies) and/or Third Party(ies).

Activity 3: Shipment of genomic DNA to a reference laboratory indicated by ILLUMINA

This activity will mainly be in charge of VETMEDUNI, with collaboration from the Parties and/or Third Party(ies).

Activity 4: Generation of genomic sequence data on the received samples

This activity will be entirely carried out by ILLUMINA, as stated in the 11th Illumina Agricultural Greater Good Initiative call. The production of genomic sequence data (20 terabases, overall) will be carried out by a reference laboratory chosen by ILLUMINA. Once produced, the data will be transferred to the platform in charge of storage, access and bioinformatics data analysis (see activity 5) at such time as agreed upon between the Parties.

Activity 5: Storage and controlled access to the genomic data generated

UNIBA, in collaboration with the Parties, will identify a Third Party capable of offering, for the entire duration of the project, a service of storage, multiple access with passwords, and analysis using bioinformatics algorithms of the genomic sequence data mentioned above through a virtual platform. To this end, a specific collaboration agreement will be signed between UNIBA and the Third Party identified.

Activity 6: Bioinformatics analysis

The partnership of this agreement, in close collaboration and on the basis of the corresponding bioinformatics skills, will proceed to the processing and analysis of data according to the outline defined below, that may be subject to change in the course of work.

- A) Collection of public and/or available sequence data from previous projects to which the Parties refer. In particular, VETMEDUNI, UFL and KFU will make available the genomic sequences of *Camelus dromedarius* at their disposal at the time of carrying out this action. Similarly, the opportunity of activating specific agreements with Third Party(ies) that could be interested in providing genomic sequences of *Camelus dromedarius* and/or phylogenetically related species (*C. bactrianus*, *C. ferus*, *Lama glama*, *Lama pacos*, *Lama guanicoe*, *Vicugna vicugna*) will be evaluated. In the event that genomic sequences that have not yet been published are made available for the project, the contribution of the Party(ies) and/or Third Party(ies) in terms of genomic sequences will be quantified for the purpose of identifying the authorship in the publications that will arise from the use of such data.
- B) Analysis of sequence data aimed at calling SNPs with respect to the reference genome of the species *Camelus dromedarius*. This action will be divided into sub-actions which will include: (i) Use of the DRAGEN platform by Illumina as part of Activity 4; (ii) Use of popular and freely available pipelines; (iii) Use of in-house pipelines by UNIBA.
- C) Choice of a restricted panel of SNP loci that can be implemented in an ILLUMINA genotyping tool (e.g., HD BeadChip). This action will be carried out by UNIBA, with conceptual input from all partners.
- D) Analysis aimed at reconstructing the demographic, evolutionary and geographical dispersion of the species, and at assessing the degree of genetic differentiation between samples using whole-genome sequence data. All Parties will participate, to different

extents, which will be quantified *ex post* on the basis of objective and assessable elements, to the realization of this action, that will be carried out under the coordination of VETMEDUNI.

- E) Analysis aimed at the reconstruction of the demographic, evolutionary and geographical dispersion history of the species, and at the evaluation of the degree of genetic differentiation between samples using the loci selected for implementation in the Illumina HD BeadChip panel. This action will be carried out mainly by UNIBA.
- F) Analysis using the loci selected for implementation in the Illumina HD BeadChip panel and/or sub-panel of loci, aimed at evaluating the application potential of the SNPs panels for paternity tests, individual identification, and population allocation. This action will be carried out mainly by UNIBA.
- G) Analysis of SNP data aimed at identifying genomic regions under selective pressure and with adaptive significance.

All partners will participate, to a different extent, which will be quantified *ex post* on the basis of objective and evaluable elements, for the realization of this action, that will be carried out under the coordination of UNIBA.

Activity 7: Publication and dissemination of results

During the course of the project, the sequence data will be made accessible, and available for bioinformatics processing, in full to the Parties, who undertake not to divulge them, nor transfer them to Third Party(ies), neither intentionally nor accidentally for as long as a valid intellectual property right protects the results of the cooperation (Article 7) or if the period has been extended by a separate agreement.

Activity 8: Project coordination

The general coordination of the Project is entrusted to UNIBA, in the person of Prof. Elena Ciani. A Project Management Committee is appointed, including the following members:

Elena Ciani - UNIBA

Pamela Burger - VETMEDUNI

Samantha Brooks - UFL

Faisal Almathen - KFU

Andre Eggen - ILLUMINA

Changes to the composition of the Project Management Committee, proposed by one or more members of the same, must be submitted to the screening and approval, by majority, of the Project Management Committee, as composed at the time of the variation proposal. Internally, each partner organizes and coordinates the activities of its competence in an autonomous manner, without prejudice to the obligation to interact with the other Parties for the effective implementation of the activities envisaged by the project.

ARTICLE 3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES

Each Party will be responsible for its personnel in relation to activities undertaken pursuant to this Agreement. For the purposes of this Agreement, "personnel" shall mean all persons associated with one Party, including (i) employees, (ii) guest researchers, (iii) persons under contracts similar to employment contracts and (iv) other persons whose actions can be reasonably attributed to that Party.

ARTICLE 4. THIRD PARTIES

Third Party(ies) may be involved, where necessary, in the realization of specific tasks of the project. The involvement of Third Party(ies) must be previously approved by a majority of the members of the Project Management Committee. The Third Party(ies) will perform the work as defined in a specific Third Party Agreement, and shall be responsible for ensuring that the work is carried out and complies with accepted technical, scientific and professional standards, is undertaken by appropriate personnel and carried out in accordance with the schedule laid down in Article 2.

ARTICLE 5. LIABILITY, WARRANTIES, INDEMNIFICATION

5.1 Mutual Representations and Warranties. Each Party represents and warrants that it has the full right, power, and authority to enter into and perform under this Agreement, and that it has and will have all rights necessary or appropriate to grant to the other Party the rights granted in this Agreement, including without limitation the rights, licenses, and options with respect to Intellectual Property.

5.2 Disclaimer of Warranties. NEITHER PARTY REPRESENTS OR WARRANTS THAT THE COOPERATION WILL BE A SUCCESS OR THAT THE RESULTS WILL BE USEFUL. THE PARTIES ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE MATERIALS, RESULTS, SAMPLES, AND OTHER INFORMATION PROVIDED OR DISCLOSED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT ARE BEING PROVIDED "AS IS." EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY PROVIDED IN THIS AGREEMENT, NEITHER PARTY MAKES ANY REPRESENTATIONS AND EXTENDS NO WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF SAFETY, ACCURACY, UTILITY, NON-INFRINGEMENT, OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

5.3 Indemnification. Subject to Section 5.4, each Party (as "Indemnifying Party") will defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the other Party and its affiliates (together with their respective officers, employees, agents, directors, contractors, representatives, and permitted successors and assigns, collectively, the "Indemnified Party"), from and against any claims, actions, demands, judgments, losses, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities brought or asserted by a third party (each a "Claim") to the extent a Claim arises from (i) the Indemnifying Party's gross negligence or intentional misconduct under this Agreement, or (ii) the breach of this Agreement (including any representation or warranty contained in this Agreement) by the Indemnifying Party; except to the extent the Claim is caused by the gross negligence, intentional misconduct, or breach of this Agreement of or by an Indemnified Party.

5.4 Notice and Cooperation. An Indemnified Party seeking indemnification under this Article 5 will promptly notify the Indemnifying Party in writing after the Indemnified Party has received

notice of any Claim. The Indemnified Party will reasonably cooperate with the Indemnifying Party in the defence of any such Claim at the cost of the Indemnifying Party. An Indemnifying Party will not be obligated to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Indemnified Party if, and only to the extent, the Indemnified Party delays providing notice of a Claim to the Indemnifying Party, or the Indemnified Party will not provide reasonable assistance to the Indemnifying Party in the defence of a Claim (upon request for assistance), and the delay in notice or lack of reasonable assistance substantively prejudices the ability of the Indemnifying Party to successfully defend the Claim. The Indemnifying Party may not make any admission on behalf of the Indemnified Party and the Indemnified Party must consent in writing (in its reasonable discretion) prior to any settlement. Notwithstanding the defence obligations set forth in Article 5.3, the Indemnified Party may at any time choose to be represented by its own counsel at its expense (or at the Indemnifying Party's expense if the indemnifying Party's defense is inadequate).

5.5 Limitations on Liability. EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT ARISING FROM THAT PARTY'S INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT, IN NO EVENT WILL EITHER PARTY BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER PARTY FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, EXEMPLARY OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OF ANY KIND ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT, HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY (WHETHER IN CONTRACT, TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE), STRICT LIABILITY OR OTHERWISE). THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION WILL APPLY EVEN IF A PARTY HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES, AND NOTWITHSTANDING ANY FAILURE OF ESSENTIAL PURPOSE OF ANY LIMITED REMEDY.

ARTICLE 6. FUNDS

All activities conducted pursuant to this Agreement shall be subject to the availability of funds, personnel and other resources as well as to the applicable laws and regulations, policies and programmes of each Party. Each Party shall bear the cost of any expenditure it incurs relating to the performance of its tasks under this Agreement. There will be no transfer of money between the Parties in connection with this Agreement.

ARTICLE 7. PROTECTION OF THE RESULTS OF THE COOPERATION

Intellectual Property (IP), and all rights pertaining thereto, created in and for the performance of this Agreement, shall be considered as a jointly-owned IP. Neither Party can dispose of, license, assign, or transfer such jointly-owned IP to Third Party(ies) without the prior written consent of all the other Parties in the absence of a particular joint-ownership agreement.

In case the collaboration performed under this Agreement leads to the creation of results in the form of scientific, technical or academic publications, conference proceedings, reports, and similar written work authored through the involvement of the personnel of Parties, including external

scientific experts, the Parties undertake to respect each other's rights, moral or economic, and to duly acknowledge and reference the authors and contributors.

Neither Party can publish, disseminate, make publicly available, or disclose to Third Party(ies) any result of the cooperation without prior written consent of all the other Parties on the manner, timing and contents of such disclosure. Consent for the foregoing may not be unreasonably withheld. Any breach of this provision shall be considered not only a breach of this Article but also a breach of confidentiality. The provisions of this Article shall remain valid and legally enforceable for a period of five years from the date of termination or expiry of this Agreement. After the five-year period, the provisions of this Article shall remain valid and legally enforceable for as long as a valid intellectual property right protects the results of the cooperation or if the period has been extended by a separate agreement.

The transfer, in whole or in part, of the aforementioned data to Third Party(ies) can only take place after acquisition of written approval by all the member of the Project Management Committee. In any case, the Third Party(ies) undertake not to disclose them, nor to transfer them to third parties, intentionally or accidentally, for as long as a valid intellectual property right protects the results of the cooperation or if the period has been extended by a separate agreement.

The contribution of the Parties and Third Party(ies) in the realization of the project, and in the realization of the resulting publications, will be quantified *ex post*, but in any case before the submission for publication, using objective and evaluable criteria. On the basis of the contribution of each partner, a list of co-authors will be drawn up and, therefore, a ranking of importance. The final decision regarding the authorship will be taken by a majority of the members of the Project Management Committee. In any case, any publication directly deriving from the project must include the name of the Coordinator and the members of the Project Management Committee among the co-authors, unless otherwise agreed by a majority of the Project Management Committee for justified cause and in case of breach of this Agreement by the Party(ies).

ARTICLE 8. CONFIDENTIALITY

The Parties undertake to keep confidential any information, documentation, data, reports or any other material communicated to them by the other Parties (i) as confidential or (ii) the disclosure of which may clearly be prejudicial to the other Parties, until the information legitimately becomes publicly available through other parties or through work or actions lawfully performed outside (not based on activities under this Agreement) or has been made available to the receiving Parties by another party without any confidentiality restrictions. This confidentiality obligation applies also to information communicated orally when such information shall be kept confidential, for instance in the context of information exchange through seminars and workshops. Confidentiality of information exchanged orally or in writing in connection with this Agreement shall be maintained for a period of five years after its expiry or termination. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Party may indicate when communicating information to the other Party that the confidentiality of such information shall be maintained even after the said five-year period. A Party that intends to produce any work reproducing or using data exchanged, shall obtain prior permission from the other Party.

ARTICLE 9. APPLICABLE LAW AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California, USA, without regard to its conflict-of-laws principles. Parties shall seek to settle any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or in connection with this Agreement through amicable negotiations. Such effort shall be deemed to have failed when one of the Parties so notifies the other in writing. If the Parties fail to settle their differences through amicable negotiations, each Party may initiate proceedings before the state and federal courts of San Diego County, California, USA.

ARTICLE 10. ENTRY INTO FORCE AND DURATION

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature by the last Party and is concluded for a period of 5 years and shall automatically renew at the end of the initial term for successive one-year periods unless terminated in accordance with the following paragraphs. This Agreement may be amended only by written agreement signed by the duly authorized representatives of both Parties. Either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time after three months of written notice to the other Parties. This shall *inter alia* be the case where research programmes and budget allocations are no longer compatible with the continuation of the working relationship, procedure or work programme.

ARTICLE 11. AMENDMENTS

The Parties may make changes and additions to the terms of this Agreement by mutual agreement. All changes and additions to this Agreement shall be made in writing and signed by all Parties.

The Agreement is drawn up in English in five copies, one for each Party, all having equal validity.

ARTICLE 12. TRANSFER OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL

12.1 The Parties anticipate that VETMEDUNI has and/or will collect and transfer to ILLUMINA biological material.

12.2 VETMEDUNI declares that it has the right and permissions to transfer such biological material to ILLUMINA in accordance with this Agreement.

12.3 This Agreement is made subject to any restrictions concerning the export of products or technical information from the United States or other countries that may be imposed on the Parties from time to time. Without limiting any other provision of this Agreement, each Party agrees that it will not export, directly or indirectly, any technical information (including confidential information) or material acquired from the other Party or any products using such technical information or material to a location or in a manner that at the time of export requires an export license or other governmental approval, without first obtaining the written consent to do so from the appropriate agency or other governmental entity in accordance with applicable law.

ANNEX 1

Project proposal submitted to the 11th Illumina Agricultural Greater Good Initiative Award call

ABSTRACT

Camels represent a key livestock resource in several **LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES**, where they can positively impact in the large socio-economical issues related to **WATER SCARCITY, POVERTY** and **UNDER-NUTRITION, FOOD SECURITY AND RESILIENCE IN FRAGILE SYSTEMS, RURAL EXODUS** and **MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS**, as also attested

by the growing attention toward this species by national governments in designing strategies and plans for rural development. The highest number of live animals are reported in Somalia, Sudan, Kenya, Niger, Chad, Mauritania, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Mali, Yemen (FAOSTAT, 2016). In large part of these countries, due to their special assortment of biological and physiological traits specifically **ADAPTED TO EXTREME HARSH DESERT CONDITIONS**, camels, better than other livestock species, can indeed thrive and produce high-quality proteins for food consumption. As such, multifunctional camel systems are fundamental to make rational use of resources in vast uncultivated arid lands.

Unlike the other livestock species, the genomic revolution is still in its early infancy for camels. Notwithstanding, a **GROWING WORLD-WIDE DEMAND FOR INNOVATION EXISTS**, as attested by the recent establishment of the **INTERNATIONAL CAMEL CONSORTIUM FOR GENETIC IMPROVEMENT AND CONSERVATION (ICC-GIC)** that now counts over than 80 members from various countries from the five continents. Starting from 2013, and thanks to the adoption of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) technologies, **WHOLE GENOME ASSEMBLIES** have been published, currently at the **SCAFFOLD LEVEL**. In an effort to move toward a high resolution camel genome map, in 2018 a set of two **RADIATION HYBRID PANELS** at different resolution were constructed (Perelman et al., 2017) and work is ongoing to establish the organization of the camel genome at chromosome level using low-coverage NGS of the RH panels. Coupled with the published **TRANSCRIPTOMES** (Holl et al., 2018; Prasad et al., 2014; Al-Swailem et al., 2010), the available genomes have opened the way to **VARIANT IDENTIFICATION** (Khalkhali-Evrigh et al., 2018, Prasad et al., 2014). Implementation of a selection of SNP loci in a **SNP GENOTYPING PLATFORM** may allow rapid and cost-effective genotyping of hundreds of thousands SNPs in large numbers of animals, thus boosting downstream applications such as **GENOME-WIDE ASSOCIATION STUDIES** for production traits and **GENOME-BASED SELECTIVE BREEDING**. To this aim, the risk of the phenomenon known as “SNP ascertainment bias” (Albrechtsen et al., 2010) has to be carefully taken into account.

Here, we propose to perform the first **WORLD-WIDE WHOLE-GENOME CAMEL DIVERSITY STUDY**. The rationale behind this idea is that investigating genetic diversity

across the whole geographic range of camel distribution represents the first step toward the development of a well-designed SNP chip. To this aim, the **CORE COLLECTION OF DNA SAMPLES AVAILABLE FROM THE ICC-GIC MEMBERS**, including more than 850 samples from 19 countries, will be adopted. In particular, considering a total amount of 20 terabases of Illumina NovaSeq sequencing data, we propose to sequence

- 400 samples, representative of the different countries, at a 15X depth, by using Illumina proprietary library preparation kits
- 25 samples, representative of the different countries, at a 35X depth, by using an Illumina partner service (the 10X Genomics® Linked-Read sequencing)

This strategy will allow to obtain a deep insight on the genomic variation at a large geographic scale, also taking advantage from the ability of the 10X Genomics® Linked- Read sequencing to access conventional NGS-unmappable regions, **PROVIDE RESOLUTION OF HAPLOTYPES**, better detection and characterization of structural variants (Garcia et al., 2016). In the frame of the ICC-GIC agreements, the currently available “whole-sequenced” genomes at VETMEDUNI, Vienna, Austria (9; Pamela Burger), University of Florida, USA (14; Samantha Brooks) and King Faisal University in KSA (6; Faisal Almathen) will be made available for **META-ANALYSIS**.

While the main goal of the proposal is to pave the way for the development of an **ILLUMINA CAMEL GENOTYPING BEADCHIP**, to be used on a large-scale for improving selective breeding for production traits, the opportunity offered by the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative grants will allow, in parallel, Project partners to improve the currently available reference genomes, deepen understanding of evolutionary processes (domestication, inter-specific hybridization, dispersal and selection) that shaped the camel genomes, and decipher the molecular basis of the peculiar physiological adaptation traits of camels. Also, in line with the mission of ICC- GIC, this initiative will allow to strengthen the relationships among the camel scientific community, and offer the opportunity for advanced training on *in silico* whole-genome sequence data analysis to highly dynamic and motivated students and young researchers from less developed countries.

The contribution of the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative grant is essential for the achievement of the project objectives in an effective and timely manner. Indeed, despite the socio-economic relevance of the camel sector, and the growing evidence for it as an emerging market, the **GEOGRAPHIC AND POLITIC FRAGMENTATION OF THE CAMEL COUNTRIES** makes hard to access funds to work on a supranational level. As an example, efforts by the ICC-GIC members to obtain the inclusion of camels in the U.S. National Animal Genome Research Project were up to now unsuccessful. Moreover, the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative grant would nicely fits with the ongoing efforts of the ICC-GIC toward standardization of procedures for **RECORDING PRODUCTION TRAITS PHENOTYPES** and sensitization of camel countries on the need for accurate national phenotyping plans. Worthwhile to mention, in this regard, the very recent inclusion of Old-World camels in the ICAR (International Animal Recording Committee) - Sheep, Goat and Camelid Working Group, the establishment of an EAAP (European Federation of Animal Science) Camelids Working Group, and the financing by

EU of the CARAVAN project, involving, among others, Northern African countries and the Canary islands (Spain) in standardizing phenotype recording procedures. Thus, the parallel progression on both the phenotyping and the genotyping sides will create the best environment for both the scientific and the commercial exploitation of the **ILLUMINA CAMEL GENOTYPING BEADCHIP**.

In NENA (Near-East and North Africa) countries, a leverage effect from the project can be likely expected in the mid-term, concerning the establishment of local Illumina BeadChip genotyping platforms, as a first step in market penetration of, and consumer familiarization to, the Illumina product portfolio.

PROJECT DETAILS

Background

Relevance of the camel sector and recent trends

Old World domestic camels (*Camelus dromedarius* and *C. bactrianus*) are documented in 48 countries in Africa and Asia (FAOSTAT 2016), where they represent an important livestock resource for nomadic and semi-nomadic people. Dromedary camels are also

found outside their original geographic range of rearing, such as in Australia (Köhler- Rollefson 1991; Spencer & Woolnough 2010), where they live feral and are nowadays exploited for the meat production, and, in growing numbers, also in Europe and America, where they mainly occupy special niches of market (tourist rides, functional food or cosmetic products based on dromedary milk, etc.). The top countries, i.e., those reporting the highest number of live animals are Somalia, Sudan, Kenya, Niger, Chad, Mauritania, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Mali, Yemen and United Arab Emirates (FAOSTAT, 2016). This geographic repartition suggests how, in these areas, due to the special assortment of biological and physiological traits specifically adapted to extreme harsh desert conditions, these two species can thrive and produce high-quality proteins (milk and meat) for food consumption. This is of particular relevance if we consider that, of the above countries, four (Niger, Chad, Ethiopia and Mali) are classed as "low-income" by the World Bank (data 2017), and four (Sudan, Kenya, Mauritania and Pakistan) falls in the "lower-middle income" group, while no data are available for Somalia and Yemen. Also, in these countries, high levels of growth failure still persist (Osgood-Zimmerman et al., 2018), notably in terms of child growth failure (CGF), as a consequence of under-nutrition (stunting, wasting and underweight). Indeed, some of these countries had among the highest rates of CGF based on multiple metrics in 2015, and the United Nations identified in these countries millions of people that are at imminent risk of famine. In sub-Saharan Africa, 36.6% of children under five were stunted, 8.6% wasted

and 19.5% underweight in 2015, with CGF being the second leading risk factor for child mortality, accounting for more than 23% of deaths of children under five in this region, where a persistent band of high prevalence for underweight exists across the Sahel, stretching from southern Mali in the west to the Horn of Africa in the east.

Traditional societies used to explore and valorise vast uncultivated arid lands thanks to original livestock systems based on camels, grazing systems and mobility, and kinships links to manage common resources in their spatial and temporal dimensions. Despite camel farming still plays a marginal role at the global level, yet the ability of these animals to adapt to arid environments and to make rational use of resources in these areas, as well as their numerous functions make them valuable allies in the current context of climate change and desertification. Indeed, in desert areas, camel farming plays a pivotal role in the conservation of rural societies, in the valorisation of natural resources through a multifunctional livestock production system, and in the management of water scarcity. As such, camel farming has an impact on the large socio-economical issues such as combat against desertification, alleviation of poverty in marginal rural areas, promotion of food security in fragile systems, limitation of rural exodus and of migratory movements. Moreover, camel presence and use of dromedaries in these areas has shaped the socio-cultural landscape, with folkloristic exhibitions and events still being a vital part in customs, traditions and beliefs conservation and transmission from one generation to another, thus keeping ethnic identity alive.

Camel farming has been generally perceived as an asset of secondary relevance, and the camel farming system is generally considered poorly productive and inactive. On the contrary, a rapid, though fragmentary and disorganized, change is ongoing in the camel sector, with diversification and technological innovation in associated products that are now growingly entering the market, and there is growing interest in the capacity of these animals to enhance desert ecosystems. Furthermore, studies have uncovered several camel products with applications in human medicine, including unique immunoglobulin molecules that are useful in nanobody technology (Muyldermans et al. 2009) and milk that may contain beneficial properties for the treatment of diabetes (Agrawal et al. 2011).

Among the major drivers in the evolution of camel farming systems are urban growth and changing diets, both contributing to accelerate the commercialisation of camel products. A combination of additional factors are also contributing to the camel production intensification, such as (i) the high selling price of milk compared to other livestock species (Bengoumi and Faye, 2015), (ii) the real, or assumed, nutritional and healing properties of camel milk, (iii) the presence of a number of active and open-minded actors making efforts to move toward sustainable intensification of the production, transformation and supply systems, (iv) the growing governmental investments in the camel sector.

As a consequence, in some areas, camel herders are prompted to settle on the outskirts of cities and to intensify their production in order to offer products that are better suited to the needs of urban populations. To meet this demand, the number of periurban dairy farms is increasing and mini-dairies start to be set up (Bensaha and Arbouche, 2014;

Benshaha et al, 2012); this type of farming, which is traditionally hyper extensive, is thus becoming more intensive. The result is radical changes in camel management practices: increasing use of artificial insemination, shorter calving intervals, above ground feeding, highly concentrated feed, machine milking, early weaning, higher culling rates, and breeding of the best milk producers, with very different levels of combinations of the above factors being possible.

The camel is still considered a multi-purpose animal, with exploitation mainly concerning milk and meat, and some existing interest in wool and leather. No specialized breeds exist; and even the notion of breed does not fully apply for this species in most cases (Cherifi et al., 2017).

To date, the trend toward a more intensive production system has been mainly supported via a numerical increase in the dimension of the commercially exploited stocks rather than through systematic improvement of the management practices. As a consequence of the lack of a systematic breeding, a large within-herd phenotypic variability can generally be observed; the latter seems to be mostly pursued by farmers, who consider herd phenotypic diversification as a best strategy for coping with extreme climatic conditions. As for the milk, an overall production of 25.6 tonnes is estimated to have been produced in Northern Africa in 2016 while, for meat, an overall production of 55.1 tonnes is estimated based on imputation methodology (Source: FAO-STAT, 2016). Camel products, almost exclusively used for self-consumption up to a recent past (Faye et al., 2017; Meribai et al., 2016), are more and more entering various market channels, although the corresponding value chains are still poorly organized. In particular, at the primary production level, farmer aggregation, which is of fundamental importance to allow implementation of modern and effective genetic selection schemes, is still in its early infancy. For example, in Tunisia, there are currently four dromedary associations, in Tataouine (50 associates, about 3000 animals), in Medenine (20 associates, about 1000 animals), in Tozeur (100 associates, about 1000 animals) and in Kebili (200 associates, about 5000 animals). Those associations provide agricultural services for the camel owners (Bedhif et al., 2018). In Algeria, the “Fédération National des Éleveurs” (FNE) has been created under the umbrella of the “Union nationale des paysans algériens” (UNPA) in 2008. The FNE National Council and National Office were established, respectively, in 2010 and 2011. FNE cover the national territory (27 wilayas) and farmers of the four ruminant/pseudo-ruminant species (sheep, goats, cattle and camels). FNE plays an important socio-economic and syndicate role, and promote aggregation among farmers to protect and develop the livestock system and society. Besides FNE, local associations of dromedary breeders exist, their primary role being management of compensations and subsidies to farmers and other agro-veterinary services (S. Gaouar, personal communication). In Morocco, a national camel association does not exist yet, due to some conflicts among different provincial camel breeders associations, mainly based in the south of the country. The existing provincial camel breeders associations, created right after the launching of the Green Morocco Plan (national plan for rural development) during 2010-2011, despite their official mission to develop dromedary farming and improving milk and meat production, still have a poor impact on the camel system and does not significantly contribute to development

and improvement of the dromedary breeding. Associations have a role in participating to promotion events such as fairs and shows.

State of the art of genetics, genomics, and selective breeding in camels

Lessons learned from other livestock species have demonstrated that tremendous genetic gain is possible with adoption of modern effective selection schemes and strategies. However, several factors may influence the chance of success of selection decisions and actions, among which the biological peculiarities of the considered species, the available theoretical knowledge and technological know-how, organizational factors and external socio-political factors. Selection, both environmental- or human- mediated, ultimately acts on the genetic variation available within a given population but, in order to make genetic improvements, the population genetic diversity must be reduced (the so called selection/conservation dilemma). In the initiation of a long-term breeding program, if the genetic variation is rapidly depleted, initial gains can be huge, but the long-term goals may be endangered. Knowledge about the initial genetic diversity of the population is hence essential. There are several approaches to estimate genetic diversity, such as (i) pedigree analysis, (ii) morphometric characterization, and (iii) the use of genetic/genomic markers. Different indicators points to different aspects of the genetic variability, hence their combined use may assure a more complete understanding. Due to lack of systematic genealogical recording in camels, only methods (ii) and (iii) have been applied in this species. Several papers have been published characterizing camel populations by body measurements (e.g., for North Africa, Harek et al., 2017; Chniter et al., 2013), however these studies were intended for investigating the existence of differentiated populations/breeds rather than for exploring inter-individual variability in a selective breeding perspective. Moreover, discordance exists in the number and type of body measurements adopted. Unfortunately, no specific checklist was provided for camelids in the FAO guidelines for phenotypic characterization of animal genetic resources (FAO, 2012), hence efforts in this direction would be desirable. On the contrary, camelids were contemplated in the guidelines for molecular genetic characterization of animal resources published in 2011 (FAO, 2011), where a set of 25 microsatellite markers shown to be polymorphic in both New and Old World camelids were proposed for standardization and comparison among studies. Several papers have been published in the last two decades addressing the analysis of genetic variability within and among camel populations in various geographic areas by using microsatellite markers (Legesse et al., 2018; Cherifi et al., 2017; Almathen et al., 2016; Mehta et al., 2014; Vijk et al., 2007; Mburu et al., 2003). In the study by Almathen et al (2016), by combining nuclear microsatellite data with mitochondrial DNA analysis in modern dromedary samples from all over the current species geographic range, as well as in ancient wild and early-domesticated samples, dynamics of domestication and cross-continental dispersal of the dromedary were unravelled, confirming extensive gene flow suggested by previous works.

In the meantime, in the years 2013-2014, thanks to the adoption of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) technologies, the reference genome for the wild camel (*Camelus ferus*) had been published (GenBank assembly accession: GCA_000311805.2), together with two whole-genome assemblies for the Bactrian camel (*Camelus bactrianus*) (GenBank assembly accession: GCA_000604445.1 and GCA_000767855.1) and two whole-genome assemblies for the dromedary (GCA_000767585.1 and GCA_000803125.1). All the above assemblies are currently at the scaffold level. In 2016, an additional independent whole-genome assembly for the dromedary (at the contig level) was published, and in 2018 a hybrid whole-genome assembly incorporating both short Illumina reads and long reads obtained through PacBio and 10X Genomics Chromium sequencing has been presented to the scientific community, with scaffolds organized into putative chromosomes using comparative genomics approaches. The abundance of whole-genome assemblies for camelids, while demonstrating the growing interest in Old World camelids by the scientific community, it also point to a major weakness in this field due to still poor interconnection and collaboration among various research groups. In an effort to move from unmapped scaffolds to a high resolution dromedary genome map, in 2018 a set of two radiation hybrid (RH) panels at different resolution (5000RAD and 15000RAD, respectively) were constructed (Perelman et al., 2017) and work is ongoing to establish the organization of the dromedary genome at chromosome level using low-coverage NGS of the RH panels, one of which (5000RAD) was obtained from fibroblasts derived from a female dromedary previously used for constructing the GCA_000803125.1 whole genome assembly.

At the transcriptomic level, a first screening of *Camelus dromedarius* ESTs (Expressed Sequence Tags) representatives of eleven tissues (brain, liver, kidney, heart, muscle, lung, spleen, pancreas, stomach, genitals, and colon) was performed by Al-Swailem et al. (2010) and produced a set of 23,602 putative gene sequences out of which over 4,500 potentially novel or fast evolving gene sequences not carrying any homology to other available genomes. In 2012 a project was launched to generate an assembly of Illumina paired-ends reads from ten *C. dromedarius* tissues (BioProject Accession PRJNA82161). A likely related publication came out in 2014 (Prasad et al., 2014) reporting on an RNAseq experiment performed on kidney and heart tissues from *C. dromedarius* and *C. bactrianus*, and a public website was created (<<http://14.139.252.118/Dcamel/index.php>>) where the catalogue of transcripts resulting from an RNAseq experiment performed in seven tissues (brain, kidney, liver, lungs, muscle, skin, and testis) can be browsed. A recent *de novo* transcriptome assembly has been presented at the PAG congress in January (Holl et al., 2018) and will be likely released soon.

The growing number of available camel genomes has also opened the way to variant identification (Khalkhali-Evrigh et al., 2018, Prasad et al., 2014), with millions of single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and thousands of indels identified so far. Implementation of a selection out of the available SNP loci in a genotyping platform (SNP chip) may allow rapid and cost-effective genotyping of hundreds of thousands SNPs in large number of animals. To this aim, Besides the risk of the phenomenon known as “SNP ascertainment bias” (Albrechtsen et al., 2010) has to be carefully taken into account.

A type of “genotyping by sequencing” (GBS), known as DD-RAD (Double Digest Restriction Associated DNA) sequencing has been recently adopted to characterize the genetic relationships among dromedary populations from 18 countries (Ciani et al., 2017). Interestingly, no clear genetic structuring was observed, despite the significantly greater resolution offered by the tens of thousands SNPs compared to microsatellites used in the work by Almathen et al. (2016). While the low number of animals per country may partly have hampered to detect fine sub-structures, the very low differentiation also observed at the intercontinental (Asia vs. Africa) level seems to support the peculiar dynamic history of dromedary, with movements along cross-continental trading routes possibly responsible for erosion of preexisting phylogeographic patterns (Orlando, 2016). Interestingly, the above DD-RAD experiment also highlighted signs of introgression of Bactrian genetic material into dromedary camels in Kazakhstan and Iran, consistent with known practices dating back to very ancient times, aiming at obtaining stronger F1 pack animals, and still in place nowadays in some countries (Ruiz et al., 2015). This observation confirms, and expand, the evidence, provided by NGS data (Burger et al., 2016), of hybridization between Bactrian camels and dromedaries, two species that have been estimated, from mitogenome analysis, to have diverged around 5.3 (Confidence Interval 2.9–7.7) millions of years ago (Mohandesan et al., 2017). Another hybridization phenomenon had been previously documented by nuclear and mitochondrial genetic as well as genomic data, involving introgression from domestic Bactrian camels into wild two-humped camels (*C. ferus*), threatening the gene pool and survival of the wild species classified as “critically endangered” by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (Burger et al., 2016). An additional alerting evidence from genomic data concerns dromedaries, for which, despite the large world-wide population size, a lower nucleotide diversity was observed (at the nuclear level, but not at the mitogenome level; Mohandesan et al., 2017) when compared not only to *Camelus bactrianus* but also to the small endangered population of *Camelus ferus* (P. Burger, personal communication), likely the consequence of a remote bottleneck event. This aspect should be carefully taken into account in developing any systematic selective breeding scheme, in order to avoid further dramatic increase of homozygosity in the dromedary genome. Approaches like “optimum contribution selection” may allow to maximize genetic gain while imposing a restriction on ΔF (change in the value of the inbreeding coefficient from one generation to the other) (Sonesson and Meuwissen, 2000). Also, assuring a large cross-border population base for selection may be an option, for example, in Maghreb countries, where poor genetic differentiation has been shown among dromedary populations (Ciani et al., 2017), suggesting that options for an international effort to share risks and costs in establishing a common reference population to be used in genomic selection schemes may be viable in theory. This would however require relevant diplomatic, political and organizational efforts for establishing an internationally recognized body managing selection decisions and implementation.

A small step toward exchanging experiences and best practices, and increasing integration among the Maghreb countries, on issues related to selective breeding in dromedary camels is represented by the recently EU-funded project “CA.RA.VA.N. - Toward a CAMEL tRANSnational VAlue chain” involving South (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia)

and North (Spain, Italy, France) Mediterranean partners, together with associated partners from Mauritania and Austria (<<https://www.caravan-project.eu/>>). Here, besides an impulse toward standardization of guidelines and practices for phenotyping, individual identification and genealogical recording, that has already given as major outcome the inclusion of Old World camelids within the “Sheep, Goats and Small Camelids Working Group” of ICAR (International Committee for Animal Recording), a small transnational pilot project for the initial implementation of shared practices in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Canary islands is going to be putted in place in the next two years.

Given the mentioned lack of genealogical records, together with the lack of systematic phenotype recording, there is still only a limited knowledge on genetic parameters (heritability and correlations among traits) for this species. Few preliminary studies have been performed (Vyas et al., 2018; Nagy et al., 2017; Mibody et al., 2016; Almutairi et al., 2010; Al-Sobayil et al., 2006). Moreover, only a very limited knowledge exists in this species about direct or indirect genetic markers associated to traits of interest to be ultimately implemented in marker assisted selection strategies. Recently, a single nucleotide frameshift deletion in exon 2 of the ASIP gene causing a premature stop at codon 24, instead of codon 133, was shown to be associated with black color in dromedaries (Alshanbari, 2018). Moreover, a missense mutation (Val9Ala) in exon 2 of the GH gene, was found to be associated with increased estimated body weight when comparing four Saudi camel types (Majaheem, Saheli, Homor and Wodoh) (Afifi et al., 2014). The study was based on a large sample size (200 animals per each breed), however authors genotyped animals at only two SNPs. Availability of genotype data upstream and downstream of the two considered SNPs in the above set of animals, currently feasible at affordable prices via NGS-based targeted re-sequencing, would allow screening for additional loci in linkage disequilibrium, and possibly provide additional support to the role of the Val9Ala as a causative mutation. The above set of animal DNAs and phenotypes also represent a valuable resource for implementing in the near future, when map information will be available for a sufficient number of SNPs in the genome, more powerful, hypothesis-free genome-wide association study (GWAS) approaches. Similarly, at that stage, the wealth of phenotypic data minutely collected over more than thousand dromedaries, originally from Middle East, Africa and Asia (thus representing a large gene pool) through more than a decade for a large range of traits related to reproduction efficiency and milk production at the Emirates Industry for Camel Milk and Products, a large-scale dairy camel farm located in Dubai (UAE) (Nagy et al., 2017), will turn into a treasure trove for dissection of the molecular architecture behind traits of commercial relevance. As for Northern Africa, in Tunisia a national strategy for the development of the dromedary sector for the years 2016-2020 has been formally established, with a global budget of 16 billions of Tunisian Dinars (W. Ben Salem, personal communication). At present, about 7000 new animals are identified per year, with a total of 60,000 animals currently identified by the responsible authority, the Bureau of Livestock and Pasture (Office de l'Élevage et des Pâturages, OEP). Also, a first nucleus of 10 farms (around thousand animals per farm) are now subjected to official milk recording (monthly morning machine milking). Unfortunately, at the moment, only quantitative (milk yield) and no qualitative (gross composition) data are

collected. As for the meat production, performance test trials (live body weight) in growing animals have been implemented but these are not performed on a systematic basis. Among the constraints limiting the development of modern selection systems in Northern Africa, a major role is played by the relevant geographic distances between research institutions and national governing bodies, mainly based in the northern and central part of the Maghreb countries, and the breeding units, preponderantly located in southern provinces, that hinder efficient and continuous knowledge sharing and transfer, and high-impacting policies.

Taken together, all the above highlight a tremendous progress in the knowledge field during the last few years, not accompanied by a parallel strengthening of organizational and governance effectiveness, pointing to the urgent need for an active solution-oriented participative engagement of the scientific community in a regular dialogue with all the (real or potential) stakeholders of the camel sector. Research and innovation, as well as capacity transfer will play a crucial role in the ability of the camel sector to exploit at best its potentialities, with North/South and East/West collaborations being pivotal for transfer of highly innovative technologies adapted to local scenarios.

The currently world-wide increasing interest by researchers in the dromedary species, also as animal model for understanding its outstanding physiological and adaptation features, is gradually shaping relationships within the scientific community, which is now highly dynamic and motivated, as attested by the creation of the International Society of Camelid Research and Development (ISOCARD), and the recent launch of the **International Camel Consortium for Genetic Improvement and Conservation** - ICC- GIC - (7-9 April 2015 Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; 6-8 June 2015 Almaty, Kazakhstan) that now counts over than 80 members from various countries from the five continents.

Beside doing high-level research, the biggest challenge for researchers in the very near future will be the transfer and application of modern technologies in order to generate sustainable development opportunities. Most of the above processes are now in their infancy stage and need hence to be strongly supported, accompanied, facilitated and put into a larger network perspective. The experience gained so far corroborates our vision that only an integrated transnational participatory approach could represent a choice option given the current scenario.

Objectives

The proposal has been designed around three major, and interconnected, goals:

- TO EXTEND THE CURRENT KNOWLEDGE ON THE DIVERSITY OF CAMELS AT THE WHOLE-GENOME LEVEL, as a preliminary step for improving the currently available reference genomes, deepening understanding of evolutionary processes (domestication, inter-

specific hybridization, dispersal and selection) that shaped the camel genomes, and deciphering the molecular basis of the peculiar physiological adaptation traits of camels.

- TO DEVELOP A TOOL (**ILLUMINA CAMEL GENOTYPING BEADCHIP**) enabling large-scale diversity and association studies, as well as implementation of genome-based selective breeding practices

- TO PROMOTE HUMAN RESOURCES CAPACITY-BUILDING AND NETWORKING

Overall Strategy

Within the frame of the International Camel Consortium for Genetic Improvement and Conservation (ICC-GIC), we propose to perform the first large-scale study of the camel genetic diversity at the world-wide level. To this aim, the core collection of DNA samples available from the ICC-GIC members, including more than 850 samples from 19 countries (Algeria, Australia, Chad, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates), will be adopted.

In particular, considering a total amount of 20 tera-bases of Illumina NovaSeq sequencing data, we propose to sequence

- 400 samples, representative of the different countries, at a 15X depth, by using Illumina proprietary library preparation kits
- 25 samples, representative of the different countries, at a 35X depth, by using an Illumina partner service (the 10X Genomics® Linked-Read sequencing)

This strategy will allow to obtain a deep insight on the genomic variation at a large geographic scale, also taking advantage from the ability of the 10X Genomics® Linked- Read sequencing to access conventional NGS-unmappable regions, provide resolution of haplotypes, better detection and characterization of structural variants (Garcia et al., 2016).

Moreover, in the frame of the ICC-GIC agreements, the currently available “whole- sequenced” genomes at VETMEDUNI, Vienna, Austria (9; Responsible person: Prof. Pamela Burger), University of Florida, USA (14; Responsible person: Prof. Samantha Brooks) and King Faisal University in KSA (6; Responsible person: Prof. Faisal Almathen) and the "RAD-sequenced" genomes available at University of Bari (122, Responsible person: Prof. Elena Ciani) will be made available for meta-analysis. Whole-genome sequence data from the phylogenetically close species, *Camelus bactrianus* and

Camelus ferus (14, Responsible person: Prof. Pamela Burger) will also be made available for evolutionary studies (species divergence, inter-specific hybridization, impact of domestication and selection on the genome).

The four Institutions, having previous experience of close international collaboration among them:

- University of Bari, Italy, submitter of the present proposal (responsible person: Prof. Elena Ciani);
- VetMedUni, Vienna, Austria (responsible person: Prof. Pamela Burger);
- University of Florida, USA (responsible person: Prof. Samantha Brooks);
- King Faisal University, KSA (responsible person: Prof. Faisal Almathen)

will be part of the Project Executive Board (PEB), in charge for the Project design and implementation. The PEB, chaired by Prof. Elena Ciani (University of Bari, Italy), will also play a role of interface and coordination toward other ICC-GIC members actively engaged in the project implementation, as well as in the project follow-up, that, together with the member of the PEB, will be part of the Project Coordination Committee (PCC).

While the main goal of the proposal is to pave the way for the development of an ILLUMINA CAMEL GENOTYPING BEADCHIP, to be used on a large-scale for improving selective breeding for production traits, the opportunity offered by the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative grants will allow, in parallel, Project partners to improve the currently available reference genomes, deepen understanding of evolutionary processes (domestication, inter-specific hybridization, dispersal and selection) that shaped the camel genomes, and decipher the molecular basis of the peculiar physiological adaptation traits of camels. To this aim, bioinformatics facilities (such as RECAS < <https://www.recas-bari.it/index.php/en/>>) and human resources available at the four Institutions, possibly integrated by those offered by other ICC-GIC partners, will be actively engaged in data mining, following a structured and preliminarily agreed distribution of tasks, definition of milestones and metrics to track progress. Property issues related to the storage and usage of whole-genome sequence data generated within the project will be managed within the frame of the ICC-GIC Consortium. A fair, inclusive, and preliminarily agreed joint publication policy will be adopted for scientific dissemination of the Project results.

Given the above, and in line with the mission of ICC-GIC, this initiative will allow to strengthen the relationships among the camel scientific community, and offer the opportunity for advanced training on *in silico* whole-genome sequence data analysis to highly dynamic and motivated students and young researchers from less developed countries.

The contribution of the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative grant is essential for the achievement of the project objectives in an effective and timely manner. Indeed, despite the socio-economic relevance of the camel sector, and the growing evidence for it as an emerging market, the geographic and politic fragmentation of the camel

countries makes hard to access funds to work on a supranational level. As an example, efforts by the ICC-GIC members to obtain the inclusion of camels in the U.S. National Animal Genome Research Project, and thus assure a structured, medium-term financial support for the research activities in this field, were up to now unsuccessful. A further example clearly highlighting the relevance, for the camel scientific community, to achieve the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative grant is given by the number of initiatives that, up to now, have been carried out in the camel genomics field by various camel scientists, always relying on small, very focused, national funds. Indeed, despite motivation of scientists and the partly successful efforts by ICC-GIC to coordinate such initiatives, legal constraints arising from the adoption of national principles of intellectual property management for research funded by national public bodies hampered so far the tangible establishment of a fully shared research area in the camel science. The submission of the present proposal on behalf of the ICC-GIC Consortium represents the first step toward this direction, and, given its nature, the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative looks the best opportunity to move forward. Moreover, the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative grant would nicely fits with the ongoing efforts of the ICC-GIC toward standardization of procedures for recording production traits phenotypes and sensitization of camel countries on the need for accurate national phenotyping plans. Worthwhile to mention, in this regard, the very recent inclusion of Old-World camels in the ICAR (International Animal Recording Committee) - Sheep, Goat and Camelid Working Group, the establishment of an EAAP (European Federation of Animal Science) Camelids Working Group, and the financing by EU of the CARAVAN project (Arimnet2, call 2016), involving, among others, Northern African countries and the Canary islands (Spain) in standardizing phenotype recording procedures and launching a transnational pilot project for milk recording in camels. Thus, the parallel progression on both the phenotyping and the genotyping sides will create the best environment for both the scientific and the commercial exploitation of the Illumina Camel Genotyping Beadchip. In NENA (Near-East and North Africa) countries, a leverage effect from the project can be likely expected in the mid-term, concerning the establishment of local Illumina BeadChip genotyping platforms, as a first step in market penetration of the Illumina product portfolio. To this aim, ICC-GIC, given its cohesive, informative and formative mission, may contribute by fostering, in these countries, consumer familiarization toward new technologies.

Expected outputs

Short-term outputs:

- 400 whole genomes, sequenced at a 15X depth, by using Illumina proprietary library preparation kits and Illumina NovaSeq sequencing

- 25 whole genomes, sequenced at a 35X depth, by using the 10X Genomics® Linked- Read sequencing coupled to Illumina NovaSeq

- Visibility to the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative through the web channels of ICC-GIC and associated members

Mid-term outputs:

- Global archive of sequence variants

- List of selected SNPs to be included in the Illumina Camel Genotyping Beadchip

- Improved version of the camel genome map

- Scientific publications presenting, among others, the results of the phylogenetic analysis on whole-genome sequence data to reconstruct the evolutionary processes (domestication, inter-specific hybridization, dispersal and selection) that shaped the camel genomes

- Visibility to the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative through the web channels of ICC-GIC and associated members

- Visibility to the 2019 Agricultural Greater Good Initiative and dissemination of the Project results in international congresses (e.g. XXVIII PAG Plant & Animal Genome Conference, San Diego - CA in 2020 and/or 2012; EAAP European Federation of Animal Science Annual Meetings; next ISOCARD International Society of Camelid Research and Development Conference, place to be defined, in 2021) and in local congresses, the latter mainly in camel countries (e.g. Closing Meeting of the CARAVAN project, in Canary Islands - Spain, end 2020).

Long-term outputs:

- Scientific exploitation of the Illumina Camel Genotyping Beadchip (first round of purchase, coordinated by the ICC-GIC)

- Publication of Genome-Wide Association Studies (GWAS)

- Commercial exploitation of the Illumina Camel Genotyping Beadchip (agreements with breeders associations)

Execution ability

Organizational resources:

The proposal is submitted by Elena Ciani (University of Bari, Italy) on behalf of ICC-GIC (International Camel Consortium for Genetic Improvement and Conservation) <<https://icc-gic.weebly.com>>. The Consortium, chaired by Faisal Almathen, was established in 2015, under the umbrella of the well-established ISOCARD (International Society of Camelid Research and Development), to promote international collaboration among camel scientists and camel stakeholders, and it now counts over than 80 members from various countries from the five continents. Since its establishment, ICC- GIC has had an active role in training young student and researchers, mainly on genome- wide SNP data analysis approaches and tools, both in the form of residential trainings at the various Institutions that are member of the ICC-GIC, and as intensive trainings satellites to the main ISOCARD Conference. In these years, ICC-GIC members have successfully worked to increase the visibility of the camel scientific community at the world-wide level. This has been achieved, for example, thanks to the establishment of a first Camelids Genome Workshop within the frame of the XXIV PAG Plant & Animal Genome Conference, San Diego - CA in 2016 (Chair: Samantha Brooks), followed by a similar initiative in 2017 (Chair: Terje Raudsepp; co-Chair: Pamela Burger) and 2018 (Chair: Pamela Burger; Co-chair: Don Miller - Cornell University, USA), and the next is planned to be at XXVII PAG Plant & Animal Genome Conference, San Diego - CA in 2019 (Chair: Don Miller). Also, in 2018, the members of ICC-GIC succeeded in obtaining the inclusion of Old-World camels in the ICAR (International Animal Recording Committee)

- Sheep, Goat and Camelid Working Group (Pamela Burger and Elena Ciani being, among others, member of this Working Group). Moreover, in 2017, the EAAP (European Federation of Animal Science) Camelids Working Group has been established (Pamela Burger and Elena Ciani being, among others, member of this Working Group). Some ICC- GIC members are part of the ongoing EU-financed CARAVAN project, co-chaired by Elena Ciani and involving, among others, Northern African countries and the Canary islands (Spain), in standardizing phenotype recording procedures and launching a trans-national pilot project for milk recording in camels. Additional joint project proposals have been drafted by ICC-GIC members since the Consortium establishment, and, despite the less successful results, these have been great opportunities for partners to exchange and discuss on common goals and topics, thus moving forward in the consolidation of the camel scientific community.

Human resources:

As it would not be possible to provide here an overview of all the members of ICC-GIC that will be involved in the project implementation, a short professional sketch is provided below only for the members of the Project Executive Board, with special emphasis on the Project submitter.



Elena Ciani is Professor of Population Genomics and Animal Breeding at the Department of Biosciences, Biotechnologies and Biopharmaceutics, and member of the Doctorate School in ‘Functional and Applied Genomics and Proteomics’, at the University of Bari (Italy). Prof. Ciani earned a Master degree in ‘Animal Production Science’ in 2001 at the University of Pisa, and a PhD in ‘Animal Production, Health and Hygiene of Food of Animal Origin in Mediterranean Countries’ in 2006, under an Italian/French co-tutoring project between University of Pisa and University of Limoges (UMR INRA 1061).

Member, since 2009, of the International Sheep Genomic Consortium, she has been actively involved in the characterization of the genetic diversity and relationships among world-wide sheep breeds, the identification of genomic signatures of selection for traits of commercial and adaptive relevance, the promotion of initiatives for conservation and valorization of local sheep genetic resources.

Her interest toward camelids started in 2012 when she took part to the ENPI CBC MED project ‘PROCAMED’ in quality of coordinator of a small-scale study for genetic characterization of dromedary populations in Northern Africa via microsatellite markers (Cherifi et al., 2017). Thanks to the fruitful collaboration with the VETMEDUNI group in Vienna, she had afterward the opportunity to move to the ‘genome-wide’ level of analysis of world-wide dromedary populations (Ciani et al., 2017). Among the founder members of the International Camel Consortium for Genetic Improvement and Conservation (ICC-GIC), she has been nominated, in 2015, Vice Chair and Responsible for General Secretariat of ICC-GIC. Member, since 2017, of the EAAP Camelids Working Group. She is currently co-coordinator of an EU-funded project (CA.RA.VA.N., Toward a camel transnational value chain) involving six partners, and two associated partners, from South and North Mediterranean countries.

She has been tutor of master students, PhD students and researchers from various institutions: University of Bari (Italy), University of Urbino (Italy), University of Limoges (France), University of Oran (Algeria), University of Tlemcen (Algeria), Higher Institute of Agricultural Sciences of Chott-Mariem (Tunisia), Veterinary School of Alger (Algeria), Arid Agriculture University of Rawalpindi (Pakistan). She is the author of several scientific publications on molecular genetics/genomics characterization of large and small ruminants. Italian mother-tongue, she speaks fluently English and French and has a basic knowledge of Spanish.



Pamela Burger is principal investigator and group leader at the Institute of Population Genetics, University of Veterinary Medicine (Vetmeduni) Vienna, Austria. In 2000, she earned a Diploma degree in Veterinary Medicine, Specialization in Biotechnology, at Vetmeduni Vienna, Austria. In 2004, she obtained a PhD title at the Institute of Animal Breeding and Genetics, Vetmeduni Vienna discussing a Doctoral thesis on "Mitochondrial DNA mutations as possible cause for neurodegenerative disease in cheetahs", with a Doctoral fellowship from the Austrian Academy of Science. From 2005 to 2007, she had a

post-doctoral position (joint Institute of Animal Breeding and Genetics, and Institute of Biochemistry, Vetmeduni Vienna) on a research entitled "Mutations in the mitochondrial DNA sequence of two zoo felids, cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) and snow leopard (*Panthera unica*): Are they associated with progressive neurodegenerative disorders?", part of the Austrian National Bank project. From 2009 to 2012, she was principal investigator at the Institute of Population Genetics, Vetmeduni Vienna, and leader of the research group investigating on the "Genetic origin and domestication of Old World Camelids" in the frame of a FWF-project (P21084-B17). Since 2012, she is group leader and recipient of an APART fellowship (11506) of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and FWF-project (P24706-B25) "Genomic signatures of domestication and selection in modern, early and pre-domestic Old World camelids". Internationally recognized in the camel genomics field for the high-quality and innovative scientific research, she acted as Veterinarian/ Geneticist Consultant for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (UTF/SAU/021), and was invited as key-note speakers in several international conferences with presentations on camel genomics. She earned several academic prizes (such as , in 2011, the Armin Tschermak von Seysenegg prize for scientific achievements over the past five years, Vetmeduni Vienna, and the First price audience award in the FAMELAB contest for science communication, Vienna, Austria, in 2007) and scholarships (such as the fFORTE scholarship, Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development, in 2006). German mother-tongue, she speaks fluently English and has a basic knowledge of Italian.



Samantha A. Brooks is Associate Professor of Equine Physiology at the Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville. Following a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Biotechnology in 2001, Prof. Brooks remained at the University of Kentucky to study at the Gluck Equine Research Center. While there she earned, in 2006, her PhD in Veterinary Science, specializing in Equine Genetics under the mentorship of Dr. Ernest Bailey. Following her PhD she was awarded the Paul Mellon Postdoctoral

Fellowship at the University of Kentucky to study the expression of inflammatory genes in horses affected with laminitis. Assistant Professor, from 2009 to 2013, at the Department of Animal Science, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, where was responsible for the Equine Biology and Management course. Her research program explores a variety of topics relevant to horse health ranging from gene expression studies to mapping of genetic disorders in the horse. Previously her research group discovered genetic mutations and markers for coat colors, height, sarcoid tumors and two neurological

conditions. Ongoing work targets variation in gait, susceptibility to infectious disease, metabolic syndrome, skeletal defects and stallions with poor-quality frozen semen using genome wide association, genome re-sequencing and transcriptomics. She is leader of the Brooks Equine Genetics lab, focusing on the use of genome-scale tools to study health and disease in the horse, thus providing owners and breeders with tools for improved horse health and management. The Brooks lab is an open team made up of visiting scholars, postdoctoral associates, graduate students, undergraduate researchers and staff. Among them, Dr. Heather Holl, working, as a postdoctoral associate, with the Arabian oryx and the dromedary camel, and Dr. Mohammed Al Abri, from Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman. Prof. Brooks is member of the American Society of Animal Science, the Equine Science Society, the National Association of Equine Affiliated Academics, the International Society of Animal Genetics. She contributed one book on horse genetics and one chapter of book on coat color genomics in horses, and co-authored recent papers on the construction of two whole genome radiation hybrid panels for dromedary, and on the identification of a frameshift mutation in KIT as being associated with white spotting in the Arabian camel.



Faisal Almathen is Professor at the King Faisal University (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) and Chair of the International Camel Consortium for Genetic Improvement and Conservation. PhD in Genetics, Nottingham University, UK, 2014. Master of Science in Molecular Genetics (MSc), Leicester University, Department of Genetics, UK, with classification of Merit, 2006. Bachelor Degree of Veterinary Science (BVSc), King Faisal University, with a final grade "very good" (GPA: 4,23 out of 5), 2002. My current research interest is focusing on the identification and mapping of the

genetic polymorphisms controlling phenotypic traits in livestock. My model includes livestock populations selected intensively by human (morphological and productivity traits) as well as indigenous populations under natural selection (e.g. survival traits such as disease resistances). A major element in my work is the understanding of the genetic history of livestock with molecular characterization an important component of the project. Ongoing research activities are (i) the understanding of the evolutionary history of dromedary camel (*Camelus dromedarius*) populations and (ii) the understanding of the genetic control of coat colour in dromedary camel. Author and co-author of several paper on the genetic characterization of livestock species, including a seminal paper published in PNAS on Ancient and modern DNA revealing dynamics of domestication and cross-continental dispersal of the dromedary.

For University of Bari "Aldo Moro" (Bari - Italy)

Signed _____ in

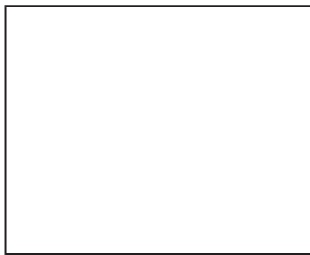
Date

First name and surname

Position

Signature:

Institution's stamp



For University of Veterinary Medicine - VETMEDUNI (Vienna, Austria)

Signed _____ in

Date

First name and surname

Position

Signature:

Institution's stamp



For University of Florida (Gainesville FL, USA)

Signed in Gainesville, Florida, USA

Date 8 / 2 1 / 2 0 1 9

First name and surname LisaStroud

Position Associate Director, Division of Sponsored Programs

Signature:  Digitally signed by Lisa C Stroud
Date: 2019.08.21 16:32:18 -04'00'

Institution's stamp



For King Faisal University (Al-Ihssa, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)

Signed _____ in

Date

First name and surname

Position

Signature:

Institution's stamp



For Illumina Inc (San Diego CA, USA)

Signed _____ in

Date

First name and surname

Position

Signature:

Institution's stamp



AIMS™ AWARDS

Research Agreement

This research agreement ("Agreement") is made effective on the last date of signature ("Effective Date") by and between Atomwise Inc. ("Atomwise"), with offices at 717 Market Street, Suite 800, San Francisco, CA 94103, and University of Bari Aldo Moro ("Institution"), on behalf of Dr. Giuseppe Fiermonte ("Institution Investigator"), with offices at Department of Bioscience, Biotechnologies and Biopharmaceutics, Via Orabona, 4, 70125, Bari, Italy. Atomwise and Institution are hereinafter referred to individually as a "Party" and collectively as "Parties."

The Parties agree as follows:

1. RESEARCH

Atomwise and Institution agree to participate in the research project set forth in Exhibits A and B (collectively "Project"). The Project is to be conducted under the direction of the Institution Investigator and Atomwise. The Project shall not be performed on human subjects, in clinical trials, or for diagnostic purposes involving human subjects. Each Party will fund its own participation in the Project, and there will be no exchange of funds. Neither Party will be responsible for any fees, taxes, or costs incurred by the other Party. Each Party will conduct all activities in connection with this Agreement in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

Each Party may subcontract to affiliates or third parties the performance of its tasks and obligations under this Agreement. Each Party shall remain responsible for its obligations under this Agreement that have been delegated or subcontracted to its subcontractors. Each Party shall cause any subcontractor(s) to be bound by written obligations of confidentiality and invention assignment consistent with those contained herein.

2. CONFIDENTIALITY

"Confidential Information" means information communicated by one Party ("Disclosing Party") to the other Party ("Receiving Party") in writing and marked as "Confidential" or, in the case of oral disclosure, identified at the time of disclosure as confidential, then reduced to writing and marked as "Confidential," and delivered to Receiving Party within thirty (30) days of the disclosure. The Receiving Party will use the Confidential Information only for the performance of the Project, or as allowed in this Agreement, and will make reasonable efforts that shall not be less stringent than the Receiving Party uses with its own Confidential Information to not disclose the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information to any entities or persons except those required to know such information to perform the Project. The obligations of confidentiality herein shall remain in effect for five (5) years from the Effective Date. The Receiving Party shall have no obligations under this Article 2 with respect to information which:

- (i) was already known to the Receiving Party at the time of disclosure, as demonstrated by written records;
- (ii) at the time of the disclosure was publicly known or generally available to the public, or which after the disclosure becomes generally available to the public through no fault of the Receiving Party;
- (iii) has been received from a third party without restriction on its disclosure and without, to the knowledge of the Receiving Party, a breach by such third party of an obligation of confidentiality to the Disclosing Party; or
- (iv) is independently developed by the Receiving Party without the use of or reference to the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information.

A Receiving Party may disclose Confidential Information as required by law, governmental rule or regulation or order of a court with competent jurisdiction; provided that, in such instances, the Receiving Party will take reasonable steps, if legally permitted, to provide the Disclosing Party reasonable prior written notice for the Disclosing Party to contest such request, requirement or order. Such disclosure will not be considered a breach of this Agreement.

Responses and submission materials (collectively, "Submission Materials") provided by Institution or Institution Investigator to Atomwise in connection with the application in the Request for Proposals (RFP) shall not be Confidential Information hereunder and will be used solely according to the rights and obligations for Submission Materials in the Term and Conditions of the RFP.

3. MATERIALS

"Materials" means commercially available chemical compounds provided under this Agreement by Atomwise to

Institution Investigator. Atomwise retains, as between the Parties, ownership of the Materials. Atomwise reserves the right to distribute Materials to others and to use Materials for its own purposes. Institution will use Materials solely for the Project and may not modify any such received Materials. Materials are experimental in nature and may have hazardous properties. Institution agrees to store, use, transport, and dispose of Materials in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, rules, and recommended safety procedures. Institution is solely responsible for the disposal of Materials. This Article 3 is not intended to limit Institution's use of the same chemical compounds not obtained from Atomwise.

Subject to compliance with applicable export control laws, Institution may provide Materials to a third party collaborator ("Collaborator") to perform activities for the Project if Institution warrants to Atomwise that it has entered into an agreement with the Collaborator wherein: a) Collaborator grants Atomwise a nonexclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, fully paid-up, worldwide license to use Collaborator data resulting from the Project for Internal Research Purposes (defined below) and b) Atomwise is a third party beneficiary to such agreement.

4. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

"Intellectual Property" or "IP" means any invention (whether patentable or not), discovery, creative works (whether copyrighted or not), trade secrets, know-how, data, and any other intellectual property.

4.1 Background IP

"Background IP" means all IP controlled by a Party outside of this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement grants or implies a license to any Background IP of the other Party. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, Institution agrees that Atomwise: (a) may use Institution's target structure shared with Atomwise for use in Atomwise's platform technology and algorithms, (b) will own all improvements, derivations, or modifications made to Atomwise's platform technology and algorithms ("Atomwise Improvements") and (c) will own suggestions, ideas, enhancement requests, feedback, or recommendations provided regarding Atomwise's Background IP and Atomwise Improvements ("Feedback"). All Feedback is provided "as is," and Atomwise acknowledges and agrees that it will use Feedback at its own risk. Institution is not liable for any damages incurred as a result of Atomwise use of Feedback.

4.2 Foreground IP

"Foreground IP" means all IP created by a Party or the Parties in the performance of the Project. Foreground IP that is created solely by the Institution will be "Institution Foreground IP," Foreground IP that is created solely by Atomwise will be "Atomwise Foreground IP," and Foreground IP that is jointly created by Institution and Atomwise will be "Joint Foreground IP." In the event Atomwise conducted a feasibility assessment for use in the Project, prior to the Effective Date, such assessment shall be considered Atomwise Foreground IP under this Agreement. Institution Foreground IP regarding the binding affinity, chemical properties and activity of the Materials provided by Atomwise, including all findings from the assays and experiments described in Step 4 of the Project will be "Select Institution Foreground IP." Atomwise Foreground IP that comprises the names and structures of the Materials that are sent to the Institution Investigator by Atomwise as described in Step 3 of the Project will be "Select Atomwise Foreground IP."

Institution shall disclose to Atomwise all Select Institution Foreground IP within sixty (60) days of being created, and within seven (7) days of said disclosure, Atomwise shall disclose to Institution Investigator all Select Atomwise Foreground IP. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, Institution shall have a nonexclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, fully paid-up, worldwide license to use Select Atomwise Foreground IP and Joint Foreground IP for Internal Research Purposes, and Atomwise shall have a nonexclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, fully paid-up, worldwide license to use Select Institution Foreground IP and Joint Foreground IP for Internal Research Purposes. "Internal Research Purposes" shall mean any research and development by employees, students, contractors, consultants, or other representatives of a Party. Each Party will not use the other Party's Foreground IP, except: (a) as permitted in Section 4.2 and Article 5 or (b) as required for the performance of the Project.

4.3 Inventions

"Inventions" means Foreground IP that are patentable inventions. Inventors of Inventions shall be determined according to applicable patent law. Ownership of an Invention shall: (a) solely reside with Institution if Institution representatives are the sole inventors ("Institution Invention"), (b) solely reside with Atomwise if Atomwise representatives are the sole inventors ("Atomwise Invention"), and (c) jointly reside with Institution and Atomwise if Institution and Atomwise representatives are joint inventors ("Joint

Invention"). Both Parties shall jointly hold all rights, title, and interest in Joint Inventions. The Parties agree, to the extent they are legally able to do so, to negotiate in good faith a patent filing strategy and the disposition of Joint Inventions. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, neither Party shall file any patents covering or claiming, or license or divest, any Joint Invention unless both Parties have executed an agreement on a patent filing strategy and the disposition of Joint Inventions.

5. PUBLICATION

Institution Investigator may publish or present Foreground IP from the Project without approval by Atomwise, provided a copy of the proposed manuscript or presentation is emailed to Atomwise at publications@atomwise.com upon submission of the publication or presentation of the Foreground IP. The Parties agree that any publication or presentation of Foreground IP shall appropriately cite the contributions of both Parties, using customary standards of scientific attribution.

6. USE OF NAME AND LOGO

A Party shall have the right to disclose the existence and terms of this Agreement: (a) in any prospectus, offering memorandum, or other document required by law or securities regulations, (b) to any current or prospective investors, acquirers or collaborators (provided that any recipient of a disclosure under this subclause (b) shall be subject to appropriate obligations of confidentiality and non-use), or (c) as otherwise required by applicable law or regulation. A Party shall have the right to use on its website the other Party's logo, provided use of the logo is limited to statements of fact and the other Party shall have the right to revoke permission of such use of the logo at any time. Except as expressly stated above, neither Party will use the name or logo of the other Party or its employees or representatives in any advertisement, press release, or other publicity without prior written approval of the other Party.

7. NO WARRANTIES AND NO LIABILITY

Each Party acknowledges and agrees the Project and Materials are of an experimental nature. Any IP and Materials are provided as is and with all faults. No representation is made that the IP and use of the Materials will not infringe any patent or other proprietary rights of third parties. Neither Party makes any warranties, express or implied, as to any matter related to this Agreement, including, without limitation, the IP or that any particular outcome will be achieved. Furthermore, to the extent allowed by applicable law, neither Party shall be liable for any indirect, consequential, or other special damages suffered by the other Party, including, without limitation, damages arising from: delay or termination of the Project, or loss or use of IP, Confidential Information or Materials.

8. ASSIGNMENT

Neither this Agreement nor any rights or obligations of a Party may be assigned or transferred without prior written consent of the other Party; provided, that such prior written consent shall not be required in connection with Atomwise's assignment of this Agreement in connection with the transfer or sale to a third party of all or substantially all of Atomwise's business that relates to this Agreement. Atomwise will provide written notice of any such assignment to Institution. For clarity, any acquirer shall have the same rights as Atomwise under this Agreement, including with respect to the use of Select Institution Foreground IP and Joint Foreground IP. This Agreement will be binding upon the Parties and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

9. NOTICES

All notices pertaining to or required by this Agreement shall be via email or in writing, by an authorized representative, and delivered to the address below for each Party.

Atomwise: Atomwise Inc., 717 Market Street, Suite 800, San Francisco, CA 94103
ATTN: AIMS Award Research Agreement
legal@atomwise.com

Institution: University of Bari Aldo Moro
Piazza Umberto I 70121 Bari Italy
rettore@uniba.it
ATTN Direzione Ricerca, Terza Missione e Internazionalizzazione

and for knowledge Department of Bioscience, Biotechnologies and Biopharmaceutics
direzione.bioscienze@pec.uniba.it

10. TERMINATION

This Agreement will be effective on the Effective Date and expire two (2) years from the Effective Date. This Agreement may be terminated by either Party at any time upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other Party. Articles 2-11 and 14-17 shall survive expiration or termination of this Agreement.

11. EXPORT CONTROL AND RESTRICTED PARTIES

Both Parties agree to adhere to U.S. export control and economic sanctions laws and regulations, where applicable. Both Parties further agree not to disclose confidential information or materials that contain technology or technical data identified on any U.S. export control list, including the Commerce Control List ("CCL") at 15 C.F.R. 774 and the U.S. Munitions List ("USML") at 22 C.F.R. 121. Proposed disclosures of confidential information by a Party that include technology or technical data other than that classified as EAR99 will be negotiated pursuant to a separate agreement. Each Party represents and warrants that it will not export (including any deemed export) nor re-export (including any deemed re-export) any confidential information or materials provided by the other Party in violation of applicable U.S. export laws and regulations.

Each Party represents and warrants that it is not named on any U.S. government restricted or denied-party list.

12. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS

The Parties shall perform their obligations under this Agreement as independent contractors and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to be inconsistent with such relationship or status.

13. NO EXCLUSIVITY

This Agreement is non-exclusive, and nothing herein shall prevent either Party from entering into similar or same agreements with third parties.

14. SEVERABILITY

If any one or more of the provisions in this Agreement shall be held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable for any reason or in any respect, this shall not affect any other provisions hereof, and this Agreement shall be construed as if such provision had never been contained herein.

15. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement, together with Exhibits A and B, represents the entire understanding of the Parties and supersedes any prior or contemporaneous agreements or understandings between Institution Investigator or Institution with Atomwise with respect to the Project. Further, no modification or supplement to this Agreement may be executed between Institution and Atomwise with respect to the Project without formal written amendment to this Agreement, signed by an authorized representative of each Party.

16. CHOICE OF LAW AND JURISDICTION

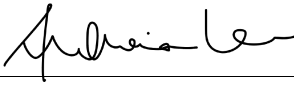
This Agreement shall be construed, and the rights of the Parties determined in accordance, with the laws of the State of California, regardless of the laws that might otherwise govern under applicable principles of laws thereof. In no event shall choice of law analysis lead to the application of other than the laws of the State of California. Each Party irrevocably agrees that the courts of the State of California will have the exclusive jurisdiction to deal with any disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement.

17. COUNTERPARTS AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts and may be executed by electronic signatures. Delivery of an executed counterpart of this Agreement by a .pdf data file or other scanned executed counterpart by email shall be equally as effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart of this Agreement. Each duplicate and counterpart shall be equally admissible in evidence, and each shall fully bind each Party who has executed it. The Parties waive all right to challenge the admissibility or authenticity of this Agreement in a court of law based solely on the absence of an original signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives as of the Effective Date.

ATOMWISE

By:  _____

Name: Andrea Lee

Title: Partnering Executive

Date: November 18, 2019

INSTITUTION

By: _____

Name: Prof. Stefano Bronzini

Title: Legal Representative of the University of
Bari Aldo Moro

Date: _____

Read and Acknowledged:

INSTITUTION INVESTIGATOR

By: _____

Name: Giuseppe Fiermonte

Date: _____

Exhibit A
Research Project

Step 1. Atomwise will review the Submission Materials and other relevant information to design a virtual screen (Exhibit B). The design of the virtual screen will consider: the proposed site for chemical compounds to bind the target protein ("Target Site"), the purpose of the chemical compound, and/or the desired features of the chemical compound.

Step 2. Atomwise will initiate a virtual screen of millions of commercially available chemical compounds using its deep learning-based computational drug discovery platform (AtomNet™). This virtual screen will predict chemical compounds that are most likely to bind at the Target Site and have the desired features. The predicted compounds will be reviewed by Atomwise's chemists, software engineers, and/or structural biologists to select approximately 72 compounds for physical screening ("Select Compounds"). In addition, Atomwise will select, if available, chemical compounds that can serve as positive and negative controls respectively ("Control Compounds").

Step 3. Atomwise will use commercially reasonable efforts to place an order with a vendor that will contact suppliers for the Select Compounds and Control Compounds. The vendor will receive the Select Compounds and Control Compounds, dilute the compounds to a given stock concentration, confirm their identity, place them in randomized positions in a 96 well microtiter plate, and deliver the plate to the Institution Investigator's laboratory, unless the Institution Investigator and Atomwise agree otherwise. Atomwise will pay the vendor for all these services.

Step 4. Institution Investigator will perform the assays specified in their Submission Materials, and any other assays Institution Investigator and Atomwise have agreed are appropriate. The assays will physically measure the activity and/or binding of the Select Compounds and Control Compounds. Measurements from these assays will include the inhibitory concentration (IC_{50}), effective concentration (EC_{50}), inhibitor constant (K_i), dissociation constant (K_d) or other equivalent metrics. Institution Investigator will share all information from the measurements in Step 4 with Atomwise.

Step 5. Institution Investigator and Atomwise will interpret the Select Institution Foreground IP and Select Atomwise Foreground IP, and plan any additional analyses and experiments to be performed. The performance of any additional experiments will be pursuant to a mutually agreed amendment to this Agreement (adding additional steps as appropriate).

Exhibit B
Design of Virtual Screen

AIMS research plan



Identification of small molecule inhibitors of the human UCP2

<i>Research plan created by</i>	Adrian Stecula, PhD
<i>Institution Investigator</i>	Giuseppe Fiermonte, PharmD
<i>Institution</i>	University of Bari Aldo Moro
<i>Project ID</i>	A19-113

Target evaluation

<i>Disease indication</i>	Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC)
<i>Purpose</i>	To identify novel inhibitors of the mitochondrial transporter UCP2 for the purpose of blocking the tumor growth in KRAS-mutated PDAC
<i>Target UniProt Accession Number</i>	P55851
<i>Target structure type</i>	Comparative structure model

Primary target Site 1

<i>Template PDB ID</i>	1OKC
<i>Sequence identity</i>	25%
<i>Target site selection criteria</i>	Site of binding for the inhibitor carboxyatractyloside in the template structure; central cavity
<i>Target site residues/chains</i>	D28, D35, R88, K141, R185, N186, V189, T229, D236, K239, S276, R279, L280, N284
<i>Residue numbering</i>	UniProt

Ligand properties

Requested properties

Known substrates are dianions. The proposed inhibitors should most likely also be anions at the cytoplasmic pH.

Assessment and recommendations

Site 1 on the comparative structure model of the human UCP2 is recommended for screening. The template structure represents a high-resolution, inhibitor-bound, cytoplasmic-open state. That gives us confidence in the functional relevance of the proposed screening site.

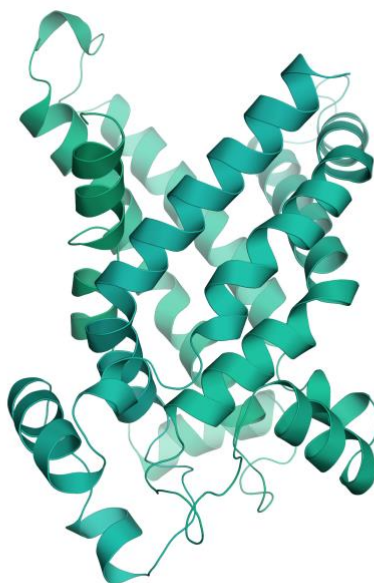
Virtual Screen

Atomwise will screen a molecular library of several million compounds at the selected target Site 1 (Target Evaluation and Figure 1) using AtomNet®, its proprietary technology. AtomNet® is the first deep learning neural network for structure-based drug design and discovery, and its speed and accuracy make it the most advanced technology for small molecule binding affinity prediction. Top scoring compounds will be clustered and filtered to arrive at a final subset of approximately 72 deliverable compounds.

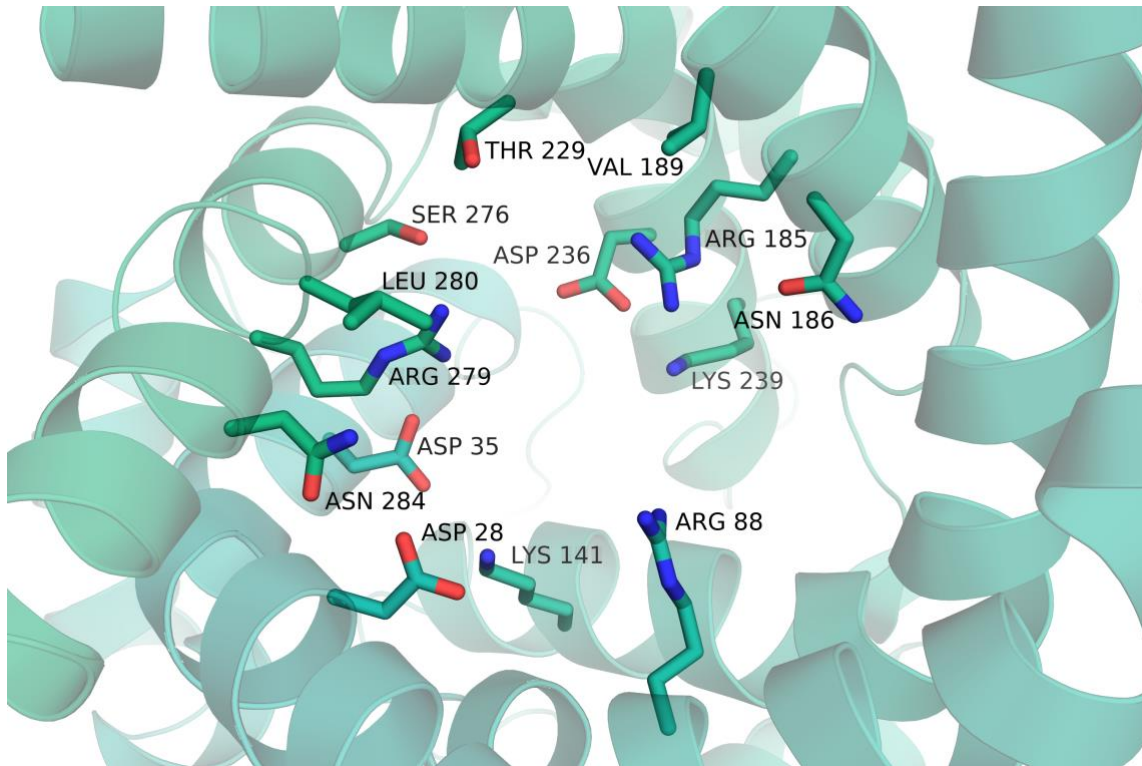
Caveats

This project is experimental in nature. The comparative structure model may not represent the relevant biological conformation of the target.

A.



B.



C.

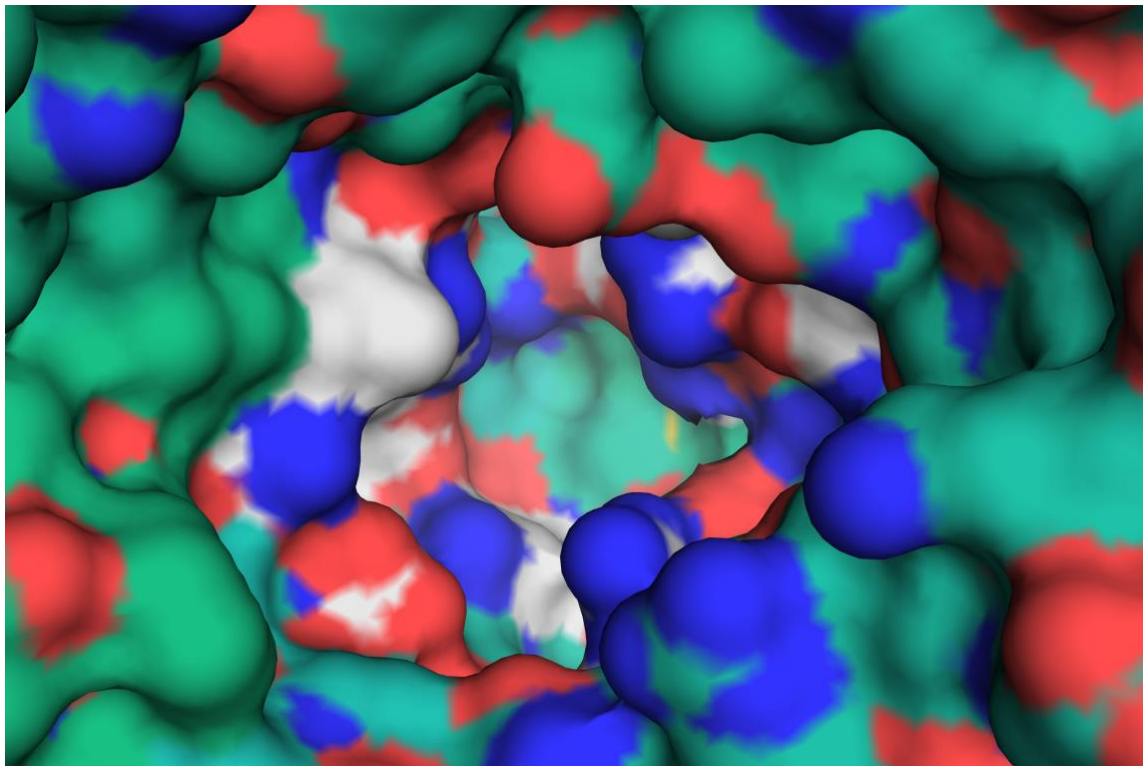


Figure 1. A. Cartoon representation of the comparative structure model of the human UCP2. B. Close up of the proposed screening site located within the central, cytoplasmic-open cavity of the transporter. Residues outlining the site are shown as sticks and labelled. C. Surface representation of the central cavity. Residues outlining the screening site are shown in white.