

KATERINA APOSTOLIDI

BIOLOGIST BSc MSc

Charilaou Trikoupi 13, Ioannina • +306942648780 • a.apostolidi@uoi.gr

EDUCATION

2022-current

PhD candidate

University of Ioannina, Department of Biological Applications and Technology
Biomedical Research Institute (BRI)-Foundation for Research and Technology (FORTH)

2020-2022

Master's degree

MSc "Reproductive -Regenerative Medicine"

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), Grade: 9,67/10

2014-2019

Bachelor's degree

University of Ioannina, Department of Biological Applications and Technology, Grade:7,46/10

WORK EXPERIENCE

2022-current

PhD Candidate

PhD dissertation: Human Vascular Organoids as a model system to study retinal diseases. Funded by :Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I.) "3rd Call for H.F.R.I. Scholarships to PhD Candidates". Duration: 30/03/2022-29/03/2025 (No:6498).

Supervision of 1 Master's student, 2 Bachelor's students and 4 interns

Skills: (Stem) cell culture, Organoid culture, FACS, Confocal Microscopy (Confocal Leica TCS SP5, NIKON AX R), (qRT)PCR, Incucyte Live cell Imaging, Molecular and Biochemical Methods.

2020(March-May)

Erasmus + Intern

Internship funded by **the State Scholarship Foundation (IKY)** in the framework of Erasmus+ program in the Netherlands, at LUMC (Leiden University Medical Center), Department of Anatomy and Embryology. **Project:** «Using Image analysis techniques for the advancement of vessel-on-chip technology»

2019-2020

Research Intern

Internship funded by **the Partnership Agreement (PA) program (2014-2020)** at the Biomedical Research Institute (BRI-FORTH) aiming to study and expertise in Molecular Biology techniques **Fotsis-Murphy Lab**

PUBLICATION

1. Advances in Modeling the Inner Blood-Retinal Barrier: From Static Tissue Cell Cultures to Microphysiological Systems

Aikaterini Apostolidi, Georgios Stergiopoulos, Sofia Bellou, Maria Markou, Theodore Fotsis, Carol Murphy and Eleni Bagli (2025). Pharmaceuticals MDPI doi: 10.3390/ph18091374

2. The role of ARF6 in Activin A signaling

Papadopoulos A, **Apostolidi A**, Rakovoliou E, Bellou S, Markou M, Bagli E, Margariti M, Kyrkou A, Chira P, Tschari E, Chavrier P, Heath J, Fotsis T, and Murphy C Manuscript in preparation for submission to J. Cell Science

3. The role of ARF6 in stem cell differentiation

Papadopoulos A, Rakovoliou E., Markou M, Bellou S, **Apostolidi A**, Bagli E, Heath J, Fotsis T, and Murphy C Manuscript in preparation for submission to Stem Cell Reports

ACTIVITY-TRAINING

- Participation in ERA-ESPERAnce Training School #3 "Imaging Techniques in Life Sciences" (6–8 October 2025)
- Active member of Hellenic Society of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (HSBMB), a FEBS constituent society (2022-current)

CONFERENCES-DISSEMINATION

- 72nd Panhellenic Conference of the Hellenic Society of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (HSBMB) (2-4/12/2022) POSTER SUBMISSION "Generation of human pluripotent stem cells derived retinal Neuro-Vascular Unit as a model to study retinal diseases"
- 30th Meeting of the Hellenic Society for Neuroscience (HSfN) (24-26/11/2023) -POSTER SUBMISSION. "Generation of vascularized human pluripotent stem cells derived retinal organoids as a platform to study retinogenesis and disease".
- 73rd Panhellenic conference of the Hellenic Society of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (HSBMB) (1-3/12/2023) POSTER SUBMISSION "Generation of vascularized human pluripotent stem cells derived retinal organoids as a platform to study retinogenesis and disease".
- EMBO Workshop "The molecular and cellular basis of regeneration and tissue repair", 7– 11 October 2024 in Saint-Jean Cap-Ferrat, France, POSTER SUBMISSION "Development of the retinal neuro-vascular unit from human pluripotent stem cells as a model system to study retinal diseases"
- 74th Panhellenic conference of the Hellenic Society of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (HSBMB) (13-15/12/2023) POSTER SUBMISSION "Tissue Engineering of human Vascularized Retina: Modeling Retinitis Pigmentosa". **BEST POSTER AWARD in the Young Scientists' Forum Meeting of EEBMB 2024.**
- 58 Panhellenic Conference in Ophthalmology (15-17/5/2025) - **TOP 5 ORAL PRESENTATIONS** "Stem cell derived th Retinal Models: a New Vision for studying Retinitis Pigmentosa"
- 44th Panhellenic Conference-Hellenic Society of Biological Sciences (EEBE) (22-24/5/2025)- POSTER AND ORAL PRESENTATION. "Stem cell derived Retinal Models: a New Vision for studying Retinitis Pigmentosa"
- 75th Panhellenic conference of the Hellenic Society of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (HSBMB) (5-7/12/2025) POSTER SUBMISSION "From Organoids to Barriers: Human iPSC-Derived Models of the Outer Blood-Retinal Barrier in PRPF31 Retinitis Pigmentosa" **BEST POSTER AWARD**

REFERENCES

- Dr. Bagli Eleni, Ophthalmologist, University Hospital, Ioannina, Senior Scientist BRI-FORTH, elenibgl@yahoo.com
Dr. Murphy Carol, BRI/FORTH, Researcher A' carol_murphy@bri.forth.gr