

DAY 1 - Sept 25th

Welcome to Event from Organisers and Institutions

The event will commence with a warm welcome from the organizers and institutions involved, setting the tone for the LABI Meeting 2023 and expressing gratitude for the participants' presence and support.

Session 1: Pathways to Bioimaging Core Facility creation and Sustainability in Latin America

This session aims to engage the academic community in a discussion about the experiences, challenges, and successes encountered while establishing and maintaining bioimaging core facilities in Latin America. The session will explore the motives behind setting up such facilities, the initial expectations, community support, changes witnessed over time, major difficulties faced, valuable lessons learned, and strategies implemented to ensure the long-term sustainability of the core facilities.

Coffee Break

Plenary Lecture

[Prof. Dorit Hanein](#), a renowned figure in the field, will deliver an inspiring plenary lecture sharing insights from her exceptional research career and her successful establishment of highly sophisticated imaging centers (hubs). The lecture will focus on the advantages of building large centers that consolidate a variety of advanced techniques and highly trained personnel. Prof. Hanein will discuss how scientific discoveries have been accelerated through such hubs, the challenges encountered, the key stakeholders involved in their establishment, and strategies to overcome the complexities of providing scientific services to external researchers. Additionally, Prof. Hanein will reflect on how her [fascinating formative biography](#) has shaped her approach to this work.

Coffee Break

Session 1

The Bioimaging Hub Model - preparing for future large-scale scientific challenges

The Hub model for organising scientific infrastructure and resources has been implemented in different places, and seems to be growing in visibility and attractiveness. This moderated session will delve into the Bioimaging Hub Model and its significance in organizing scientific infrastructure and resources. The session aims to elucidate the distinguishing features of hubs, their advantages over core facilities, and the unique contributions they can make in addressing large-scale scientific challenges. Discussions will revolve around the growing adoption of hub models by regions and organizations, their feasibility and relevance in Latin America, the benefits they can offer to Latin American researchers, and the best practices and protocols for establishing and sustaining hubs. Participants will explore strategies to create efficient pathways and opportunities for hub creation and collaboration.

Moderated Session 2

Horizon Europe, RESINFRA & EULACRIs - towards the creation of bioimaging hubs in Latin America.

Esteemed representatives from Horizon Europe, RESINFRA, and EULACRIs initiatives will deliver informative presentations on their respective initiatives, shedding light on their goals, key stakeholders, anticipated achievements, and the potential for further development. The session will emphasize the opportunities and benefits that Latin American researchers and science communities can expect through their involvement. Moreover, the presentations will identify and address the remaining obstacles that need to be overcome to foster the creation of bioimaging hubs in Latin America successfully.

LABI Working Groups

Participants will have the opportunity to engage in LABI Working Groups dedicated to specific topics within the bioimaging field. These working groups will facilitate focused discussions, networking, and collaborations among participants, fostering an environment of knowledge sharing and advancement in the field.

DAY 2 - Sept 26th

Working Groups Report

The Working Groups Report session will provide an opportunity for the working groups formed during the LABI Meeting 2023 to present their findings and recommendations. Each working group will deliver a concise report summarizing the key discussions, insights, and outcomes from their focused sessions.

Session 3: Diversifying Career Pathways In Latin America

This session will address the unique human resource challenges faced by bioimaging core facilities in Latin America. Specifically, the focus will be on academic and technical career pathways that often fail to consider the performance criteria of core facility staff, recruitment and training difficulties in multidisciplinary environments, and the lack of specific management and operational skills training. The session will explore the nature of these problems in Latin America, existing solutions, and the need to create and expand tailored career development programs to tackle these issues effectively. Participants will engage in discussions to identify strategies for attracting and retaining talent and fostering a diverse workforce in bioimaging core facilities.

Coffee Break

Plenary Lecture

[Prof. Peter O'Toole](#), a distinguished expert in bioimaging and Director of the Bioscience Technology Facility at the University of York, will deliver a captivating plenary lecture. Drawing on his vast experience in various aspects of bioimaging, core facilities, hubs and community engagement, Prof. O'Toole will focus on improving career development prospects for core facility staff within their institutional contexts. Additionally, he will explore the development of training and capacitation programs to ensure the readiness of service facilities in adopting new technologies and operating under best practices. Prof. O'Toole will share insights from the MiTalent project in the UK, emphasizing parallel career progression pathways for core facility staff with defined equivalences to the academic pathway.

Coffee Break

Session 4: Creating and Supporting Career Pathways for Facility Staff

This session aims to showcase global examples and experiences in establishing career development activities specifically designed for core facility staff. Participants will explore the critical steps involved in identifying the needs of facility staff, ensuring the relevance and necessity of career development activities, and engaging key stakeholders in the process. The session will highlight the benefits generated by these programs and initiatives, shedding light on the positive outcomes and advancements facilitated by empowering core facility staff.

Round Table Discussion

Examples and opportunities for mobility between academic and commercial sectors in Latin America

In this engaging round table discussion, participants will examine the opportunities available for career development in the bioimaging field outside the traditional academic environment. The session will explore the potential avenues in industrial research or commercial sectors, with a particular focus on facilitating the transition between sectors. Participants will discuss the advantages, benefits, challenges, and possible solutions related to mobility between academic and commercial sectors. The role of core facilities and service platforms in facilitating such mobility will also be explored, with an emphasis on improving the relationship between academia and the commercial sector to enhance career opportunities for researchers.