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# AURORA CDS TRAINING EVENT

Mentorship programme for PhDs and early stage researchers:  
learning from practice

**26-27 October 2022**

On behalf of the AURORA alliance, we are pleased to invite you to the Capacity Development Support (CDS) Training event organised by Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (UPJŠ), in collaboration with the Aurora CDS Task Team at Palacký University (UP) and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU). The two-day training event will take place in **hybrid** format:

- **online** via zoom
- **face-to-face** at **Pavol Jozef Šafárik University**

This event is part of a series of six awareness raising and training sessions organised in the framework of the Aurora CDS Programme. The aim of these events is twofold:

1. strengthen the capacity of the Aurora associate partner universities for academic excellence and societal relevance; and
2. support them in establishing regional hubs for sharing best practices emerging from the experiences of the Aurora Alliance and the broader CDS Network.

In this Aurora CDS Training event, the associate partner universities and representative of the broader CDS Network will gain deeper insight and share experiences about the design and implementation of **Mentorship programmes for PhDs and early stage researchers**. A topic of high relevance for the AURORA alliance as well as the involved universities in Central-Eastern Europe and Neighbouring Countries.

The event is open to **academic staff** of the Aurora Associate partners and the universities in the CDS Network involved in mentoring and supervision of PhD students and young researchers as well as staff involved in the development of a mentorship programme at their own university.

The training sessions will be video-recorded at the benefit of those who will not be able to attend. They will be made available in the AURORA-CDS virtual catalogue. By registering to the event (both online and/or in-person) you agree with being recorded.

**ZOOM LINK:** <https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/91361721674>

Meeting ID: 913 6172 1674



Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (UPJŠ) in collaboration with the Aurora CDS Task Team at Palacký University (UP) and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU) organises a hybrid training event:



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## 26-27 October 2022

### REGISTRATION

- available via the [online form](#)

### TARGET GROUPS

- Target group of the workshops on mentoring - R3 and R4 researchers (docents/associate professors, independent researchers, professors and senior researchers)
- Target group of the workshop for mentees - R2 and R1 researchers (assistants with PhDs, young researchers, young teachers, PhD students and assistants)

### PROGRAM OF THE EVENT

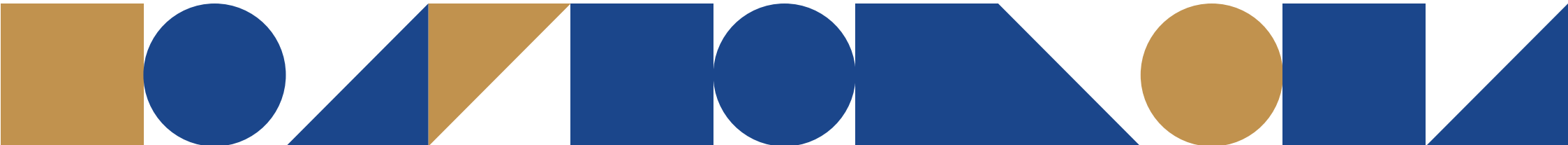


# WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

TIME (CET)	TOPICS AND SPEAKERS
8:30-9:00	Registration of participants
9:00-9:15	Official welcome by Prof. Pavol Sovák, Rector of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice
9:15-9:30	Opening remarks on Aurora European Universities Alliance by Anne-May Janssen, Secretary-General Aurora Universities Network (Vrije Universiteit, online)
9:30-9:45	Introduction to the Aurora Capacity Development Support (CDS) programme by Tereza Kalousková (Palacký University Olomouc) and Sabina Di Prima (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
9:45-10:00	Training programme: overview and logistics for hybrid interaction
10:00-10:30	Human Resources Strategy in Research, GAP Analysis and Mentorship at Pavol Jozef Šafárik University by Silvia Ručinská (Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice)
10:30-11:00	Coffee/tea break
11:00-11:45	Mentorship Programme: key concepts and institutionalization by Oleksandr Khyzhniak (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, online)
11:45-12:30	Roundtable discussion with vice-rectors for science and research on the relevance and implementation of mentorship programmes – facilitators: Silvia Ručinská and Mária Vasil'ová (Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice)
12:30-13:30	Lunch break
13:30-15:00	Workshop part 1 – Mentorship programme: objectives, format and areas of mentoring by Denyse Snelder and Sabina Di Prima (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam), experiences of mentoring by mentors from UPJŠ by Assoc. Prof. Peter Pristaš and Prof. František Šimon
15:00-15:30	Coffee/tea break
15:30-16:20	Workshop part 1 – Mentorship programme: stakeholder mapping by Denyse Snelder and Sabina Di Prima (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
16:20-16:30	Summary of key messages and closing remarks

# THURSDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

TIME (CET)	TOPICS AND SPEAKERS
9:00-9:15	Recap of previous day
9:15-10:30	Workshop part 2 – Mentorship programme: development of selection criteria for mentors by Denyse Snelder and Sabina Di Prima (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
10:30-11:00	Coffee/tea break
11:00-12:30	Workshop part 2 – Mentorship programme: mentors' profiles by Denyse Snelder and Sabina Di Prima (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
12:30-13:30	Lunch break
13:30-15:00	Workshop part 3 – Formulation of eligibility criteria for mentees by Denyse Snelder and Sabina Di Prima (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
15:00-15:30	Coffee/tea break
15:30-16:20	Workshop part 3 – Mentorship programme: identification of safe and comfortable mentorship environment by Denyse Snelder and Sabina Di Prima (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
16:20-16:30	Summary of key messages and closing remarks



# TRAINERS AND FACILITATORS



## DENYSE SNELDER

Dr Denyse Snelder is Senior Advisor at the Centre for International Cooperation Vrije Universiteit (VU) Amsterdam. Dr Snelder obtained her PhD in physical geography at the University of Toronto, Canada, based on research directed at vegetative control of soil erosion in semi-arid Baringo District, Kenya. Between 1994 and 2012, she worked as associate professor at the Institute of Environmental Science at Leiden University and was the coordinator of the Cagayan Valley Programme on Environment and Development, Philippines. Since 2009, she fills a position at the Centre for International Cooperation of VU Amsterdam working as senior advisor on research and capacity building projects implemented in Sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia. Dr Snelder has supervised numerous Master and PhD students and works on various preparatory doctoral and mentorship programs within the framework of above-mentioned projects. She further contributes to various courses and training in the field of food and water security, sustainable land and water management, research design and proposal writing, and curriculum review and development.



## SABINA DI PRIMA

Sabina is a Sustainable Food Systems specialist at the Centre for International Cooperation at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. The focus of her work is in the areas of food and nutrition security, sustainable land management and local farmer innovation. She designs, manage and implement capacity building and research projects for various donors. She has field experience in technical backstopping and oversight of rural development projects in Sub-Saharan Africa and South-East Asia. Sabina is also a certified university teacher (BKO). She has experience in teaching and coordination of courses at Bachelor and Master levels, supervision of students, training of short courses in the field of mentorship among others. She is the coordinator of the VU pre-doctoral programmes for students from China and Indonesia and since 2022 she is also the coordinator of the Bridging programme for all incoming VU International PhDs. Sabina is also a PhD student researching on the topic of Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture (NSA) in Lao PDR and Vietnam.



## TEREZA KALOUSKOVA

Tereza Kalousková is the Head of the Office for Partnerships at Palacký University Olomouc with knowledge of non-EU mobilities (mainly the US and Latin America, Asia - South Korea, Japan, and China) with a deep professional understanding of all basic mobility programs (Erasmus+ 103 and Erasmus+ 107 included), educational and cooperation projects, higher education systems, PR, and event management (events for more than 300 people). Together with Sabina di Prima (VU) leads the work package 4.4. Aurora Capacity Development Support Programme (CDS) under Aurora – European Universities Alliance.



## OLEKSANDR KHYZHNIAK

Oleksandr is a Governance for Society specialist at the Centre for International Cooperation at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. The focus of his work covers several up-to-date areas such as: capacity buildings of HEIs, leadership and strategic planning; social and economic analysis in the field of innovation; theory and history of sociology, intercultural communication; migration; trust; collective memory; media literacy and others. He has practical experience in organizing and conducting empirical sociological (both quantitative and qualitative methods) researches on socio-economic, political and legal progress of modern society, focusing on educational and social entrepreneurship issues. He did his internships at Ariel University (Israel) for the PhD devoted to tolerance and at Warszawa University (Poland) for the post-doc devoted to collective actions. He is coordinator for Hospitality grants for PhD students and studies Central Asia and Caucasus regions. He has experience in lecturing in multicultural environment, presenting courses for BA, MA and PhD levels students on interdisciplinary issues, mentoring and supervising them.



# TRAINERS AND FACILITATORS



## SILVIA RUCINSKA

(UPJŠ), and she is responsible for the university's activities and projects regarding the Aurora European University Alliance.

## PETER PRISTAS



Assoc. Prof. Peter Pristáš is the head of the Institute of Biology and Ecology of the Faculty of Science UPJŠ. Within his research, he concentrates on the microbial and genetic ecology of the digestive tract of animals, and in cooperation with his colleagues; he obtained a number of priority results in the field of mechanisms of natural gene spread in this microbial ecosystem. He characterized the mobile gene elements mediating this transfer, especially from the point of view of the safety of genetically modified organisms and the spread of antibiotic resistance genes in populations of pathogenic bacteria. He is regularly supervising and mentoring the Bachelor, Master and PhD students of his institute.



## FRANTISEK SIMON

Prof. František Šimon is the head of the Department of Classical Philology of the Faculty of Arts UPJŠ. As a researcher, he concentrates on the fields of medical terminology, history of medical terminology, ancient culture and literature, Latin language, methodology of Latin language teaching. His projects concentrate mainly on Latin language for students and the methodology of teaching Latin. As a teacher, he has rich experience in the field of mentoring students and young researchers. He has supervised numerous research projects and acted as a supervisor/mentor for Bachelor, Master and PhD students.



## MARIA VASILOVA

Dr. Mária Vasilová works at the International Relations Office of UPJŠ. She is the institutional Erasmus coordinator, and she is the contact person of the Visegrad Fund projects at the university. She has rich experience in project and mobility management. She is actively participating in the activities of the Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R) initiative of UPJŠ, and she acts as one of the contact persons regarding the university's activities and projects within the Aurora European University Alliance.