



**Society of
Spanish Researchers
in the United Kingdom**

A watercolor illustration in shades of green and white depicting a group of people. In the center, a man with glasses and a beard looks down at a woman with her hair in a ponytail who is looking at a document. To the left, another woman with long dark hair is smiling. On the far left, a person is partially visible, holding a large green object. On the far right, another person is partially visible, looking towards the center. The background is a light, textured green.

Annual report

July 2021 - July 2022

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Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom SRUK/CERU
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members and friends of SRUK/CERU,

It is a real pleasure to introduce our new Annual Report 2021-2022. Once again, our Design committee have exceeded our expectations; what a magnificent piece of work we have on our hands! Not to mention the work of all of you, our members and volunteers that make SRUK/CERU possible every year. All our volunteers work with such passion and dedication in their departments and committees to deliver our activities to implement the vision and the aims of our Society. Together, we make an amazing team, and each year we learn a bit more and take SRUK/CERU one step further. There are not enough words to express our gratitude and admiration for all of you that have worked so hard this year.

2021 will always be remembered as part of the Covid19 pandemic. As you know, the impossibility of meeting in person deeply affected the modus operandi of SRUK/CERU, which had always been based on networking and making new friends. Fortunately, from summer 2022 onwards we were able to resume our in-person meetings, always complying with the restrictions imposed at the time by the government. Happily, this allowed us to celebrate one of our biggest milestones as a society: **the 10th Anniversary of the official establishment of SRUK/CERU**, and therefore our birthday. A series of events, most of them in-person, were held across the UK starting in January 2022. We were also able to meet again in Oxford for our **IX SRUK/CERU International Symposium, "The Joy of Discovery"**, a multidisciplinary symposium chaired by Dr Pablo Muñoz that highlighted the process of discovering and unraveling new phenomena. During this symposium we also had a very special session where almost all our ex-presidents shared their experiences and stories whilst being in role and discussed how the Society has contributed to their lives and careers.

This year we have operated with fewer volunteers due to the combined effects of Brexit and Covid19. However, despite the circumstances we have managed to organise a total of 55 events! Moreover, we warmly welcomed our most recent constituency in the North East, established for the first time in our Society's history! This leads us once again to congratulate the amazing work that all our volunteers do, even during these tough times.

Both Javier and I hope you find these pages interesting and enjoy reading the summary of what has been a great year for SRUK/CERU. Personally, we would like to highlight:

- The magnificent work that the science policy department has done regarding **Brexit**. We ran a new Brexit survey among our members which revealed the UK as a less appealing country to live, work and study. Conversations with the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) are being held to fight against the loss of appeal of the UK among the Spanish researchers.
- Since December 2021, we hold the vice-presidency of the network of Spanish researchers abroad (**RAICEX**) and have contributed as science representatives and advisors to the revision of the **new Spanish law for Science, Technology, and Innovation**, by compiling and sending to the Spanish Ministry our suggestions to improve the conditions of the researchers in Spain. Some of these suggestions were accepted. Similarly, we also contributed to the publication of the **"ATRAE" report**, a decalogue of proposals to facilitate the return of Spanish researchers from abroad.
- With our **3rd edition of the SRUK/CERU On the move program** we have continued supporting the mobility and collaboration between researchers in both Spain and the UK. We also continued with our **Winter and Summer Studentships** that awards 3-month UK placements for Spanish undergraduate students. We also awarded series of **Travel Grants** to selected SRUK/CERU members to cover part of their expenses to present their research at international conferences.
- We have maintained our commitment to recognise the research excellence and contribute to their development with our **Emerging Talent Award 2022** sponsored by Fundación Banco Santander. As a result of

the postponed events during the pandemic, we held the award ceremony of the Emerging Talent Award 2021 in May 2022. The ceremony of the Emerging Talent Award 2022 and the postponed Emerging Talent Award 2020 will be held together in November 2022. The award ceremonies always take place in the Spanish Embassy in London.

- We are also extremely proud of the publication of our **Science-me a story book**. This bilingual book aimed at children is formed by stories from the first three editions. This book was published with Penguin and all the contests are sponsored by Fundación Lilly.
- Two special prizes were also given during this year to recognised researchers. The **ACES-Margarita Salas Award** organised by our sister Society ACES was granted to Prof. Mercedes Maroto, candidate nominated by SRUK/CERU. And Prof. Carmen Galán was awarded the **Merit Award**, the highest honour awarded in our Society.
- We kept **raising awareness of the role of women in research** through empowering seminars and events organised by our Women Equity & Research committee. Traditionally, part of these events is aimed to commemorate the International Day of Girls and Women in Science (11 Feb), and the International Women's Day (8 Mar) among others.
- During the AGM 2022 we discussed how to ensure the sustainability of the Society, and we created and approved with this aim 4 new departments: **Public Engagement & Outreach, Territorial, Diversity, Equity and Welfare, and Professional Development**.

José Javier Burgos Mármol presided during the first part of the year (from July 2021 to February 2022), leaving for personal reasons, with Claudia Román-Montañana assuming the position of interim President for the second half of the term (February 2022- July 2022). Last but not least, we would like to acknowledge the help of Carmen Sánchez-Cañizares, SRUK/CERU ex-president and Director of Institutional Relations, for her invaluable help, time and advice.

We wish SRUK/CERU a happy birthday, another 10 years, maybe even 100.

All the best,



Claudia Román – Montañana
President interim of SRUK/CERU
from February 2022



José Javier Burgos Mármol
President of SRUK/CERU
July 2021 - February 2022



Claudia Román – Montañana



José Javier Burgos Mármol

For more information, please contact
president@sruk.org.uk

WHAT IS SRUK/CERU? WHAT ARE OUR AIMS?

The Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom (SRUK/CERU) is a non-profit, independent organization. We do not have any political affiliation.

SRUK/CERU was created in July 2011 and was formally established in June 2012. At that time, SRUK/CERU was registered in the Companies House of England and Wales. The Society was created with four main aims:

1. SOCIAL NETWORK

To create a social network of researchers and students working in the United Kingdom. We aim to facilitate the arrival of the new members, offer advice, and share professional and life experiences.

2. SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS

To increase public awareness of every aspect of the Research and Innovation (R&I) system. We aim to close the existing gap between researchers and the general public by holding seminars, roundtables, conferences and the Society's annual symposium.

3. SCIENCE REPRESENTATIVES

To be the representatives of the Spanish researchers in the United Kingdom for British and Spanish organisations, general public, and the media. We aim to serve as scientific advisors for both public and private organisations. We believe that our knowledge and experience are relevant and worth sharing.

4. SCIENCE MEDIATORS

To facilitate collaborations between both private and public British and Spanish R&I institutions. It is our opinion that exploring and establishing collaboration between the UK and Spain will bear fruit in the long run.

¿QUÉ ES CERU Y CUÁLES SON NUESTROS OBJETIVOS?

La sociedad de Científicos Españoles en Reino Unido (CERU) es una organización independiente sin ánimo de lucro y sin afiliación política. Se creó en 2011 y se constituyó de manera oficial en junio de 2012. La sociedad persigue cuatro objetivos principales:

1. Crear una red social de investigadores que trabajan en el Reino Unido.
2. Acercar la ciencia y la investigación al público en general.
3. Ser los portavoces de los investigadores españoles en Reino Unido ante instituciones británicas y españolas, medios de comunicación y redes sociales.
4. Facilitar colaboraciones entre organizaciones relacionadas con la I+D+i del Reino Unido y de España, tanto públicas como privadas.

OUR STRUCTURE

SRUK/CERU is managed by the **Executive Committee (EC)**, formed by 17 directors representing all our SRUK/CERU members and who work together to pursue the aims of the Society. The Directors of the different departments are elected during the Annual General Assembly. In addition, SRUK/CERU is organised in ten established Regional Constituencies across the UK, and the Directors of these constituencies are also part of the EC and elected by their local members. This facilitates the direct communication between our members and the EC. We also count with Ambassadors in Spain, who are our main link and represent our members there.

Many volunteers are part of our departments, working groups and committees. SRUK/CERU counts with five departments: **Institutional Relations, International Collaborations, Science Policy, Press and Communications**. Moreover, each constituency has a **Local Working Group** to shape their regional activities and events. In addition, SRUK/CERU committees work to achieve specific goals of the Society. Currently, SRUK/CERU has nine committees: **Fellowships and Awards, Evaluation, International Symposium, Mentoring, Women, equity and research, Cancer-ASEICA, Science-me a Story, En Foco and Design**, together with the teams of the **Blog, Radio, YouTube and Instagram**, and the members of our **Scientific Advisory Board**.

As in previous years, we have grown, achieved goals, and consolidated ourselves as a key player within Spain and the UK. As always, we welcome any member interested in participating actively on board of our amazing team of volunteers.

SRUK/CERU is run by volunteers. During 2021/2022 around 100 members have actively participated in our departments, working groups and committees, which is what makes possible the Society as it is today.



ESTRUCTURA DE CERU

La Sociedad funciona gracias al trabajo de más de 100 voluntarios y voluntarias que hacen posible el crecimiento y la consolidación de CERU. El Comité Ejecutivo (CE) es el encargado de representar a los socios, desarrollar los objetivos de la Sociedad y delinear el plan estratégico de la misma. Cada año la Asamblea General elige a los miembros del Board, a los directores administrativos y a los de los departamentos. Además, CERU se divide en diez Delegaciones Regionales cuya Directiva Local, elegida a nivel regional, también forma parte del Comité Ejecutivo. Así se facilita la comunicación entre los socios y el Comité Ejecutivo. Los voluntarios de CERU participan en los grupos de trabajo de las delegaciones, en los departamentos y en los distintos comités, que desarrollan los objetivos específicos de la sociedad.

For more information, please contact info@sruk.org.uk



Executive Committee



* Javier Burgos was the President until 17th February 2022. Claudia Román started as Vice-President, and assumed the role of interim President from that date on.

Committees

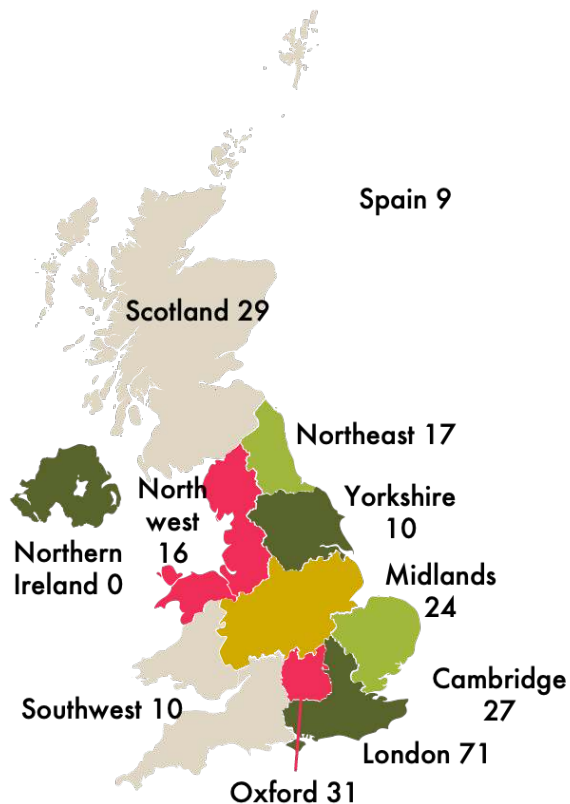
Fellowships & Awards
 Wom=n Equity & Research
 Evaluation
 En Foco
 Cancer-ASEICA

Science-me a story
 Mentoring
 Annual Symposium
 Design

Members

Regular Friends	Associated
Founding Former Presidents	Honorary

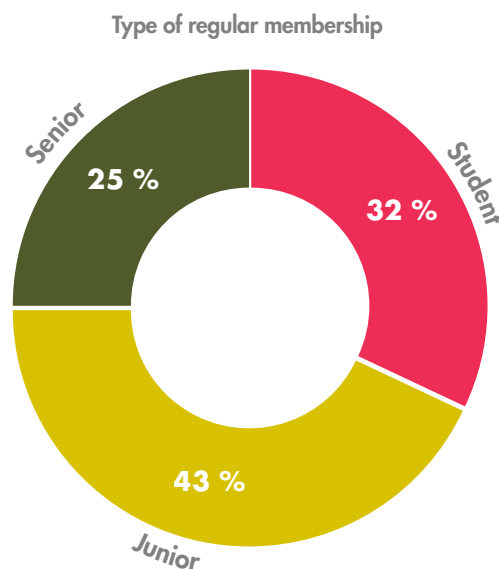
OUR MEMBERS



SRUK/CERU accommodates all research disciplines and career stages. Most of our academic members are in the “career consolidation stage”, between being a PhD student and an independent group leader. We also count with members working in industry and in the public sector.

SRUK/CERU is consolidated as a network that reaches over 1200 persons through its regular means of communication. A fraction of this community encompasses our regular members, who are grouped in nine established constituencies across the UK and one in the process of being developed. We also have a number of Friend members in Spain and other countries and Associate members in the UK.

Type of membership	Description	%
Regular	Spanish researchers working in the UK	88 %
Associate	Non-researchers or non-spanish working in the UK	8 %
Friend	Working outside the UK	4 %



NUESTROS SOCIOS

La CERU es una red que, en el curso 2021-2022, ha conectado a más de 1200 personas. Una fracción de esta comunidad está constituida por nuestros miembros regulares, que se agrupan en nueve delegaciones oficiales y una en fase de constitución. CERU cuenta con tres tipos de miembros: socios regulares (investigadores españoles que trabajan en Reino Unido), socios asociados (no investigadores o no españoles que trabajan en Reino Unido) y amigos (fuera de Reino Unido), dando la bienvenida a todo el mundo interesado en formar parte de CERU.

For more information, please contact membership@sruk.org.uk

SRUK/CERU X ANNIVERSARY

The **X Anniversary of the official establishment of SRUK/CERU** provided the perfect opportunity to celebrate the intense and pioneering work of its members with five special events selected to showcase the objectives of the Society and to reach the various intended audiences that benefit from the activities organised by its members. Additional funding was provided to enhance the visibility of the events, ensure free entry for all attendees and allow more members to travel from other parts of the UK.

A **Forum on Plant Biotechnology** (February 2022) organised in collaboration with the Embassy of Spain Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs (OCSA) was delivered on-line to facilitate the participation of researchers and companies from both Spain and the UK. Cutting-edge and world-leading research performed in the most prestigious institutions in both countries raised awareness of the importance of plant biotechnology to provide solutions to the unavoidable challenges of food provision and climate change. The Forum allowed new collaborations between academics and companies working in the agricultural sector to develop and also fruitful discussions between academics, companies and policy-makers.

A Public Engagement event at the Instituto Cervantes in Manchester in April 2022 welcomed scientists, writers, teachers and the general audience to explore ways to use in education the book **“Science-me-a-story. Stories for young researchers”**, a compilation of the 20 awarded stories (written in English and Spanish) of the first three editions of the Ciencia-me-un-cuento/Science-me-a-story contest (see pages 24-25). Run in collaboration with the Lilly Foundation, the contest has grown into a widely followed initiative that involves writers, science communicators and researchers from over 50 different countries, with a common goal: to transfer their passion of Science to children. Seventeen SRUK/CERU members worked hand-in-hand with the authors to bring colour and images to their stories resulting in a book that everyone can enjoy while learning about copepods, vaccines, cells and the scientific method.





Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom

A one-day mini-symposium entitled **Covid 19: the beginning, the journey and the future** was held in May 2022 at the Physical & Theoretical Chemistry Laboratory of the University of Oxford. The sponsors, which included The Biochemical Society, allowed the organisers to attract world-leading scientists in academia and industry who encompassed different aspects of the Covid-19 pandemic. This line-up attracted over 50 attendees, mostly graduate students and post-doctoral researchers from several disciplines. The presentations were followed by lively discussions which, as anticipated given the diverse and multidisciplinary profiles of the audience, led to challenging and interesting questions. The attendees learned about the biology of the coronavirus, life at an UCI ward, the innovation that led to a successful mass testing programme, upcoming innovative vaccines and the impact that the SARS-CoV-2 virus has on the brain. A lively networking took place during the lunch break prompting a myriad of new ideas.

The SRUK/CERU 10 years journey: a dialogue with former SRUK/CERU presidents: a session scheduled as part of the SRUK/CERU Annual Symposium in July 2022 in Oxford, to showcase the Society's journey, welcomed the eight former SRUK/CERU presidents who had completed a full term. Members had the opportunity to thank all of them for their leadership which has been crucial for the achievements of the Society in the past years. A lively dialogue between current members and former presidents followed and had the anticipated result of encouraging junior members to take up positions of responsibility to not only contribute to the development of the Society, but also to develop their own professional skill set.

The X Anniversary celebrations will feature its final event "**Scientific Gatherings II - Northern Power**", in Autumn. The North East and Scotland Constituencies are planning a mini-symposium to showcase the work of junior and senior scientists within the SRUK/CERU community and provide a networking opportunity for members of North East, Scotland, in particular, as well as for other SRUK/CERU members and the general public.



X ANIVERSARIO DE SRUK/CERU

El X Aniversario desde el establecimiento de CERU se celebró con una serie de eventos elegidos para mostrar el intenso e innovador trabajo llevado a cabo por sus miembros y dirigidos a audiencias múltiples siguiendo los objetivos de la Sociedad. Financiación adicional proporcionó mayor visibilidad a los eventos, aseguró entrada gratis a los asistentes y ofreció ayudas de viaje a socios que así lo requirieran. La membresía se benefició especialmente del evento **Los 10 años de viaje de CERU: un diálogo con ex-presidentes de CERU** en el que 8 presidentes pasados animaron a los asistentes a continuar por otros diez años.

SCIENCE POLICY

In the Science Policy Department, we identify and work with key stakeholders both in Spain and the UK - including researchers, officials, parliamentarians and the media - and seek to inform decisions with our reports and evidence submissions.

The Science Policy Department

Javier Pardo Díaz, Director of Science Policy
Carmen Sánchez Cañizares, Director of Institutional Relations
Diego Sainz de la Maza
Rocío Gaudio
Javier Escudero
Fernando Jiménez
Carlos Outeiral
Pablo Izquierdo
José Pedro Manzano

At SRUK/CERU, we have taken and continue to take an active role in defending the interests and rights of Spanish researchers both during the Brexit negotiations and beyond.

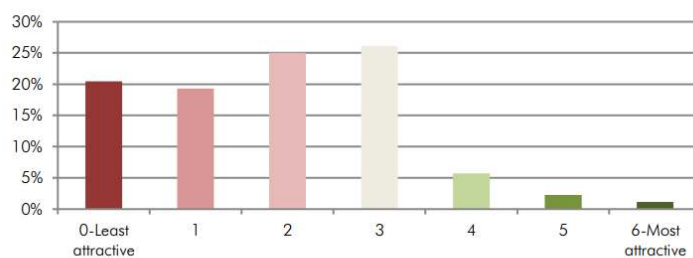
We also perform **impartial analyses and provide recommendations** to foster the Spanish R&D system, based on our perspective from within the British system. We have established a good working relationship with journalists, officials and politicians. This year, our work has been featured in Nature, El País, El Periódico de España, and El Ibérico, among other media.

All our activities, reports and statements can be found in our website: <https://sruk.org.uk/teams/science-policy-department-backstage/>

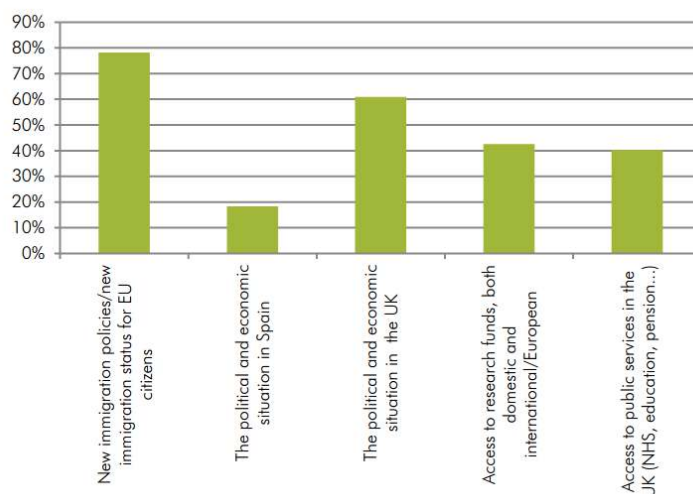
In the UK

We continue to monitor the new regulations being rolled out in the UK that affect research and researchers, as well as their families and dependants. In this line, we published the results of a **new survey on the impact of Brexit on Spanish researchers and students living in the UK**. This survey revealed increased uncertainty and lower appeal of the UK compared to previous surveys and highlighted citizens' rights and access to European funding as prominent concerns of our community. To better understand this last point, **we interviewed two SRUK/CERU members who were awarded a European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grant** and were not able to accept this award due to the lack of an agreement regarding the participation of the UK in Horizon Europe.

How attractive is the UK in 2021 compared to when you last moved to the country?



What would be the main reasons for the above answer?



Results from SRUK/CERU Brexit Survey 2021

We have also made available on our website **information regarding the different types of visas** that EU researchers coming to work or study in the UK might need. In addition, we have continued to assist Spanish researchers with questions related to immigration processes. During the next year, this information will be included in a second edition of the **“Guide of the**

Spanish Researcher in the UK", which we are developing in collaboration with the Embassy of Spain in London and the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT).

In Spain

In the context of the 2021 Emerging Talent Award Ceremony, we held a **meeting with the Spanish General Secretary for Research and the International Director of FECYT**. During this meeting, we discussed how Brexit has impacted the community of Spanish researchers in the UK. We focused on how to **enhance international mobility and bilateral collaborations**, advocated for the **inclusion of the UK in Horizon Europe**, and discussed the **difficulties faced by Spanish researchers in the UK when returning to Spain**. Related to this last point, we have also been offering our community updates about **procedures for accreditation with ANECA**. We are in contact with the relevant entities and sought information about how protocols continue to change after Brexit.



SRUK/CERU President, Directors of Science Policy, Institutional Relations, and International Relations meeting Spanish General Secretary for Research and the International Director of FECYT at the SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award 2021 Ceremony. Author: Christina Sarkisian

Alongside the other societies of Spanish researchers abroad, grouped in RAICEX, we have contributed to several science policy documents:

- Briefing for the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation on the **fast-track route for homologation of academic titles** to promote the attraction of researchers working abroad.
- Briefing for the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation on how **tenure-track schemes** work in different countries.
- Feedback to the Spanish Ministry for Science and Innovation on the **modification of the Spanish Bill for Science, Technology and Innovation**. Some of the modifications we suggested and that were incorporated in the bill include the regulation of the double affiliation and the consideration of the research experience abroad towards the calculation of "*sexenios de investigación*".
- Article published in El País "**Hacia un sistema de ciencia e innovación competitivo y atractivo a escala internacional**" where we presented our views on the new Spanish Bill for Science, Technology and Innovation.
- **ATRAE Report** (Attraction of Talent and Return to Spain), a decalogue of proposals to facilitate the return of Spanish researchers from abroad. This report arises as a complementary action to the Return to Spain Plan approved in 2019 and some of the measures included in it have been implemented in the *Plan de atracción y retención de talento científico e innovador* approved by the Spanish government.

EL DEPARTAMENTO DE POLÍTICA CIENTÍFICA

Desde el Departamento de Política Científica de CERU, interaccionamos con distintos actores en España y Reino Unido para defender los intereses de los investigadores españoles en ambos países. Durante este año hemos publicado diferentes informes sobre temas relacionados con el Brexit y el ecosistema de I+D+i español. Además, hemos seguido reuniéndonos con actores políticos y medios de comunicación para hacerles conocedores de la situación de nuestra comunidad y nuestras propuestas.

For more information, contact sciencepolicy@sruk.org.uk

RAICEX



Officially established in July 2018, the Red de Asociaciones de Científicos e Investigadores Españoles en el Exterior (RAICEX) currently represents 18 associations, which together account for more than 4,000 Spanish researchers and scientists abroad.

The RAICEX Board of Directors 2021/2022

Francisco Vilaplana, ACES - Sweden, President
Carmen Sánchez-Cañizares, SRUK/CERU - UK, Vice-president
Álvaro de la Cruz Dombriz, ACE - South Africa, Secretary
Guillermo Pérez, CERFA - Germany, Treasurer
Eva Ortega, General Secretary in Spain



Annual general assembly Raicex 2022



Awarded Prof. Mercedes Maroto

Our joint mission is to promote the exchange of experiences and knowledge between Spanish researchers abroad and all the agents of the Spanish System of Science, Technology and Innovation, serving as an advisory body, a channel of information, and a catalyst of international relations and multi-directional research, thus contributing to the progress of science and research. SRUK/CERU has an active role within RAICEX and has contributed to the following initiatives:

- In December 2021, the **VI Meeting of Spanish Scientific, Technological and Innovation Diplomacy** was held in Madrid, facilitated by FECYT and hosted by the Ramón Areces Foundation. Our President Javier Burgos attended this meeting representing SRUK/CERU. The new directors for 2022 were appointed, with SRUK/CERU holding the vice-presidency as our SRUK/CERU-RAICEX delegate and Director of Institutional Relations, Carmen Sánchez Cañizares.
- Our SRUK/CERU Ambassador in Spain, Eduardo Oliver, and the General Secretary of RAICEX, Eva Ortega Paño, published an article entitled **“The story of RAICEX as a successful scientific diaspora organization”** (*Frontiers*, July 2022), highlighting the role of scientific diaspora in policies, processes and practices.
- Our Department of Science Policy has actively contributed to the different **policy initiatives** led by RAICEX to defend the interests of the Spanish researchers abroad in front of the Spanish R&D institutions (see p. 12-13).
- We participated in the **first edition of the Award ACES-Margarita Salas**, aiming to recognise the career of an established Spanish researcher working abroad. Our nominee, **Prof. Mercedes Maroto**, received this award in Stockholm in November 2021, presented by The King and Queen of Spain. In the 2022 edition we nominated **Dr. Ana Payo Payo** for her work in Environmental Sciences.
- Our members Prof. Mercedes Maroto (Feb 2022), Prof. Sonia Contera (May 2022), and Fernando Gomollón Bel (June 2022) have participated in the seminar series **“Diálogos de Ciencia en Español”** co-organised by RAICEX in collaboration with Ramón Areces Foundation, Consejería de Educación, Universidades, Ciencia y Portavocía de la Comunidad Autónoma de Madrid (CAM), Oficina del Español de la CAM, and Rafael del Pino Foundation.
- Our members have participated in **Punto de Enlace** radio interviews from **RTVE Radio Exterior**, featuring researchers working abroad, led by Eduardo Oliver and Eva Ortega Paño. In July 2022, after our annual symposium, the SRUK/CERU 10th anniversary had its own special program with our SRUK/CERU president, Claudia Román, highlighting the role of SRUK/CERU as the first society to be established and its participation in RAICEX.

Diásporas of European Researchers in the UK

SRUK/CERU continues to foster our relationship with other associations of European researchers in the UK to explore the concerns and interests of our communities. These relationships are particularly important in the context of Brexit, as we believe that collaborating with other associations representing European diasporas in the UK makes our message of supporting international collaborations and international researchers stronger. This year we signed together the **#StickToScience** campaign calling for an open and inclusive European Research Area. Following our Brexit surveys, we also wrote a joint letter co-signed by all hosting organizations in Nature to make public our concerns about the delays in signing the final agreement for the association of the UK with EU research programmes (**Brexit: delays worry diaspora researchers**, *Nature* 604, 425 (2022)).



concerns about the delays in signing the final agreement for the association of the UK with EU research programmes (**Brexit: delays worry diaspora researchers**, *Nature* 604, 425 (2022)).

Societies of Spanish citizens in the UK

Together with our Department of Science Policy, SRUK/CERU has participated in monthly meetings with groups of Spanish citizens in the UK to monitor the impact of Brexit in our communities and the changes in the mobility and immigration policy, as well as to give voice to our concerns. This year we highlight the informative event about the Global Talent Visa that SRUK/CERU co-organised with Coalición de Españoles en el Reino Unido and the joint announcement asking for more support in the face of Brexit challenges.



DIÁSPORAS



RELACIONES INSTITUCIONALES

CERU colabora con distintos colectivos y asociaciones en España y Reino Unido para defender los intereses de nuestros socios y fortalecer la presencia de nuestra Sociedad en ambos países. Este curso ostentamos la vicepresidencia de la Red de Asociaciones de Científicos e Investigadores Españoles en el Exterior (RAICEX) y hemos colaborado activamente con colectivos de ciudadanos españoles en Reino Unido, y con las diásporas de investigadores europeos en Reino Unido, publicando en Nature nuestra opinión sobre el impacto del Brexit y la incertidumbre actual respecto a la participación en Horizon Europe.

For more information, contact institutional.relations@sruk.org.uk

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

SRUK/CERU aims to create a bridge between private and public institutions in Spain and in the UK and to contribute to the success of both national Research & Innovation systems.

The International Collaborations Committee

Desirée Villahermosa Caballero, Director
Sara Alvira
Ignacio Tolosana
Cristina Barrero Sicilia
Rosa Sánchez Lucas
María José Conde Dusman

Cancer Committee

Sara Alvira
Pilar Acedo Núñez
José Marín Rubio
Ana Cristina Carvajal Duperier
Teresa Valero
Virginia Ruiz Asenio
Ignacio Rodríguez



Desirée Villahermosa, Lola Manterola -founder of CRIS Cancer Foundation- and Pilar Acedo

We communicate and negotiate with Spanish and British organisations (academic and non-academic), explore opportunities for interaction and generate agreements for collaboration; we collaborate and share knowledge with other Societies of Spanish Researchers around the world; and we manage a portfolio of Education, Awards, Networking and Mobility programmes. We focus on some key aspects:

- **International agreements.** We facilitate collaborations and increase visibility of both Spanish and British research groups.
- **International mobility.** We provide a connection platform and foster bidirectional mobility of researchers at different stages of their career.
- **Career development.** We organise workshops and seminars and we improve career prospects of both visitors and supervisors in our mobility grants.
- **Networking and Information.** We organise networking activities and informative events. We study how Brexit affects research mobility, and its implications for our programmes.

Our new and established collaborations allow the development of **SRUK/CERU initiatives**:

- **International research mobility UK ↔ Spain.** Manage mobility grants focused on training and collaborative placements for researchers at different stages of their careers.
- **Talent recruitment and networking opportunities.** Create and support forum events to connect British, Spanish and European researchers and research groups.
- **Professional development and awards.** Offer informative and training schemes that advise about alternative or complementary research pathways.

2021/2022 Highlighted programmes and events

- **3rd edition On the Move Fellowships:** On the Move is a bi-directional mobility programme for research staff in Spain and in the UK in partnership with the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE). This year, we awarded 7 placements both in Spain and in the UK out of 14 available opportunities.
- **SRUK/CERU Winter and Summer Studentships:** 32 students from three Universities in Spain have ensured a 3-months

DEPARTAMENTO DE RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES

Un objetivo fundamental de CERU es ser intermediaria en Ciencia e Investigación, para lo cual establece conexiones y acuerdos con instituciones de investigación españolas. A través de estos convenios, estimulamos colaboraciones entre organizaciones e instituciones en España y Reino Unido, tanto privadas como públicas y facilitamos la movilidad entre ambos países.

Las iniciativas desarrolladas dentro del departamento de Colaboraciones Internacionales de CERU engloban programas de movilidad para estudiantes e investigadores en diferentes estadios de la carrera investigadora, oportunidades para la transferencia de conocimiento y el desarrollo profesional, reclutamiento de talento y premios a la carrera investigadora.

For more information, contact international@sruk.org.uk

placement with our Winter or Summer Studentship. Additionally, 20 SRUK/CERU members had the opportunity to supervise students, many of which repeat every year!

- **Bringing back the Cancer Committee:** We started a campaign to recruit Cancer Committee members and re-start or continue contacts with our collaborators CRIScáncer, ASEICA (Asociación Española de Investigación Sobre el Cáncer) etc.
- **Post Brexit travel to the UK guide:** We developed a useful guide for researchers or students who need to travel from Spain to the UK for a placement and made it available online. We have developed a further guide for the wider audience in collaboration with the Science Policy Department.

Future initiatives

- **2nd event on the SRUK/CERU Cancer Networking Series:** This is a series of international symposiums to take place in the UK and Spain that aim to promote scientific discussion, networking and collaboration between UK, Germany and Spain-based cancer researchers and institutions. It will bring world-leading scientists in the fields of cancer genomics, immune system and paediatric cancer to the CNIO (Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Oncológicas), Madrid. The day will alternate seminars, networking, mentoring activities and roundtables on science policy and funding opportunities. Our supporters are Fundación Ramon Areces, ASEICA and Mission Bio and we collaborate with CNIO and CERFA (Científicos Españoles en la República Federal de Alemania).
- **Future plans:** Organise a closing event for the OnTheMovers. Develop short-stay grants to set initial meetings with potential collaborators. Establish new collaborations and maintain previous partnerships with Universities, Research Centres and certain public and private organisations related to R&D in the United Kingdom and Spain.



Beatriz Herranz (Comms at the British Embassy in Spain), Desirée Villahermosa and Sara Cebrian (Science Attaché at British Embassy Madrid)

Partnerships

Universities	Networks	Charities and Foundations	Societies	Research Institutes
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid - UAM	Conferencia de Rectores de las Universidades Españolas - CRUE	Fundación Damián Rodríguez Olivares - DRO Foundation	Asociación Española de Investigación sobre el Cáncer - ASEICA	Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas - CSIC
Universidad de Zaragoza - Unizar	Red de Universidades Valencianas por el fomento de la I+D - RUVID	International Mentoring Foundation for the Advancement of Higher Education - IMFAHE	Real Sociedad Española de Física - RSEF	Fundación Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria de Aragón - IIS Aragón
Universidad Francisco de Vitoria - UFV	Fundación Pública Andaluza para la Investigación Biosanitaria Andalucía Oriental - FIBAO	Fundación CRIScáncer	Sociedad Española de Bioquímica y Biología Molecular - SEBBM	Instituto de Investigaciones Biomédicas de Málaga - IBIMA
Universidad de La Laguna - ULL			Sociedad Española de Ingeniería Biomédica - SEIB	Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Oncológicas - CNIO
			Federación Española de Biotecnólogos - FEBiotec	

PRESS DEPARTMENT

SRUK/CERU Press Department, bringing science closer to society. The SRUK/CERU Press Department consists of a motivated and enthusiastic team of 8 volunteers that informs the society about the different activities carried out and goals achieved by SRUK/CERU and its members. Who are we?

The Press Department

Sandra Álvarez, Press Directory, Co-editor-in-chief of the SRUK Blog/Blog CERU, and Web Manager + Member of the Press Dpt.

Laura Martínez, Co-director of the Radio Committee + Member of the Press Dpt.

David Ruiz, Co-director of the Radio Committee + Member of the Press Dpt.

Marga Segovia, Co-editor-in-chief of the SRUK Blog/Blog CERU + Member of the Press Dpt.

Alba Abad, Editor of the SRUK Blog/Blog CERU + Member of the Press Dpt.

Diego Alonso, Editor of the SRUK Blog/Blog CERU + Member of the Press Dpt.

Beatriz Castejón Vega, Editor of the SRUK Blog/Blog CERU + Member of the Press Dpt.

Luis Moliner, Online Manager of the SRUK Blog/Blog CERU

Since June 2021, our department has issued a total of 15 press releases written by our team members and in collaboration with members of the SRUK/CERU Executive Committee.

This year, we have been extensively covering the issues the scientific community is currently facing in the UK. For instance, we have been warning the society about the difficulties that Spanish researchers in the UK have been facing since Brexit officially occurred with regards to keeping their right to study or work in the UK. We have also communicated how our Society is contributing to the “Stick to Science” project, which aims to guarantee that the UK, together with Switzerland, are part of Horizon Europe and can have access to grants to fund research in the UK.

Apart from news focused on science policy, we have also covered events in which SRUK/CERU has been involved in as well as the awards our Society delivers. Some of these press releases include the SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award, the publication of the Science-Me a Story book, or the Annual International Symposium our Society hosted in Oxford. More than 40 journals and newspapers have been disseminating our press releases in the media, making it possible for the wide audience to learn more about how SRUK/CERU is contributing to society.

As part of the SRUK/CERU outreach program, our department also coordinates the **radio program “En Fase Experimental”** and the **“SRUK Blog/Blog CERU”**. Both initiatives publish their content on a monthly basis, covering the latest scientific news explained by both SRUK/CERU members and invited collaborators.





This year, **"En Fase Experimental"** has released 10 podcasts, which have been played more than 9,000 times, being the US, Belgium, Spain, the UK, and Germany the top 5 countries that have been following our radio program this year! Currently, "En Fase Experimental" can be followed not only on our Society's website but also on the main podcast platforms such as iVoox, iTunes, Spotify, and YouTube.

Our other initiative, the **"SRUK Blog/Blog CERU"**, contributes to scientific outreach by publishing monthly posts about the up-to-date research that our SRUK/CERU members and collaborators carry out. This year, we have published 15 posts that have covered topics from everything and anything in science and research: biology, chemistry, new technologies, women in research, history... You name it! Our posts have been read between 2,000 and 9,000 times, so we are extremely thankful to all the bloggers that have collaborated with us this year, thanks to whom our "SRUK Blog/Blog CERU" can be up and running and enjoyed by many readers across the globe. In September 2022, we will reveal the 3 winners of our sixth edition of the annual SRUK/CERU Blog contest, so stay tuned in our social media to discover the posts that our readers have liked the most!

Given that information is currently transmitted mostly online, the Press Department has joined forces with the Online Department. In that way, both departments have been working closely together to develop and communicate SRUK/CERU activities in a clear, transparent, quick, and truthful manner to the society.

EL DEPARTAMENTO DE PRENSA

El Departamento de Prensa está formado por un equipo de 8 voluntarixs que activamente promueve el trabajo que lxs investigadorxs que forman CERU llevan a cabo en Reino Unido. Nuestro equipo redacta notas de prensa para informar a medios de comunicación nacionales y regionales sobre eventos y actividades en los que CERU participa en Reino Unido. A su vez, gracias a la contribución tanto de miembros de CERU como de colaboradorxs invitadxs, nuestro programa de radio **"En Fase Experimental"** y nuestro Blog CERU **"1, 2, 3... ¡Explora!"** siguen siendo puntos de referencia

If you are interested in joining The Press Department, contact us at: press@sruk.org.uk

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

The SRUK/CERU Communications Department is the face of our community online, increasing SRUK/CERU's visibility worldwide through all our communication channels. Responsible for the online communications strategy, it keeps our community engaged with all our events and initiatives, as well as delivering the latest news about science and research.

The Communications Department

Bet Batlle Rocafort Director

Regional Community Managers

Loreto Gestoso	London
Carlota Segura	Oxford
Maribel García	Cambridge
David Ruíz	NorthWest
Marta Domínguez	Midlands
Paula Sotelo	Scotland
Bet Batlle	Yorkshire
Ana Viñuela & Jose Luis Marin	SouthWest

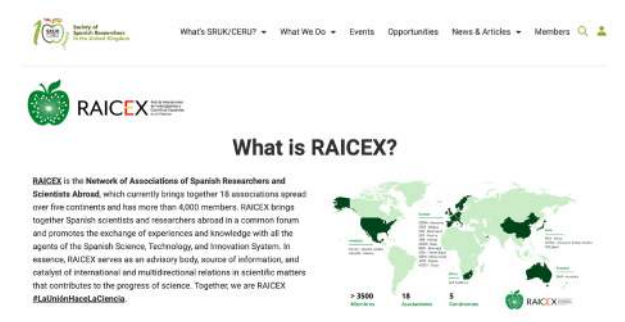
Department and Committee Managers

Sandra Álvarez	Webmaster
Ignacio Tolosana	International Collaborations
Javier Pardo	Science Policy
Isabel Peset	Ciencia-me un cuento
Luis Moliner	Press & Blog
David Ruíz	Press & Blog (En Fase Experimental)
Laura Bravo	Symposium Committee
Lorea Valcarcel	Wom=en Committee

Once more, the Communications Department has been giving voice to our volunteers and members across the UK, updating our community about all our events and initiatives as well as delivering the latest news about science and research. This year has been busy and exciting for our online community, with a growing number of initiatives that are taking the SRUK/CERU brand further than ever before.

Our team of volunteers brings to life exciting content for the SRUK/CERU community every single day. Our social media channels have continued to grow both in impact and followers, with a community of now 4.8k followers on Twitter. We want to continue spreading the word for a nation-wide success of our initiatives, using our new communication channels such as YouTube or Instagram that have now been successfully established. The Online team has been involved in the edition of social media campaigns & video to promote and cover the different events. More news includes the launch of our own **Inktober with a Scientific Twist** illustration challenge on our Instagram page.

- Since our launch in summer 2021, **our new website** has continued to grow, now including sections like "SRUK/CERU in RAICEX", with visual and easily accessible information on the past collaborations and useful information on how to get involved with the wider association of Spanish researchers abroad.



"SRUK/CERU in RAICEX" section in our website

- **Increasing the proximity with our members:** This year, we have continued to engage with all our members and volunteers, making our initiatives more accessible and our community more approachable. Following up with the launching of our Instagram channel and its objectives, we dedicated two important social media campaigns to highlighting the work of our volunteers and members on the day of their fields: **World Cancer Day** on the 4th of February and **The Brain Awareness week in March**. Both campaigns have gathered our members' statements and

thoughts about their field of research and daily life. We believe this to be a great example of the varied community of SRUK/CERU, all living in different parts of the UK and belonging to different stages in their careers. With this, we aim to continue to represent our community and give everyone a platform to spread their interests and experiences. We are infinitely proud of our community, and we want to say it loud and clear!

- **Inktober with a Scientific Twist (see page 23):** October 2021 was our first edition of this collaborative science outreach challenge in our Instagram page, and we were so happy to see our members and collaborators respond! With the aim of using art as a tool for communication, we wanted to encourage our members to help raise awareness about the value of science in their daily life while developing their creativity during the whole month. All the illustrations can be found in our Instagram @srukceru. The team behind the challenge is getting ready to start the second edition soon this 2022!

As always, a special shout out to our **Design committee**, comprised by our most talented scientists and researchers who bring together art and science and help the Communications department to deliver our events and initiatives in the best possible way. You guys rock!

Finally, last July we said goodbye to **Miguel Cacho Sobleche-ro**, former Online and Comms director. Miguel was a very active member of the SRUK/CERU Executive Committee, and we want to use this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work to maintain the good functioning of the Society, by leading essential projects such as the development of our amazing new website. His brilliant sense of teamwork and positive attitude towards the rest of members and volunteers made Miguel a very important member of the team. We hope you're having a great time in the US, Miguel!



World Cancer Day and The Brain Awareness week campaigns on Instagram

EL DEPARTAMENTO DE COMUNICACIÓN Y REDES SOCIALES

El Departamento de Comunicación y Redes Sociales se encarga de visibilizar el trabajo de toda nuestra comunidad a través de nuestra web, YouTube y nuestras redes sociales. Esta labor es clave para establecer vínculos entre los miembros de nuestra comunidad, dando difusión a todas las iniciativas de la asociación. Este año hemos seguido creciendo nuestra comunidad online a través de nuestras campañas en redes y nuestra nueva web, facilitando la difusión de toda la labor de CERU. Nuestro canal de YouTube sigue aumentando en videos y visitas y nuestro canal de Instagram se ha usado para promocionar eventos de una manera más cercana.

If you want to be part of our Communications team, or want to know more about us: online@sruk.org.uk

DESIGN COMMITTEE

The Design Committee started in February 2021, as part of the Communications Department. Our principal aim is to enhance the visual image of SRUK/CERU, with the final purpose of improving our audience's perception through better communication.

Members of the Design Committee

Cristina Gallego Páramo (Chair)
Berta Gallego Páramo
Loreto Gestoso Suárez
Pablo González
Paula Sotelo Parrilla



We are an enthusiastic team passionate about science but also about art and design. Graphic design implies that visuals should not only be attractive, but also appropriate for **good communication of our messages and our identity as a Society**.

We are open to collaborate helping other SRUK/CERU teams and members with the designs for their events and initiatives. One of our commitments throughout the year was to **design material for some of our flagship initiatives**. This included creating posters and images for online announcements and presentations for the **Emerging Talent Award** (plus Diploma and check for the awardee), **Merit Award**, **Science-me a story** (official presentations in Madrid and Manchester, and announcement of the next edition). We also created visuals for the **Symposium "COVID-19: the beginning, the journey, and the future"**.

Another of the activities we have been in charge of was to format, layout, and make the cover of the **Annual report**. For this, we created a new template that will facilitate the task in the following years.

A special task this year was to **design an adaptation of our SRUK/CERU logo to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of our Society**, that replaced the normal logo during 2022. Additionally, to mark the special events within the Anniversary year, we created a "sticker" to be placed in their announcements and presentations. We also collaborated with the **Annual Symposium "The Joy of Discovery" Committee to design an exclusive logo** for this event, that was used in their communications (and also in T-shirts!).

As an initiative to disseminate science through visuals, we organised and launched the **"Inktober with a Scientific twist"** challenge (see page 23).

Plans 2022/2023

- Continue working in our corporate image: SRUK/CERU public perception, improving templates for creating banners for the events. Capacitate members to use templates following design rules.
- Continue giving support to initiatives creating graphic design material, including the Annual Symposium.
- Creating material for marketing.

COMITÉ DE DISEÑO

El Comité de Diseño se constituyó en febrero de 2021 con el propósito de mejorar la imagen y la percepción pública que se ofrece de CERU a través de nuestras comunicaciones. El Diseño gráfico implica no solo crear una imagen atractiva, sino apropiada para una correcta comunicación de nuestros mensajes e identidad como Sociedad. Hemos colaborado con diseños para la celebración del décimo Aniversario así como para las principales iniciativas, como el Simposio Anual, y carteles y material para Ciencia-me un cuento, el Premio al Mérito o el premio al Talento Emergente. Desde Diseño estamos dispuestas a colaborar con los demás equipos y ayudarles a mejorar la imagen de sus eventos e iniciativas.

INKTOBER

WITH A SCIENTIFIC TWIST

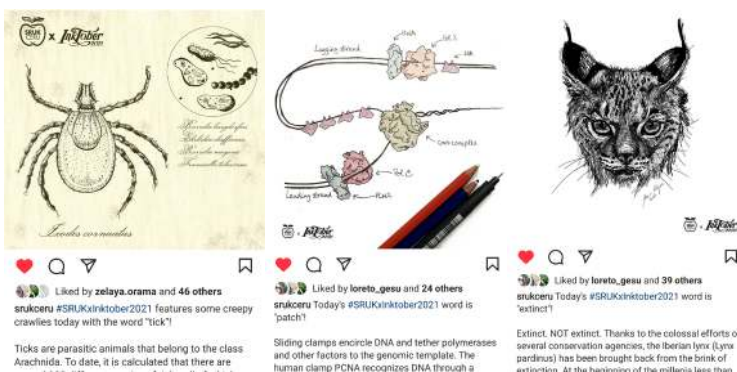
Inktober is a month-long art challenge that lives on Instagram and that is very popular within the illustrators' community. It consists of publishing an original illustration per day during October, each inspired by a given word.

With "Inktober with a Scientific Twist", we adhered to this initiative on **SRUK/CERU Instagram**, for the first time this year, in a very special way: first, organising a team of volunteers (members and not members of our Society) to **complete the challenge collaboratively**, and second, asking them to **find a "scientific twist" to the official Inktober words**. We also requested to add a little explanation to the image, to expand the meaning of the illustration.

Our initiative's main goals are to **raise awareness** about how scientific advancement and the wonders of nature are present in every aspect of life and to **encourage the use of visuals for scientific communication**. We are also willing to promote the values of collaboration, as we complete the challenge together, and to stimulate curiosity. And, of course, having fun.

We recruited a team of **10 volunteers** from different profiles, but most of them were working in areas related to life sciences. Some of the illustrations were used to communicate interesting facts about animals and plants, highlighting the importance of biodiversity conservation. Others delved into how life works, explaining physiology and structural and molecular biology. Chemistry and technology also had their place.

Although the task proved, in fact, challenging, given that illustration was not the volunteers' main activity, and it competed with other commitments, they expressed having had fun and learned a few things. We hope anyone following the challenge on our social media did too!



The "Inktober with a Scientific twist" Organising Team

Berta Gallego Páramo
Cristina Gallego Páramo
Loreto Gestoso Suarez
Paula Sotelo Parrilla

Volunteer Illustrators Team

- Jimena Pérez Lloret @jimenaperezlloret
- Susana Barrera @viviendocientificos
- María Rodríguez @heartnose_cat
- João Teixeira @viviendocientificos
- Loreto Gestoso @zelaya.orama
- Cristina Gallego @a_romantic_scientist
- Paula Sotelo Parrilla @pauleavessp
- Berta Gallego @silken_woods
- Claudia Román @cemonta9
- Arianna Dell'Albani @ari_da_queen__

You can follow the challenge on Instagram: @srukceru

Illustrations by Paula Sotelo, Susana Barrera and María Rodríguez

INKTOBER CON UN GIRO CIENTÍFICO

Inktober es un desafío muy popular dentro de la comunidad artística: se publica en Instagram una ilustración cada día de octubre, inspirada por una palabra dada. Con "Inktober con un giro científico", nos unimos a esta iniciativa de forma particular: con un equipo de voluntarios para afrontar el desafío de forma colaborativa y dando una orientación científica a cada palabra. Pretendemos destacar así el papel de la ciencia y la naturaleza en nuestras vidas, promover la comunicación visual en ciencia, el espíritu colaborativo y la curiosidad. La primera edición reunió un equipo de 10 voluntarios, que participó con ilustraciones sobre naturaleza, fisiología, biología, química y tecnología. La experiencia fue divertida y estimulante para los ilustradores y esperamos que para el público también.

More info: <https://sruk.org.uk/sruk-x-inktober-with-a-scientific-twist/>, contact: design@sruk.org.uk

SCIENCE-ME

A STORY 2021



Sponsored by



Awarded stories from the 4th edition of Science-me a story

Spanish category

- 1st **Álvaro Doñoro Pina** for *Ari y el tarro de las nubes*
- 2nd **Iván Borja Hernández Barrera** for *El tren*
- 3rd **Dani González Escudero** for *Loquita por sus huesos*

English category

- 1st **Joanna Todd** for *Scientists 'R' Us*
- 2nd **Barry Neenan** for *Life by the Book*
- 3rd **Hanna Geshelin** for *Barn Owls and Bookworms*

Members of the Science-me a Story committee

María Pin
Isabel Peset
Eva García Alegria
Ester Bauxali

Spanish external Jury

Francisco Vega
Salvador Macip
Maruxa Martínez
Daniel Ramón
Susana P Gaytán

English external Jury

Izzie Clarke
Greg Lynall
Jules Pottle
Claire Culliford
Adam Feinstein
Danielle Thibodeau
José Pío Beltrán

On 2021, we closed the **fourth edition** of **Science-me a Story**. After four years, the contest is very well established and it has a constant participation of around **150 contestants**. For the first time, we have introduced specific rules for the submission of **poems**. These have been accepted since the first edition of the contest. However, their increase in popularity made us realise that we needed to acknowledge them on both the submission rules and the judging panel guidelines.

Running the contest in two languages as extended as English and Spanish has made the initiative known **worldwide**. This year, we have received stories from **Israel, Ireland, Nigeria, New Zealand and Japan**, and we have seen a strong participation from **the American countries** as we have observed since the first edition. For that reason, we have increased the size of the judging panel of each category from four to **six members**. We wanted to reduce their workload so they could enjoy the contest. We are very grateful to all of them for their time and effort. While for some of them it was their first time, others have been collaborating with us since we launched the contest in 2017.

For this edition, the juries have mentioned the difficulty to choose the awarded and finalist stories. These have been written to portray Science, the scientific method or the life of a scientist in an accurate and fun way, suitable for primary school children. Summarising these features in a few pages is challenging, but the winners have excelled at it. We are very happy to present them here. They received £200, £150 and £100 for first, second and third prize respectively, a booklet with their stories and a diploma. As always, as part of the prize, their stories were published on the online version of **Principia Kids** (for the Spanish category) and the website of the **Literature and Science Hub** of the University of Liverpool for the English one.

Collaborators:



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

PRINCIPIA
kids



This year, the winners of previous editions have read their stories in Science engagement activities, like at the **Day of the Woman and Girl in Science** organised by the Wom=N committee and at the **SRUK/CERU Symposium**. But, the highlight of 2021 has been the **publication of the Science-me a Story bilingual book**, a compilation of the awarded stories of the first three editions of the contest. We wanted the stories to get to children and to be used in classrooms to learn both Science and languages. The dream came true thanks to the sponsorship of **Fundación Lilly** and the editing of **Penguin Random House**. It contains the **twenty stories** beautifully illustrated by volunteers and the biographies of all the authors. The book is available for free through this **QR code** (view image). We have a few hardcopies that we are gifting to institutions, schools and other organisations with a Science engagement activity in mind.



Book cover and QR to download it!

In November, we presented it at the **Instituto Cervantes** in Madrid. The presentation, a recording of which is available on YouTube, consisted of a roundtable with **Laura Ibáñez-Tejero**, author of one of the stories; **Quique Royuela**, founder of Principia and **Bárbara de Aymerich**, writer of the prologue and it was chaired by **José Antonio Sacristán**, director of Fundación Lilly. They discussed how the **storytelling** can help children learn and how the Science-me a Story book is a **powerful teaching tool**. The public enjoyed the discussion on the first in-person activity after the pandemic. We are looking forward to expanding Science-me a Story on the next years.



Presentation of the book in Instituto Cervantes in Madrid

CIENCIA-ME UN CUENTO

En este 2021, hemos cerrado la 4ª edición de Ciencia-me un Cuento con una participación de alrededor de 150 personas y seis ganadores extraordinarios. Este año también hemos podido hacer realidad un sueño: la publicación bilingüe de Ciencia-me un Cuento que recoge los 20 cuentos ganadores de las tres primeras ediciones ilustrados por voluntarios. La edición es completamente gratuita y accesible en la página de la biblioteca de la Fundación Lilly. El libro, auspiciado por la Fundación Lilly y publicado por Penguin Random House, vio la luz en noviembre y se presentó en la sede del Instituto Cervantes de Madrid.

For more information, please contact relatosciencia@sruk.org.uk

INVESTIGACIÓN EN FOCO



II SRUK/CERU Photography Competition

Members of the organising committee

Cecilia Huertas Fernández-Espartero
(Cambridge)

Gentzane Sánchez Elexpuru (Cambridge)

Laura Castañar Acedo (North West)

Pablo Duro Ocaña (North West)

Members of the external Panel

Daniela Riva Rossi, Art historian and artist

Clara Novo, scientist at PDRA Babraham
Institute, Cambridge, and photographer

Gem Toes-Crichton, photographer in Plant
Sciences department, Oxford

Helena González Burón, biomedical, CEO of
Big Van Ciencia

Laura Llera, Deputy vice-president of Scientific
Culture, CSIC

Juan Aballe, professional photographer

Caitlin Griffiths, Lecturer on Photography BA
(Hons) at Salford University

Ana Tepeš, graphic designer

In addition, this year, we organised the **"From images to science stories" workshop** in collaboration with Helena González, director and co-founder of Big Van Science. The workshop aimed to improve research communication and languages skills to emphasise the beauty of the research. This workshop was the first of several related to public engagement and science designing.

In 2021, the Cambridge and North-West constituencies collaborated to organise the second edition of **"Investigación en Foco"**, the SRUK/CERU photography competition.

Once again, the main objective was to allow SRUK/CERU members and friends to express and reinforce the **need and beauty of daily research through images**. An important part of the competition was to make the research more **accessible** to a broad audience.

Each participant was able to submit a single photograph to capture a particular theme in any research field, including Mathematics, Biology, Medicine and Health, Chemistry, Ecology and Environmental Science, Physics, Astronomy, Engineering Technology, Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences and Science Communication.

The external panel was composed of **eight members** with different expertise such as photography, public engagement, science and history, among others. Participants were evaluated according to three kinds of criteria: **originality, technique and research communication**. In this edition, two persons obtained the same grade in the technique criterion, resulting in the selection of four winners. The 5th winner was elected by the SRUK/CERU members and friends through virtual vote.

The 5 winners were awarded £100 each and were:

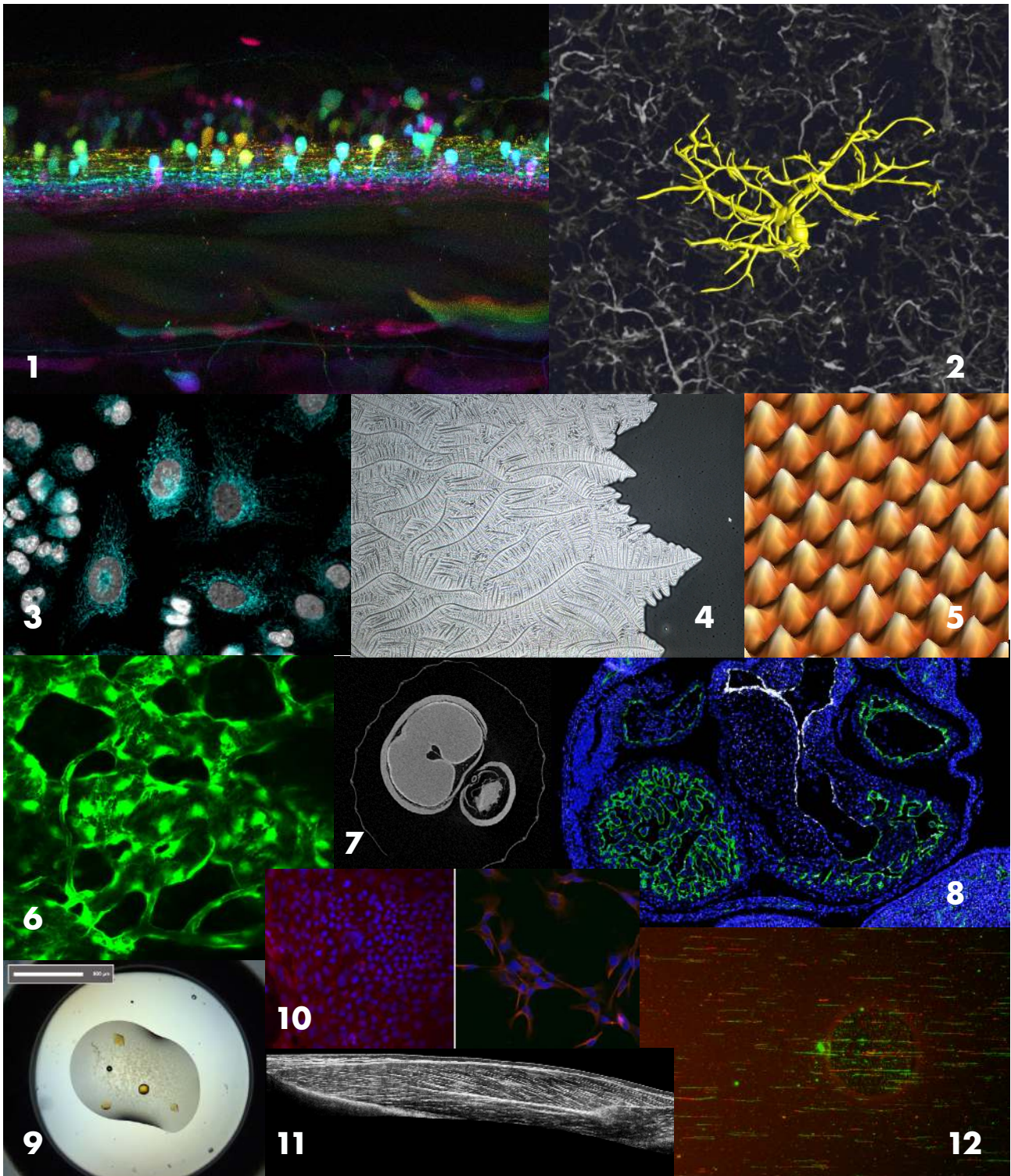
- **Ana Lopez Ramirez** with "Garbage at the Spinal Cord Disco". Winner of Originality and artistic character of the image
- **Pablo Izquierdo** with "Microglia". Winner of Technique and quality of the photograph
- **Andrés García Sampedro** with "We got the power!". Winner of Technique and quality of the photograph
- **María Crespo Cuadrado** with "Trees of Salt". Winner of Research communication
- **David Ruiz-Izuriaga** with "Feel the energy to observe the invisible". Winner elected by SRUK/CERU members and Friends.

These photographs are exposed on the **Investigación en Foco website**.

II CONCURSO DE FOTOGRAFÍA SRUK/CERU "INVESTIGACIÓN EN FOCO"

En 2021 se ha celebrado la segunda edición de **"Investigación en Foco"**, el concurso de fotografía organizado por SRUK/CERU. El objetivo de este concurso es reforzar la importancia y belleza de nuestra investigación diaria a través de imágenes, y hacerla más accesible al público general. Las fotografías enviadas son evaluadas por un Panel de Expertos de acuerdo a tres categorías: originalidad, técnica y comunicación de la investigación. Además, los miembros y amigos de CERU también eligen su fotografía favorita mediante una votación virtual. Este año, ha habido 5 ganadores que han obtenido un premio de £100 cada uno. Las 12 fotografías finalistas se pueden ver en la **web de "Investigación en Foco"**.

For more information, please contact us at: enfoco@sruk.org.uk



1. Ana Lopez Ramirez - "Garbage at the Spinal Cord Disco". Winner of Originality and artistic character of the image. 2. Pablo Izquierdo - "Microglia". Winner of Technique and quality of the photograph. 3. Andrés García Sampedro - "We got the power!". Winner of Technique and quality of the photograph. 4. Maria Crespo Cuadrado - "Trees of Salt". Winner of Research communication. 5. David Ruiz-Izuriaga - "Feel the energy to observe the invisible". Winner elected by SRUK/CERU members and Friends. 6. Sara González - "Lost track". 7. Pilar Martínez - "Inside out". 8. Helena Rodríguez - "My hearth just flows thanks to you". 9. Marta Acebrón - "Golden diamonds". 10. Marta Guevara - "Neural differentiation". 11. Pablo Duro - "Drawing a muscle". 12. Desirée Villahermosa - "DNA cosmos".

IX INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM



IX INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM SRUK/CERU | OXFORD 2022

Organising Committee

Pablo Muñoz Rodríguez (Chair)
Sandra Álvarez Carretero
Laura Bravo
Rafael Carrascosa
Ana Cristina Carvajal Duperier
Sara Franco
Pablo González
Claudia López
Isabel Murillo
Francisco Romera
Carmen Sánchez Cañizares

The 9th International SRUK/CERU Symposium took place in Oxford from Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd July. Titled The Joy of Discovery, the first SRUK/CERU in-person symposium since 2019 congregated over 100 SRUK/CERU members and friends for three days full of science and networking. This edition was also special because we commemorated SRUK/CERU's 10th anniversary.

On Friday evening, the opening ceremony was held at the gorgeous Oxford Town Hall. We were very fortunate to count with the participation, either in-person or online, of **Inma Aguilar Nánchez**, Director of the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT); **Raimundo Pérez-Hernández y Torra**, Director of the Ramón Areces Foundation; **Alistair Fitt**, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford Brookes University; **Miguel Oliveros Torres**, Minister Counsellor for Cultural & Scientific Affairs at the Spanish Embassy in London; and our president, **Claudia Román Montañana**. The welcome speeches were followed by an extraordinary talk by guest speaker **Marina Pérez de Arcos**, Research Associate at the Centre for International Studies, University of Oxford, who talked about the Long and Winded Road that connects Oxford and Spain.

The Friday ceremony finished with a special session aimed at celebrating SRUK/CERU's 10th anniversary. This session started with a speech by **Carmen Sánchez-Cañizares**, RAICEX Vice-President, and a video of all RAICEX representatives celebrating SRUK/CERU's birthday. Finally, a touching roundtable conducted by **Cristina Delgado** brought together all former SRUK/CERU presidents, who conversed about the excitement and challenges of their term as presidents.

On Saturday and Sunday, the symposium moved to Oxford Brookes University and the fantastic John Henry Brookes lecture theatre. A particular aim of this symposium was to soften the division between science and the humanities, and thus the list of invited speakers included speakers from both worlds: **Felipe Fernández-Armesto**, Professor of History, classics and the History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Notre Dame; **Margarita Díaz-Andreu**, ICREA Research Professor at the University of Barcelona; **Rebecca Bowler**, STFC Ernest Rutherford Fellow at the University of Manchester, **Francis Mojica**, Professor of Microbiology at the University of Alicante; and **Carmen Galán**, Professor of Organic and Biological Chemistry at the University of Bristol and winner of the **2022 SRUK/CERU Merit Award**.

Among the other sessions that took place during the symposium, it is worth highlighting a roundtable on the Public perception of scientific discovery, which included **Ignacio López Goñi** (University of Navarra), **Beatriz Vigalondo García** (I.E.S. José Luis Sampedro, Tres Cantos, Madrid), **David Schley** (Sense



Some members of the Organising Committee



Pablo Muñoz with some of the speakers

About Science) and **Fiona Lethbridge** (Science Media Centre). This session started with short talks by the invited speakers and a very dynamic exchange with the audience. There was also time for SRUK/CERU members to present their research, both in formal talks and during a poster session on Saturday and Sunday. Furthermore, to contribute to their training and professional development, attendees could select among five different workshops that took place either online or in-person: Introduction to UKRI: UK Research and Innovation, by **Rocío Gaudio**; ANECA: Learn about the platform and the accreditation process as a researcher in the UK, by **Carmen Sánchez Cañizares**; The joy of un-discovering: accessing multiple forms of knowledges, by **Team Ventana**; Avoiding unconscious bias, by **Sonia Contera**; and Is it game over? Gamification in Higher Education, by **Isabel Murillo** and **David Wareing**. All the workshops were engaging and highly valued by the attendees. Finally, social activities included a formal banquet at **St. Edmund's Hall**, one of the oldest colleges in Oxford, and enjoyable museum and night city tours both on Friday and Saturday, kindly offered by members of SRUK/CERU Oxford working group. The 9th International SRUK/CERU Symposium was an enormous success. The talks and activities were of extraordinary quality and the number of attendees and their engagement throughout the symposium exceeded the organising committee's expectations. It was, on the whole, an excellent Symposium.



Speaker Prof. Felipe Fernández Armesto, from University of Notre Dame



Chair Pablo Muñoz's presentation



Discovering Oxford in night city tours



Prof. Francis Mojica from University of Alicante

IX SIMPOSIO INTERNACIONAL

El IX Simposio Internacional celebrado en Oxford con el lema "La alegría por el descubrimiento" contó con destacados investigadores como el Prof. Francis Mojica, la Dra. Margarita Díaz-Andreu, el Prof. Felipe Fernández-Armesto, la Dra. Rebecca Bowler y la Dra. Marina Pérez de Arcos. Desde el Big Bang pasando por el mundo microscópico hasta las ciencias sociales y la historia, más de un centenar de asistentes tuvieron la oportunidad de asistir. Además, esta edición del Simposio ofreció un espacio para que los miembros de CERU presentaran los resultados más recientes de sus investigaciones, así como diferentes talleres de desarrollo profesional.

Please contact symposium@sruk.org.uk for more information

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



The 2022 SRUK/CERU Travel Grants awardees

- Lourdes Barquín Sanmartín
- Elisabet Batlle Rocafort
- Irene Echeverría Altuna
- Patricia García Jareño
- Pablo González Suárez
- José Pedro Manzano Patrón
- Marina Millán Blánquez
- Javier Pardo Díaz
- María Rodríguez Ríos
- Rosa Sánchez Lucas

In February 2022, to promote the career development of its regular members, SRUK/CERU opened the 9th call of the SRUK/CERU **Travel Grants**. In this new call, applications were accepted for **international** research activities and events. Ten grants of up to £400 were available for this round. Twenty-four applications on diverse scientific areas were received. Due to the limited nature of the funding, grants were awarded on a **competitive basis**, based on merit and the expected impact of the meeting on the applicant's professional development and career. Among the members who fulfilled the mandatory requested criteria, SRUK/CERU awarded **ten members** a 2022 travel grant. These grants were aimed to help fund the cost of presenting their research outcomes at in person international conferences or specialised meetings.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The SRUK/CERU **Evaluation Committee** participates in scientific evaluations of applications for certain SRUK/CERU initiatives and provides **advice** to the Board of Directors on scientific matters. The Evaluation Committee evaluates the SRUK/CERU Travel Grants, abstracts submitted for presentation in our annual Symposium when required, and other initiatives in which SRUK/CERU collaborates, such as the **British Spanish Society** scholarships.

Members of the 2022 SRUK/CERU Evaluation Committee

Pilar Acedo (Chair)
Diego Alonso Álvarez
Sara Alvira de Celis
Cristina Delgado
Carmen Domene
Javier Escudero
Nuria Ferrándiz Díaz

Loreto Gestoso
Rocío Gómez Lencero
María Hernández Fuentes
Rodrigo Ledesma Amaro
Francisco José López Cantos
Gloria López Castejón
Natalia Mallo

Victoria Pastor
Ana Rodríguez
Diego Sainz de la Maza
Marta Vila
Larissa Zarate

COMITÉ DE EVALUACIÓN

El Comité de Evaluación de CERU está formado por investigadores en diversas etapas de la carrera investigadora que ayudan en la gestión de bolsas de viaje y programas de movilidad de CERU, o las becas de la British Spanish Society. Su participación en el proceso de revisión aporta valiosas habilidades para el desarrollo profesional. El comité está abierto todo el año a cualquiera de nuestros socios que quiera colaborar activamente en las distintas convocatorias a lo largo del año.

Please contact roving@sruk.org.uk for more information

In this 2022 edition, all our members were given the opportunity to propose their own candidates for the first time. Then, the SRUK/CERU Executive Committee shortlisted 3 candidates and all SRUK/CERU members voted for the winner of the SRUK/CERU Merit Award 2022 **Carmen Galán, Professor of Organic and Biological Chemistry at the University of Bristol.**

Prof. Carmen Galán

Prof. Galán is interested in **synthetic organic chemistry** and develops synthetic tools for biological and biomedical applications. She studied chemistry in **Universidad de Alicante** and did her **Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry** at the Complex Carbohydrate Research Centre at **The University of Georgia**, USA. Following two postdoctoral stints at the Scripps Research Institute



Prof. Carmen Galán

and MIT, she returned to the UK in October 2006. In 2008, she became a **Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin fellow** and, from 2012 to 2017, she held an **EPSRC Career Acceleration Fellowship**, followed by an **ERC consolidator award**. Since August 2017, she holds the position of **Professor in the School of Chemistry and Study Abroad Academic Director**.

The awardee has also contributed to SRUK/CERU **activities, initiatives, and founding objectives**. Prof Galán has been a member of the **Evaluation Committee** of our SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award in two of its editions and she is always approachable and willing to help. She has a very **international** group, with Spanish researchers both as team members and visitors. She has obtained several **international awards** which highlight the excellence of her work, such as the RSC Dextra Carbohydrate Chemistry award in recognition of her research into new **synthetic methodologies for oligosaccharide synthesis** and the **RSC Jeremy Knowles award** for the development of **bioinspired synthetic probes**. She has also been the Editor-in-Chief of Carbohydrate Research since 2019.

MERIT AWARD 2022

The SRUK/CERU Merit Award is the highest honour awarded by our society. This biennial award was established in 2016 and recognises the career of a internationally renowned Spanish researcher based in the UK, with a significant contribution in their field of expertise and an impact on the wider society, while also having promoted scientific collaborations between Spain and the UK.

The SRUK/CERU Merit Award was announced during the **IX International Symposium SRUK/CERU**, event in which Prof Galán shared her joy for receiving the award and the latest results of her pioneering research on new synthetic methodologies for oligosaccharide synthesis and the development of novel glycoconjugate probes. **In the words of the awardee**, *"I am very honoured and humbled to receive this fantastic award. What makes it particularly special is being recognised by a Spanish society created to support researchers like me who left Spain to develop our careers abroad. It has been quite a journey and I am very proud of being part of this society and for being offered a platform to the international Spanish community"*. With this recognition, Prof Galán has also been awarded an **honorary membership** of the Society and she will become a distinguished adviser for SRUK/CERU.

PREMIO AL MÉRITO 2022

La profesora alicantina Carmen Galán logra un reconocimiento a toda su trayectoria investigadora con el "Premio al Mérito" CERU 2022, galardón que otorga CERU de manera bianual para reconocer la carrera de un/una célebre investigador/a español/a con sede en el Reino Unido que haya sido fundamental para el avance de la ciencia, la investigación y la innovación internacionalmente. La profesora Carmen Galán es catedrática de Química Orgánica y Biológica de la Universidad de Bristol y cuenta con una destacada carrera científica tanto en España como en el Reino Unido. La entrega se realizó durante el IX Simposio Internacional CERU.

EMERGING TALENT 2022

Recognising and fostering Spanish talent in the UK

This year, **19 candidates** with a high-quality profile have applied for the Emerging Talent Award. These applications have been assessed by the designated **scientific panel**, made up of high-quality researchers from institutions both in Spain and the UK. Based on their evaluations, the awardee ratified by a jury composed by representatives of SRUK/CERU, the **Emerging Talent Award** evaluation panel, the **Fundación Banco Santander**, the **Fundación Ramón Areces**, the **Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECyT)**, and the **Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs** of the Embassy of Spain in the United Kingdom.

2022 SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award Evaluation Panel

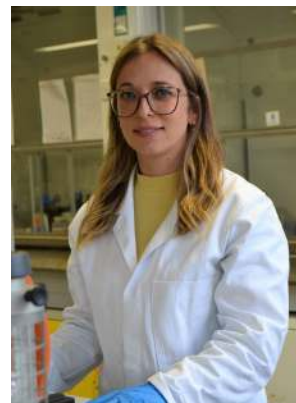
Carmen Domene (Chair), University of Bath
Isabel Díaz, Polytechnic University of Madrid
Laura M Lechuga, Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology
Sergio Lozano, University of Oxford
Salvador Macip, University of Leicester
Marta Macho Stadler, University of the Basque Country
Joaquín de Navascues, University of Essex
Carmen Torres Sanchez, Loughborough University
Jesús María Sanz Serna, University Carlos III of Madrid

2022 SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award Finalists

Javier Escudero Rodríguez, University of Edinburgh
Lucía Prieto Godino, The Francis Crick Institute
Teresa Rayón Alonso, The Babraham Institute
Ignacio Martín-Fabiani Carrato, Loughborough University

Dr Nuria Tapia Ruíz wins the 2022 SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award

Dr Nuria Tapia Ruíz received her **PhD degree in Chemistry** in 2013 from the **University of Glasgow**. She then worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the **University of St. Andrews** until 2014, when she moved to the **University of Oxford**. After one year of postdoctoral research, Nuria became a **Na-ion battery team leader**. After two years at Oxford University, she obtained a lectureship and became an independent **principal investigator (PI)** at the Chemistry Department at **Lancaster University**, and she



Dr Nuria Tapia Ruíz

got promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2020. In September 2022, Nuria will start a new position as **Senior Lecturer** at the **Chemistry Department of Imperial College London**.

Her research focuses on developing **materials for sustainable energy storage**, which translate into technology solutions that contribute towards a rapid transition to renewable energy generation to fight global warming. In particular, **low-cost and sustainable batteries**. During these years, Nuria has developed an extensive track record in the area of **sodium-ion batteries**, which are a **sustainable alternative** to Li-ion batteries. She has contributed extensively to advancing knowledge in the area of layered oxide cathode materials. Nuria has also pioneered research on the **discovery of oxygen redox behaviour** of sodium layered oxide materials. The novelty of her approaches has been supported by numerous grants accounting for **more than £3M**. Nuria will use the award money for multiple purposes, such as organising a series of **meetings and workshops** in collaboration with Spanish research centres leading battery research, and technological centres specialised in battery scale-up and manufacturing. She expects to establish **new collaborations** and apply to **joint research grants**. The award will also cover **travel expenses** of Nuria's group members to these Institutions. To raise **awareness** in the general public and funding agencies of the importance of energy research to tackle **climate change**, Nuria will give talks at **outreach events** organised by SRUK/CERU and disseminate her work through general public journals and science magazines.

PREMIO TALENTO EMERGENTE 2022

La Dra Nuria Tapia Ruíz es la ganadora del Premio del Talento Emergente 2022. Nuria lidera un grupo de investigación en el Imperial College London, que se centra en el desarrollo de materiales para la acumulación sostenible de energía. Nuria empleará el dinero del premio (£14.000) para múltiples propósitos, como organizar una serie de reuniones y talleres en colaboración con centros de investigación españoles líderes en este campo de investigación y centros tecnológicos especializados en el escalado y la fabricación de baterías. Para concienciar sobre la importancia de la investigación energética para hacer frente al cambio climático, Nuria dará charlas en eventos organizados por CERU y difundirá su trabajo a través de revistas científicas y para el público general.



MENTORING PROGRAMME

Due to today's **competitive and unstable** research environment, success in building a career does not solely depend on a good track record. Lifelong **learning, upskilling, and reskilling** is vital for professional progression. In addition, **soft skills** like collaborating fruitfully, being a leader, and managing conflicts are key. Furthermore, most researchers face questions about which professional path to pursue. With the aim of meeting these needs, SRUK/CERU has offered its members a **Mentoring Programme** for the last 5 years, which has attracted participants with diverse skillsets and expertise.

The present edition of the **Mentoring Programme** started in April 2021 with **68 participants**. The mentors guided the mentees towards goals identified by the mentees themselves to improve their **professional development**. Three **surveys** along the one-year programme (at 2, 6 and 12 months), where mentors and mentees were asked to review their relationship, have allowed us to monitor the programme, and to resolve any issues. Like previous editions, the 2021 programme has been an **overwhelming success**, with increasing satisfaction scores, as shown in the figure below.

The **Mentoring Committee** has offered a free and mandatory **training** for mentors and mentees in the form of a webinar to make the mentoring relationship more dynamic and productive. To facilitate face-to-face meetings between mentor and mentee, SRUK/CERU also provided **Travel awards** covering the mentee or mentor's travel expenses. Based on feedback from previous editions, an **online Mentoring Café** session was also spearheaded by the Mentoring Committee. In this initiative, mentors had the opportunity to share their concerns and to bounce ideas off other mentors' experiences. Furthermore, in this edition, the SRUK/CERU Mentoring Programme has also offered a successful **training on Project Management**, developed by three experts: Sandra Navarro, co-founder and CSO at Flat 101; Dr. Itziar Peñafiel, R&D&I Project Leader at INIBICA; and Dr. Julio Ríos, Head of Innovation & Technology Transfer at INIBICA.

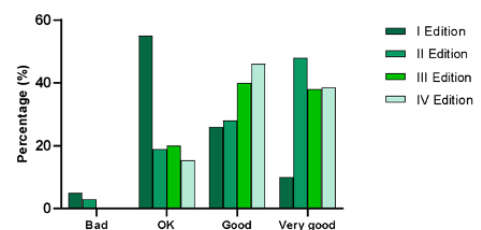
The Mentoring Committee

Ana Rio-Machin, Chair
 María Jiménez
 Estrella Luna
 Itziar Peñafiel
 Ana del Río
 Cristina Fernández García

4th Edition (2021-2022) Mentoring Recognition Awards

To outstanding mentors who have been nominated by their mentees. Congratulations to the awardees!

- Lorenzo de la Rica
- María Jiménez Sánchez
- Marta Broto
- Patricia Forcén
- Ana Rio-Machin



Satisfaction with the mentoring programme in the four editions

EL PROGRAMA DE MENTORAZGO

Con objeto de satisfacer las necesidades de sus miembros, CERU ha continuado apoyandolos con su Programa de Mentoring. Durante la relación de mentoring, los mentores escuchan y guían a los *mentees* para ayudarles a conseguir las metas identificadas al comienzo de su relación. La presente edición comenzó en abril de 2021 con 68 participantes registrados. Tres encuestas han revelando que la satisfacción con el programa ha seguido creciendo. Además, este año, se ha organizado un Mentoring Café donde los mentores han compartido sus experiencias y preocupaciones. También se han ofertado bolsas de viaje y un premio a los mentores, en base a nominaciones de los *mentees*.

For more information, contact: mentoring@sruk.org.uk

WOM=N EQUITY & RESEARCH

Promoting gender equity and diversity in research

The main objectives of the committee are:

- to raise awareness of the role of women in research,
- to support work-life / family balance.

The SRUK/CERU Wom=n Equity & Research Committee Members

María José Martínez (Chair)

Lorea Valcárcel

Nuria Ferrándiz

Alicia Bruzos

Marta Peña

Marta Pina

Marisé Gálvez

Iria Sala

Cynthia Cabañas

Sora González



Wom=n Committee members

Raise awareness of the role of women in research

Our committee is part of the **Women's committee of RAICEX**. In collaboration, we submitted an abstract to the **11th European Conference on Gender Equality in Higher Education** in September 2021. The positive feedback has encouraged us to write a **book** to show gender differences and progress towards reaching equality in Academia across thirteen countries. The UK chapter has been written by the Chair of our committee. The book will be **published by the end of 2022**.

In collaboration with **RAICEX** and **ECUSA**, our committee organised a seminar to discuss the **Equality in Academia** through three different perspectives: Research (lead by **Dr Marta Macho**), Journalism (**Patricia Fernández de Lis**) and Law (**Dr Soledad Murillo**). The seminar was held on the 27th September 2022 and was streamed via Youtube. Our Chair has been interviewed by RNE as a consequence of this event.

Promotion of women's professional development

We prepared a round of **empowering talks** for women in Science in autumn 2021. These monthly talks explored the **challenges** of women in Academia, the difficulties of being a female researcher and a mother and we gave tips to women to be successful in **job interviews**. Due to their success, we are planning to carry them forward.

Day of Woman and Girl in Science. 11th February

We have successfully given talks to **promote Science, Higher Education studies and careers in STEM** among Spanish high and primary-school students.

Research in Education

The success of the **"Awakening vocations"** project in Spain has encouraged us to develop this project **in the UK**. We will summarise and compare the results obtained in both countries. We would like to analyse whether the cultural background of students plays a significant role in the biases of girls to pursue careers in the STEM field.

MUJERES EN INVESTIGACIÓN Y EQUIDAD

Nuestro objetivo es despertar conciencia sobre los retos a los que se enfrenta la mujer investigadora a lo largo de su carrera académica y brindar estrategias para su desarrollo profesional. Organizamos regularmente charlas en las que tratamos estos temas. En colaboración con RAICEX, nuestro comité está colaborando en la escritura y publicación de un Libro Blanco donde se analizan las diferencias en 13 países para alcanzar la igualdad en la Academia. También estamos determinadas a acercar la ciencia a las generaciones más tempranas, bien sea a través de charlas organizadas por el Día de la Mujer y la Niña en la Ciencia, 11F, o a través de la puesta en marcha de la segunda edición de Despertando Vocaciones donde queremos comparar el impacto lingüístico en los roles de género en ciencia.

For more information please contact us at: women@sruk.org.uk

LONDON CONSTITUENCY

Events 2021/2022

This year's activities were greatly influenced by the Covid-19 and the intermittent lift of restrictions. After months of online events, our main aim was to connect in-person again, in order to promote networking and wellbeing.

In July, we celebrated our first in-person gathering since the beginning of the pandemic; we met at the iconic Hampstead Heath park for a joyful and sunny **Summer picnic**.

During Autumn, while our **annual assembly** remained online, our **Welcome Party** took place outdoors and brought together members from different corners within the Constituency, some of whom had arrived during the pandemic. Shortly after, we paid a **cultural visit to two distinctive engineering landmarks** in London: the Thames Barrier - one of the largest movable flood barriers in the world-, and the Greenwich foot tunnel -a 370 m long structure under the river that connects the south of London with the Isle of Dogs-. Personnel from the Barrier explained technical and historical facts about it and Dr Diego Alonso conducted the tour to the tunnel.

Our annual **Christmas lunch** had to be cancelled due to the spread of the COVID variant Omicron, and it was not until the Spring that we returned to celebrate an **outdoor get-together**. With the spirit of bringing science outside the research institutions, we celebrated one of our **Science in the Pub** events dedicated to oceanic fauna: "Aliens among us: a peek at marine benthos' private life". Held at a Spanish *vermutería* in South London, marine biologist Dr Loreto Gestoso gave us a glimpse of the morphology and habits of animals that live close to the sea-bottom.

Plans 2022/2023

Near future plans include continuing to promote social interaction, as well as offering opportunities for career development. In September, we have organised a **cultural day trip to Guildford**, a historical town in the heart of Surrey, a county Southwest of London, in which we will learn about the history of England through its landscape and architecture. The following month, our Welcome Party will be preceded by a **Pitch your Research** session, in which our members are challenged to present their work in 5 minutes.

First constituency to be founded in 2011, when SRUK/CERU was created, it covers the Southeast of England, from Hampshire to Kent and up to Bedfordshire.

The London Regional Board

Berta Gallego Páramo, Director
Loreto Gestoso Suárez, Vice director until November, Secretary from November
Sandra Álvarez Carretero, Secretary until November
Larissa Zárate García, Online Manager

The Working Group

Pilar Acedo
Diego Alonso Álvarez
Sandra Álvarez Carretero
Luis Moliner Cachazo
Daniel Castillo
Andrés Crespo Vieira
Carlos González Hernández
Jorge Mellado
Diego Sainz de la Maza
Pedro Verdia Barabara



London Welcome Party

DELEGACIÓN DE LONDRES

Este año, nuestro objetivo principal fue promover el *networking* entre socios y su bienestar a través de eventos sociales en persona. En verano, celebramos un picnic en el icónico parque de Hampstead Heath y, en otoño, la Fiesta de Bienvenida reunió a miembros de diferentes rincones de nuestra delegación. En noviembre, visitamos dos importantes obras de ingeniería: la Barrera del Támesis y el túnel peatonal de Greenwich. La comida anual navideña fue cancelada por la Covid-19 y en primavera pudimos volver a celebrar una reunión al aire libre y la actividad de divulgación *Ciencia en el Pub* sobre fauna marina. Nuestras próximas actividades seguirán promoviendo la interacción social, así como el desarrollo profesional.

For more information contact london@sruc.org.uk

SCOTLAND CONSTITUENCY

Since it was founded in March 2015, the SRUK/CERU Scottish constituency has organised 55 events and has grown to include members from all the major cities in Scotland: Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dundee, Paisley, St Andrews and Stirling.

The Scotland Regional Board

Alba Abad, Director
Guillermo Díaz de Liaño del Valle, Vice-director
Paula Sotelo Parrilla, Secretary

The Scotland Working Group

Aida Cardona-Alberich
Joan Cortada García
Cristina Gallego Páramo
Mario González
Miguel Luengo
María Mateos Jiménez
María Rodríguez Ríos
Marcos Valenzuela Ortega



Visit to Glasgow

Events 2021/2022

Despite the challenges faced by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic during this year, the SRUK/CERU Scottish constituency has organised a wide range of online and in-person events during the 2021/2022 period.

In line with our past efforts to make science and technology available to everyone, our constituency has organised several workshops that tackle key aspects of current society. We celebrated the second edition of our acclaimed event **How to get your science out there?**, in which Cristina Gallego and Ana Payo Payo provided participants with the appropriate tools to improve visual and oral science communication skills. The event was another sold-out!

The Scottish constituency has developed some initiatives aimed at expanding the scope of the topics we put in the spotlight of SRUK/CERU. Members of the Scottish constituency met Dr. Ignacio Cartagena Núñez, Consul General of Spain in Edinburgh, to have a **Debate about science diplomacy**. In an informal atmosphere, we enjoyed some fantastic discussions about the role of Science Diplomacy in facilitating international cooperation and tackling current global challenges.

As tradition dictates, we celebrated the International Day of Women and Girls in Science with a **Women in Science-themed Pub Quiz**. For a third year in a row, we collaborated with Goose's Quizzes as the pub-quiz organisers and the event was a total success!

Thanks to the ease of the Covid-19-related restrictions, we travelled across Scotland to celebrate several in-person social events. We had a great time discovering the intricacies of Stirling history and its landscape during our **Day Trip to Stirling**. We also visited **Glasgow** and enjoyed the visit to emblematic places of the city.

Plans 2022/2023

During the next academic year 2022/23, besides exciting new initiatives, we plan to organise the events that have been postponed due to the pandemic, like **Jings! Science left the toon**, the first science festival held in one of the most deprived areas of Glasgow, and our seminar series **Science connect**, which will be organised in collaboration with the Spanish Consulate in Edinburgh. In collaboration with the North East constituency, we will also organise **Scientific gatherings II –Northern power** (see X Anniversary), a symposium aimed at showcasing the research developed by SRUK/CERU members residing in the North of the UK.

DELEGACIÓN DE ESCOCIA

La delegación escocesa de CERU se constituyó en marzo de 2015 y desde entonces ha organizado 55 eventos. Se ha convertido en una de las delegaciones más grandes, con miembros residentes en las principales ciudades de esta región del Reino Unido.

Durante el curso 2021/22, la delegación ha celebrado una gran variedad de eventos sociales y de divulgación, entre los que cabe destacar un pub quiz temático para celebrar el día de la Mujer y la Niña en la Ciencia, un taller para proporcionar herramientas de comunicación científica y un debate sobre diplomacia científica con el Cónsul General en Edimburgo.

For more information contact scotland@sruk.org.uk

CAMBRIDGE CONSTITUENCY

Events 2021/2022

One year has passed quickly at the **Cambridge Constituency**. It has been great to meet new researchers in the area and explore views and about Science together.

As usual, we commenced the academic year in 2021 with a public and open event to **welcome** every member at the constituency and meet old colleagues. Social events are a great opportunity to meet new people and socialize with other researchers, and are especially important after the difficult times lived during the Covid-19 pandemic. We have organised social events continuously throughout the year (e.g. **Christmas Lunch, Summer Drinks**), as they provide an outstanding platform to celebrate friendship and promote an active and collaborative environment.

Nevertheless, what truly makes researcher unique is our Science. Consequently, we have organised **"Pints of knowledge"** to learn about other's work in a relaxed atmosphere at the pub. This year, we invited Fernando Gomollón-Bel to show us how to improve our communication skills and **"how to communicate our results"** (together with our **Annual Assembly**). Furthermore, Marta Lloret and Daniel Thomas showed us the ins and outs of **"managing scientific training events out of academia"**. Following a longstanding tradition at the Cambridge Constituency, we also organised the **"Mum, I want to be Scientist"** event, as part of the initiative to celebrate the **11F: International Day of Women and Girls in Science**. In this 4th Edition, we were delighted to welcome two great Spanish female scientists: Ana Vilalta, Senior Scientist at Minoryx Therapeutics and expert in microglial-derived degenerative diseases, and Patricia Esquete, oceanography researcher actively involved in scientific policy and the international managing of ocean resources.

We are always looking for passionate researchers happy to share their knowledge and get involved in this society.

The constituency of Cambridge was established in 2012. There are more than 50 SRUK/CERU members in our constituency, most of them based in Cambridge but also with members in Norwich and Ely. Our members are PhD students, post-doctoral researchers and principal investigators from multiple departments and institutes across the University, but also scientists in the private sector working in biotechnology, pharmaceutical and engineering companies.

The Cambridge Regional Board

Ana López Ramirez, Director
Celia Alda Catalinas, Vice-Director
Gentzane Sánchez Elexpuru, Secretary



Marta Lloret and Daniel Thomas, Pint of Knowledge

DELEGACIÓN DE CAMBRIDGE

En la Delegación de Cambridge comenzamos el año académico 2021 con un evento social para dar la bienvenida a todos los miembros. Eventos sociales como la Comida de Navidad y las quedadas veraniegas son una gran oportunidad para conocer gente nueva y promover un ambiente colaborativo. También hemos organizado varias "Pints of Knowledge" para conocer el trabajo de otros investigadores en un ambiente distendido. Este año aprendimos con Fernando Gomollón-Bel cómo mejorar nuestras habilidades de comunicación y junto a Marta-Lloret y Daniel Thomas los entresijos de gestionar eventos de formación científica. Celebramos la cuarta edición de "Mum, I want to be Scientist" como parte de la iniciativa para celebrar el 11F: Día Internacional de la Mujer y la Niña en la Ciencia con Ana Vilalta y Patricia Esquete.

For more information contact cambridge@sruk.org.uk

OXFORD CONSTITUENCY

The city of Oxford is home to two universities, as well as several biotechnology and engineering companies. Our 48 members represent both academic institutions and industry, as well as a wide range of disciplines. This combination results in a multidisciplinary, engaged, and social group of researchers.

The Oxford Regional Board

Irene Echeverría Altuna, Director
David Egea Arrebola, Vice-Director
Gabriel Ocaña Santero, Secretary

The Oxford Working Group

Carlota Segura García, Carmen Sánchez Cañizares, Cristina Delgado, Fernando Vidal, Fidel Alfaro Almagro, Helena Rodríguez, Javier Pardo Díaz, Olivia Afonso, Pablo Muñoz Rodríguez, Sergio Silva, Virginia Casablancas



SRUK/CERU members of the Oxford constituency

Events 2021/2022

The Working Group of the Oxford Constituency has put forward a myriad of activities in the year 2021/22, ranging from social and networking events to seminars and roundtables, as well as tours and punting activities.

In September 2021, the Constituency's **Welcome Event** allowed old and new members to meet each other in person for the first time after COVID-19-related disruptions. In October, SRUK/CERU Oxford members David Egea and Ana Silvan shared their science in a **"Science in the Pub"** event, followed by interesting discussion and conversation over lunch. In November, we welcomed Dr. Jordi Solana (UK) and Dr. Patricia Alvarez Campos (Spain), who introduced their work on **"Reproduction and Regeneration: a Tale of Stem Cells"**. In December, we celebrated the **Annual Assembly** of the constituency, followed by our **Christmas Lunch**. In January, SRUK/CERU members in Oxford welcomed the new year over informal science discussions and a beer. In February, our Constituency celebrated the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, by putting together the screening of the award-winning documentary **"Picture a Scientist"** in St. Anne's College (Oxford). The film was followed by an enriching and stimulating discussion with three women scientists at different stages of their careers: Prof. Kate Watkins, Dr. Olivia Afonso and Dr. Georgina Gregory. In March, the Oxford Constituency put forward its annual tour, **Women Who Changed the World: Pioneers in the Sciences and the Arts**, in which members and friends were guided through the beautiful city of Oxford, stopping in emblematic sites which are linked to women pioneers. In April 2022, we met for an informal **social event** and on 14th May 2022, the Oxford Constituency hosted the **COVID-19: the beginning, the journey and the future** mini-symposium. This event celebrated the Society's tenth anniversary and we were fortunate to have outstanding speakers who discussed several aspects of the recent epidemiological crisis (see pages 10 and 11). Finally, in June, we organised a **"Science on a Punt"** event, where constituency members and friends met to share their experiences on a typically oxonian canoe.

DELEGACIÓN DE OXFORD

El grupo de trabajo de la delegación de Oxford ha organizado abundantes y variadas actividades este curso. Destacamos el seminario sobre reproducción y regeneración, donde dos ponentes de Reino Unido y España presentaron su investigación y conversaron en una mesa redonda. Durante febrero y marzo, con motivo del 11F y el 8M, la delegación de Oxford coordinó la proyección del documental "Picture a Scientist" y llevó a cabo su Tour de Mujeres Pioneras. Finalmente, con motivo del décimo aniversario de CERU, en mayo, la delegación organizó un simposio donde ponentes, moderadores y audiencia conversaron sobre la crisis epidemiológica recientemente vivida.

Events 2021/2022

We began the 2021-2022 year with a **Welcome Event** in October. Hosted in Birmingham, but also broadcasted online via Zoom, we saw each other in person after a long time. Nothing like pizzas, drinks, and science talks to kick off the year! This was the perfect occasion to introduce the brand-new Regional Board to the members. For the first time, the Midlands Constituency had members from different cities across the Midlands region in the Board.

After the Covid-19 disruptions, we were delighted to finally come back to our monthly social events: **De Cañas**. The perfect excuse to have a drink on a working day while talking about science.

In December we had a great time celebrating our **Christmas Meal** and discovering Birmingham's famous Christmas Market. To commemorate the International Day of **Women and Girls in Science**, we had the privilege to host Dr. Estrella Luna-Diez, Lecturer in Plant Biology at the University of Birmingham, who explained the immune system of plants over snacks and pizzas. Since online events worked so well last year, we organised a **Women Raise Their Voices** event to commemorate International Women's Day. Dr. Laura Castañar, from the University of Manchester, and Dr. Sara Priego Moreno, from the Salk Institute in San Diego, introduced us to their research in NMR methodologies and telomere replication mechanisms, respectively. Furthermore, they told us about the challenges and the ups and downs of successful young female researchers nowadays. The recording of this event was posted on the SRUK/CERU YouTube channel for fellow members and friends to enjoy.

With the aim of representing researchers working beyond academia and in fields distinct to biology and chemistry, in June, we organised an event under the name of: **Formula 1 Powertrain**. Carlos Soria and Estanislau Buigues told us about their jobs as engineers for Mercedes F1 cars. We learnt how small details make a difference and help them win races and networked with the speakers over mini-golf.

To celebrate SRUK/CERU's 10th Anniversary, several members of the Midlands Constituency also attended events outside of the region, by travelling to visit fellow SRUK/CERU members in Manchester, Oxford and London. All of these events were an excellent learning exercise, helping our members strengthen their ties with each other. Currently, we are back with renewed energy, new ideas, and invaluable incorporations to our Working Group!

MIDLANDS CONSTITUENCY

Founded in 2015, the Midlands constituency covers a large area of the UK. Traditionally, most of our members were based in Birmingham, but since 2020 we have increased our presence in other Midland cities such as Coventry, Leicester, Nottingham, and Loughborough. This has been very challenging and we are extremely proud to say we have members from different scientific backgrounds spread throughout the entirety of the Midlands.

The Midlands Regional Board

Miguel Aleñá Rodríguez, Director
Marta Domínguez, Vice-Director
María Fernández, Secretary

The Midlands Working Group

Laura Bravo
Cynthia Fernández
Pablo del Pozo



Some members of the Midlands Constituency

DELEGACIÓN DE MIDLANDS

Dadas las interrupciones causadas por la pandemia del Covid-19, el curso 2021-2022 fue turbulento. Sin embargo, con motivo del décimo aniversario de CERU y gracias al duro trabajo de los miembros de nuestro grupo de trabajo, conseguimos sacar adelante eventos muy atractivos y exitosos. A destacar son los eventos de Día de la Mujer y la Niña en la Ciencia o de Día Internacional de la Mujer o el Evento F1 Powertrain, donde aprendimos muchísimo de la mano de dos auténticos modelos a seguir. Con nuevas incorporaciones a nuestro grupo de trabajo, el año que viene se presenta prometedor. Intentaremos seguir con la fórmula de eventos divertidos, llevándolos a diversos rincones de The Midlands.

For more information contact midlands@sruk.org.uk

NORTH-EAST CONSTITUENCY

The newest SRUK/CERU constituent was founded in Newcastle in December 2021. Since then, the working group has organised two events and is actively working to expand the membership in the area.

The North-East Regional Board

Ana Viñuela, Director
José Muñoz, Vice-director
José Luis Marín-Rubio, Secretary

The North-East Working Group

Elisa López-Capel
Magda Pascual
Miguel de Lucas
Sergio Serrano
Mari Crespo



North-East event

Events 2021/2022

The SRUK/CERU North East constituency was formally established in December 2021, with the election of our first management team in January. Since then, the working group has organised events, and regular meetings. We may be 'rookies', but we brought SRUK/CERU to the North East to stay!

Our first in person event was a **Welcome Event** at the beginning of March, held in Northumbria University, followed by drinks at the City Tavern. On April 29th, we organised a **'Scientific career opportunities in the UK' workshop** at Northumbria University. PhD students, research associates, and academics provided a description of their research careers and the opportunities available in the UK. This was followed by a discussion on current and future career challenges and opportunities.

José Luis Marín and Dr. Elisa Lopez-Capel organised an initiative to disseminate the 'Science-me a Story' book in collaboration with the Associació Lúdic Cultural La Riera de Gaià, SRUK/CERU and Newcastle University as part of the 'Festa Major' in La Riera de Gaià in July. Furthermore, we coordinated a nature walk for families titled **'Discover the biodiversity of the Gaia river'**, which included science activities linked to the story 'Sofia's new word' from the Science-me a Story collection. Adults and children of all ages learnt to assess water quality from local fountains and the river, observed flora and fauna, and used a microscope mobile phone app to identify local invertebrates.

Plans 2022/2023

The 2022 year still marks the SRUK/CERU anniversary, so we hope to bring the festivities to the North with one joint event with our friends from the Scotland Constituency. This event will mark the first Scientific gatherings – Northern power, where we aim to showcase the research developed by SRUK/CERU members residing in the North of the UK. Moreover, this year, we will have our first in person Christmas party and December Welcome event where we hope to keep solidifying the connections with the Spanish scientific community in the Northeast.

LA DELEGACIÓN DE NORTH-EAST

La delegación más nueva de SRUK/CERU se constituyó en Newcastle en diciembre de 2022 y ha conseguido desde entonces consolidar el grupo de trabajo organizando eventos en Newcastle y España. Nuestros eventos de bienvenida siguen atrayendo nuevos miembros con los que esperamos consolidar la presencia de SRUK/CERU en el norte de Inglaterra. En nuestro primer evento en persona, discutimos las diferencias entre los sistemas académicos británicos y españoles facilitando información de primera mano a aquellos que estando en el evento planean seguir su carrera en el Reino Unido. El próximo año traerá la consolidación de la delegación, y esperamos una expansión a otras ciudades del noreste.

For more information contact northeast@sruk.org.uk

The **Yorkshire Constituency** was formed by a group of researchers at different stages of their careers, with a high number of PhD students and postdoctoral researchers. Our members come from a wide range of fields including life sciences, computer sciences, humanities and social sciences. Their research work is based at different universities in the area, such as the Universities of Bradford, Sheffield, Leeds, York, Hull and Huddersfield. This unique blend provides a great environment for sharing ideas and experiences.

In the last years, the Yorkshire constituency has organised many academic, social and career development events. It has also recently collaborated with other constituencies in the organization of different events, such as the **CineScience** and the webinar series "**Alternatives to Academia**".

In 2021, the Yorkshire Constituency found no candidates to renew the regional board, which led the constituency to a state of stand-by. **If you would be interested in joining the Constituency and leading the local working group, please email us at president@sruk.org.uk.**

The **North West constituency** was officially established in January 2015 and currently has 16 members. Most of its members live in Manchester and Liverpool, but there are also members in other cities of North West England (Preston, Burscough, Lancaster) and North Wales (Bangor). The working group is made up of members of the constituency, who voluntarily propose and organise **scientific, outreach and social events** in the North West area of UK.

Every year, to welcome the newly arrived researchers, the constituency organises a **Welcome Party** in autumn. The constituency also works on building bridges between researchers and general public, organising scientific **outreach** events, such as the popular **Pint of Knowledge, CineScience and Scientific Tour**, as well as participating in the organising committees of Science-me a Story and Investigación en Foco (research photography) contests.

In 2021, the North West Constituency found no candidates to renew the regional board, which led the constituency to a state of stand-by. **If you would be interested in joining the Constituency and leading the local working group, please email us at president@sruk.org.uk.**

The **South-West Constituency** is shaped by several scientific nuclei throughout the South-West area, including amongst others, Bristol, Bath, Cardiff, Southampton and Exeter. Bristol has the higher number of members due to its population size; however, other places as Cardiff and Bath have a significant representation. The South-West is a spatially large and open constituency, and its stronger point is the diversity that shapes it, allowing it for networking with many institutions in the area. This will surely settle a fertile ground in which new inter-city or inter-institution collaborations and knowledge transfer can be achieved.

In 2021, the South West Constituency found no candidates to renew the regional board, which led the constituency to a state of stand-by. **If you would be interested in joining the Constituency and leading the local working group, please email us at president@sruk.org.uk.**

YORKSHIRE CONSTITUENCY

NORTH-WEST CONSTITUENCY

SOUTH-WEST CONSTITUENCY

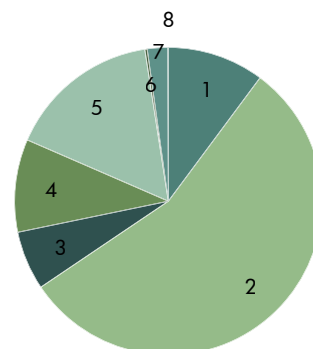
ECONOMIC REPORT

SRUK/CERU is a private company limited-by-guarantee operating as a non-profit society. Over the last years, our Society has experienced a huge growth in the number of events and initiatives. Although we count with our SRUK/CERU membership fees, all our activities would not be possible without the additional economic support from external sources.

We report in this annual memory the full economic year of 2021, which starts in January and finishes in December 2021. During the year 2021, the SRUK/CERU Board of Directors presented several funding proposals and applied to specific calls to public and private institutions, and it is thanks to our supporters that SRUK/CERU has been able to develop an ambitious range of activities. Our main supporters were Fundación Banco Santander contributing 55 % to our income, and Fundación Ramón Areces contributing 10 %. We also had continuous support from Fundación Lilly and the Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs (OCSA) of the Embassy of Spain in London. This year, we continued to have our own source of income from the administrative work we do for the OnTheMove biennial programme (2%) and our memberships (16%).

At SRUK/CERU, we continue operating with an efficient economic policy, that is, we try to make the most out of the income received. This year, we have begun to recover from the difficulties caused by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, although some events were still postponed to 2022 due to ongoing restrictions, such as the Emerging Talent Award Ceremony or the 2022 Annual Symposium sponsored by the Fundación Ramón Areces and Fundación Banco Santander. They will be celebrated in 2022 with the surplus budget from this 2021 year and will be included in the next annual report. We anticipate having a completed return to normal activities and expenditure by 2022.

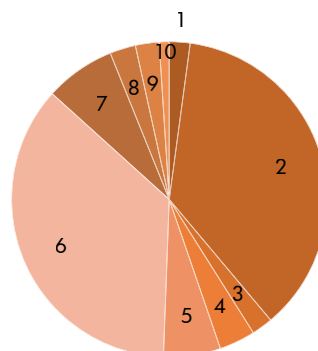
INCOME JAN-DEC 2021			
1	Fundacion Ramon Areces	4.168 GBP	10,17 %
2	Fundacion Banco Santander	22.703,39 GBP	55,38 %
3	Fundacion Lilly	2.543,08 GBP	6,20 %
4	Spanish Embassy (OCSA)	4.000 GBP	9,76 %
5	Membership fees	6.571,18 GBP	16,03 %
6	Evenbrite attendance fees	104 GBP	0,25 %
7	OnTheMove Fees (Universidad de La Rioja)	881,81 GBP	2,15 %
8	Bank interests	20,49 GBP	0,05 %
TOTAL		40.991,95 GBP	100,00 %



INCOME 2021

SURPLUS JAN-DEC 2020			
	SRUK/CERU Surplus Budget	4.654,57 GBP	18,19 %
	FRA Surplus	12.226 GBP	47,79 %
	FBS Surplus 2	8.703,39GBP	34,02 %
TOTAL SURPLUS		25.583,96 GBP	100,00 %

EXPENSES JAN-DEC 2021			
1	Seminars, Workshops & Outreach Events 2021	811,62	2,13 %
2	2021 Emerging Talent Award	14.000	36,75 %
3	Annual International Symposium	825,35	2,17 %
4	DIVULGA program (Science-me a story & Science Zone)	1.406,54	3,69 %
5	Travel Grants and Microgrants 2021	2.228,60	5,85 %
6	Web maintenance and IT services	13.758	36,11 %
7	Accountants, Taxes & VAT	2.745,83	7,21 %
8	Committes and Departments	1.008,47	2,65 %
9	Executive Committee Representation Expenses	927,32	2,43 %
10	Other expenses	388,14	1,02 %
TOTAL		38.099,87	100,00 %



EXPENSES 2021

For more information, please contact treasurer@sruk.org.uk

This year has suffered from the consequences of the disconnection brought about by the pandemic. Keeping our members engaged through online events became increasingly difficult in 2020-2021 and the resulting decrease in SRUK/CERU volunteers has affected the capacity and activities of the Society. In parallel, the consequences of the UK leaving the European Union have become more noticeable, leading to an additional reduction in members and volunteers. Nevertheless, endless work and initiatives organised by our volunteers have allowed the Society to begin its process of adaptation to the novel circumstances. This year, our priority is to nurture our community by helping it to find its place in the new socio-political context of the UK. We aim at engaging with SRUK/CERU members at local events to guarantee the medium- and long-term sustainability of the Society.

STRATEGIC PLAN

2022-2023

SRUK/CERU is achieving its objectives and finding its place in a changing environment

OBJECTIVE 1: Scientific and social network

Ongoing and immediate plans	Long-term plans
Grow in number of members: focus on senior researchers, members outside academia, and researchers from underrepresented fields (humanities and social sciences)	Keep on reducing manual work for our volunteers by enhancing the usability of our website as a tool to apply internally to our calls.
Keep improving the usability of our website as a tool to promote interactions among our members and improve our communications.	Open new channels to promote key information for non-members.
Establish the constituency of Northern Ireland and support the ones who have suffered most from the effects of the pandemic.	Establish the constituency of Northern Ireland and build a system for supporting constituencies in the face of disruptive events.
Focus on engagement with our community in order to recover pre-pandemic volunteer numbers.	Appoint support staff for SRUK/CERU.

OBJECTIVE 2: Science outreach

Ongoing and immediate plans	Long-term plans
Increase impact of outreach with events such as Science in the Pub, Conscience or Science Festivals.	Expand collaborations with British outreach institutions.
Recognise and foster Spanish talent in the UK with our key awards (Emerging Talent Award and Merit Award)	Increase and consolidate our presence in British Media.
Contribute to the development of members' outreach skills by building on the expertise that SRUK/CERU has created over the years to foster sustainability of our outreach initiatives.	Consolidate and support activities with children (Science weeks in schools and Despertando Vocaciones programme) by creating a Department of Science Communication and Outreach.
Continue offering online events with UK-wide reach, while recovering the local and onsite activities.	Provide opportunities to put a spotlight on equity and diversity through our events and initiatives (e.g., 11F and SRUK/CERU LGTBQI+ day) by creating a Department of Diversity, Equality and Welfare.

OBJECTIVE 3: Science representatives

Ongoing and immediate plans	Long-term plans
Continue the collaborations with major British scientific institutions such as the Russell group and BEIS regarding Brexit.	Consolidate a plan for further contacts with British scientific institutions on wider science policy issues.
Produce documentation on the continuously changing conditions for Spanish researchers in UK.	Serve as science policy advisors in Spain and UK.
Continue to meaningfully contribute to the activity of RAICEX.	Strengthen collaborations with Spanish councils and the Consejo de Residentes en el Exterior as the representatives of Spanish citizens in the UK.
Continue to collaborate with other associations of research diasporas in UK.	Continue our advocacy work with Spanish political parties, parliamentary groups and Government representatives.

OBJECTIVE 4: Science mediators between UK and Spain

Ongoing and immediate plans	Long-term plans
Strengthen our collaborations with Spanish institutions to offer places and mentoring opportunities to Spanish early career researchers.	Academia-industry exchange scheme.
Deepen the collaboration with Spanish societies and institutions (e.g., ASEICA, CrisCancer, FeBiotec, Instituto Cervantes)	Increase the number of sponsors and partners, particularly UK and Spanish R&D companies to support new collaborations.
Keep consolidating the SRUK/CERU On-the-move mobility fellowships.	Facilitate the interdisciplinary collaborations between the UK and Spain.

MAIN SUPPORTERS



FUNDACIÓN
RAMÓN ARECES

Fundación Ramón Areces is our principal and unconditional supporter. Thanks to them, we are able to promote a whole range of activities and benefits year after year.

From its creation in 1976, the Ramón Areces Foundation aims to support scientific development through the promotion of research activities, knowledge exchange, and the contribution to the generation of human capital. This institution also supports novel training opportunities for young researchers and promotes the exchange of ideas in Science, Education, and Culture. This Foundation has strongly

supported SRUK/CERU since our very beginning. This year, they have continued to sponsor our annual programme of activities (with scientific seminars, outreach activities and professional development workshops across the country), and our Annual International Symposium. This year, the Foundation has also maintained its commitment to support scientific events focused on areas with strong potential for collaborations between Spain and the UK. SRUK/CERU is also very thankful to the Foundation for its continuous support to RAICEX, the network of societies of Spanish Researchers abroad.



Fundación Banco Santander, the sponsor of the SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award

The Banco Santander Foundation is committed to supporting cultural, humanistic and social projects and scientific initiatives. Their support to Science focuses on the promotion of three aims: the development of projects in the most innovative research fields; the organisation of Science outreach activities; and the commitment to foster the career

development of young talents through the concession of grants and funding. SRUK/CERU is delighted to have received the support of Fundación Banco Santander for seven consecutive years. In 2022, SRUK/CERU and the Banco Santander Foundation launched the seventh edition of the SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award. With this award, we aim at recognising the work of a young Spanish researcher who has developed their career in the UK.



Collaboration with the Office for Culture and Scientific Affairs (OCSA)

The Spanish Embassy in the UK was the first Embassy to formally perform Science Diplomacy actions by including this competence in its Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs (OCSA). This Office aims to promote stronger links between Spanish and British scientific institutions. SRUK/CERU counts with the collaboration of OCSA from its very inception. This year, SRUK/CERU has, once again,

received support from OCSA. Their support has allowed us to develop activities and strategies which have made our Society a reference and an example among other associations of foreign researchers in the UK. This institutional collaboration has also been crucial to reach both Spanish and British institutions and to promote the activities of SRUK/CERU. In the context of Brexit, the collaboration of the Spanish Embassy has been paramount to keep SRUK/CERU members informed of new developments, including the application for settled status and our rights as European citizens in the UK.



Created in 2001, the **Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT)** is a public foundation dependent on the Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities. The mission of FECYT is to enhance the link between science and society, and to promote open and inclusive science as well as scientific culture and education. In this context, FE-

CYT collaborates with the different Societies of Spanish Researchers abroad, including SRUK/CERU. As part of this collaboration, FECYT has participated in the organisation of SRUK/CERU outreach activities and events since 2012, including the SRUK/CERU Annual Symposium, in which FECYT has been participating for the last seven years.



Since 2001, the main aim of **Lilly Foundation** has been to contribute to excellence in Science and Medicine in Spain. They achieve this through activities focused on the promotion of Science, Medicine, and Humanistic Medicine. In their framework of commitment to outreach and communication of Science, the Lilly Foundation has, once again, supported the program DIVULGA. This outreach initiative spearheaded by SRUK/CERU aims at promoting scientific vocations in children and young people. With this

aim, the program DIVULGA tries to decontextualise knowledge acquisition and to involve adults in outreach activities with children, in order to potentiate their impact. The program builds on two activities, Science-me a Story, a contest for the best children stories based on Science, written in either English or Spanish which keeps growing and consolidating every year and the Science Zone of the International Symposium.

SRUK/CERU is a member of:



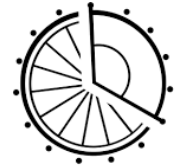
OTHER SUPPORTERS AND COLLABORATORS



M á n c h e s t e r



OTHER SUPPORTERS AND COLLABORATORS





**Society of
Spanish Researchers
in the United Kingdom**

www.sruk.org.uk / info@sruk.org.uk