## **EDITORIAL**



## **Meet the Guest Editors**

Nicola Oberbeckmann-Winter 1

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For the fourth time, a special issue featuring Young Investigators in Analytical and Bioanalytical Science has been prepared by an international team of five leading scientists. Thanks to their commitment and dedication, this unique collection of articles authored by rising stars in analytical sciences was complied. We invite you to meet the Guest Editors of this special ABC issue in the following bibliographic portraits.



Sylvia Daunert, PharmD, MS, PhD is the Lucille P. Markey Chair of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the Miller School of Medicine and the Associate Director of the JT Macdonald Foundation Biomedical Nanotechnology Institute of the University of Miami. xPrior to joining the University of Miami, Dr. Daunert was the Gill Eminent Professor of Chemistry and Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Daunert was also a Distinguished Professor of the College of Arts and Sciences and a University of Kentucky Research Professor. Among others, she is a Fulbright Scholar, an ELAM Fellow, and the recipient of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry van Slyke Research Award, the National Science Foundation-CAREER Award, the Cottrell-Scholars Award, the Lilly Analytical Faculty Award, the American Chemical Society A. F. Findeis Award, the National Science Foundation Special Creativity Award, the Bill Barfield Award from the Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute, the Albert D. and Elizabeth H. Kirwan Memorial Prize, the Provost's Award for Scholarly Achievements of the University of Miami, and the 2015 WCA Cancer Researcher of the Year Award. Dr. Daunert is an elected member of the Real Academia Nacional de Farmacia of Spain and Elected Academic D'Honor, Reial Acadèmia de Farmàcia de Catalunya. Dr. Daunert is Executive Editor of Analytical Biochemistry and a member of the Editorial Committee of Annual Reviews in Analytical Chemistry, as well as of the Editorial Advisory Boards of several journals. She serves in the Scientific Advisory Boards of professional, governmental, as well as private institutions. Dr. Daunert's research interests are in Bionanotechnology. Specifically, her group designs new molecular diagnostic tools and biosensors based on genetically engineered proteins and cells that find applications in the biomedical, environmental, and pharmaceutical fields. Additionally, the research of the group focuses

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on the development of targeted and responsive drug delivery systems. Dr. Daunert's work has been featured in over 250 publications, patents, and highlighted by the scientific media and popular press.

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Antje J. Baeumner is Professor of Analytical Chemistry and Director of the Institute of Analytical Chemistry, Chemo- and Biosensors at the University of Regensburg, Germany. Before accepting the position in Regensburg, she was Professor of Biological Engineering and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Biological and Environmental Engineering at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, USA. She is on the Board of Directors of the Society of Electroanalytical Chemistry, a member of the Extended Executive Committee of the International Association of Environmental Analytical Chemistry, was the 2010 Chair of the Gordon Research Conference on Bioanalytical Sensors, and has received numerous honors in recent years including being Finalist for the Blavatnik Award of the NY Academy of Sciences, and recipient of a Humboldt Research Fellowship and a German National Science Foundation Mercator Guest Professorship. Her research is focused on the development of micro-total analysis systems and smart lateral flow assays for detection of pathogens and toxins in food and the environment, and for medical diagnostics. Nanomaterials play an important role in her research, including nanoparticles and nanovesicles for signal amplification, nanofibers for immobilization, and detection as well as mixing.

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**Sapna Deo** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine. Dr Deo's research interest is in the development technologies for the detection of pathogens for resource-poor settings. Her work also involves design of novel nanobioanalytical techniques based on luminescence and quantum dots for detection of microRNAs and RNA molecules for application in biomedicine, diagnosis, and pathogen detection. Other areas of research include development of molecular probes for biosensing and bioimaging applications. Her research also focuses on creating luminescent nanocarriers for targeted imaging and sensing applications in biomedicine. She is an author and co-author of over 70 scientific publications and several patents and a recipient of the NSF-CAREER Award.

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Jorge Ruiz Encinar has been Associate Professor at the University of Oviedo, Spain since 2010. His research interests are focused on mass spectrometry and stable isotope-based methods, mostly applied to environment, speciation, and heteroatom-tagged proteomics, and the development of new biological applications of functionalized nanoparticles. In 2007 he was awarded the "Young Chemist Prize" by the Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry. He is currently the coordinator of the International Master in Analytical and Bioanalytical Sciences at the University of Oviedo.

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Lihua Zhang is currently Full Professor and group leader at the Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics (DICP), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) where she has been working since 2003. She received her Ph.D. from the National Chromatographic R. and A. Center, DICP, CAS under the supervision of Professor Yukui Zhang, a member of CAS, after spending one year at the GSF-National Research Center for Environment and Health, Germany, under the direction of Professor A. Kettrup. From 2001 to 2003, she carried out postdoctoral research in Professor Yoshinobu Baba's group at Tokushima University, Japan. In 2004, Lihua was selected to join the "100 Talents Project" of CAS, and in 2012 she was selected as "Young and Middle-Aged Leading Scientists, Engineers, and Innovators" by the Ministry of Science and Technology. Professor Dr. Lihua Zhang's research is focused on the new materials, methods, and techniques for both qualitative and quantitative proteome analysis.

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