

NEW SEASON SPRING SCHOOL 2026

Medicinal Chemistry Driving Innovation in Life Sciences

13-16 MAY 2026 ▪ UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI MAGNA GRÆCIA DI CATANZARO ▪ THEATER ROOM

WEDNESDAY 13 MAY 2026 ▪ [HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/ISY-IOPT-MJY](https://meet.google.com/isy-iopt-mjy)

14:30 PARTICIPANTS' REGISTRATION

OPENING CEREMONY

INSTITUTIONAL INTRO & GREETINGS

New season project presentation

Stefano ALCARO ▪ Isabella ROMEO ▪ Yavette SHUPE *UMG di Catanzaro, Italy*

SESSION I MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY & LIFE SCIENCES

15:30 Keynote Lecture 1 ▪ Proteomics in the one health era:
from molecular complexity to global health integration
Paola RONCADA *UMG di Catanzaro, Italy*

16:30 *Coffee break*

17:00 Keynote Lecture 2 ▪ Applications of zebrafish in drug discovery and development
Xiang LI *University of Shandong, China* ▪ Yavette SHUPE

18:00 Keynote Lecture 3 ▪ One health & medicinal chemistry
Francesco BRANDA *Campus Biomedico di Roma, Italy*

19:00 *Dinner*

THURSDAY 14 MAY 2026 ▪ [HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/VNH-EPRG-PWW](https://meet.google.com/vnh-eprg-pww)

SESSION II ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE LIFE SCIENCES

9:30 Keynote Lecture 4 ▪ An introduction to artificial intelligence
in drug discovery and predictive toxicology
Orazio NICOLOTTI *Università "A. Moro" di Bari, Italy*

10:30 Keynote Lecture 5 ▪ Medicinal chemistry in the antiviral field: where do we stand today?
Asian researcher Xiangyi JIANG *University of Shandong, China* ▪ Catherine PERRI

11:30 *Coffee break*

12:00 Keynote Lecture 6 ▪ Open-access explainable artificial intelligence platforms
in drug discovery and predictive toxicology
Orazio NICOLOTTI *Università "A. Moro" di Bari, Italy*

13:00 *Light lunch*

15:00 *Workshop Medicinal chemistry virtual reality ▪ Part I*

16:30 *Coffee break*

17:00 *Workshop Medicinal chemistry virtual reality ▪ Part II*

20:00 *Dinner*



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FRIDAY 15 MAY 2026 ▪ [HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/CBI-ZSNK-XBM](https://meet.google.com/CBI-ZSNK-XBM)

SESSION III PHOTOCHEMISTRY & COSMETICS IN THE LIFE SCIENCES

- 9:30 Keynote Lecture 7 ▪ Adducts in medicinal chemistry
Stefano ALCARO ▪ Roberta ROCCA *UMG di Catanzaro, Italy* ▪ Yavette SHUPE
- 10:30 Keynote Lecture 8 ▪ Hands-on case studies using in-house developed open-access explainable artificial intelligence tools in drug discovery and predictive toxicology
Orazio NICOLOTTI *Università "A. Moro" di Bari, Italy*
- 11:30 *Coffee break*
- 12:00 Keynote Lecture 9 ▪ Ligand designer and case studies
Anna ARTESE ▪ Isabella ROMEO *UMG di Catanzaro, Italy* ▪ Catherine PERRI
- 13:00 *Light lunch*
- 15:00 Workshop on AI in medicinal chemistry ▪ Part I
Francesco ORTUSO *UMG di Catanzaro, Italy*
- 16:00 *Coffee break*
- 16:30 Workshop on AI in medicinal chemistry ▪ Part II ▪ Virtual lab
- 17:30 Keynote Lecture 10 ▪ More than make-up: the chemist behind cosmetic compliance
Mercedes PROCOPIO *Intercos spa* ▪ Agnese GAGLIARDI *UMG di Catanzaro, Italy*
- 20:30 *Dinner*

SATURDAY 16 MAY 2026 ▪ [HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/POD-FGYJ-RZJ](https://meet.google.com/POD-FGYJ-RZJ)

SESSION IV SUSTAINABILITY & PERSPECTIVES IN MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY

- 9:30 Keynote Lecture 11 ▪ Exploring natural products in modern medicinal chemistry
Bruno BOTTA *Rector of UnitelmaSapienza, Roma, Italy*
- 10:30 Keynote Lecture 12 ▪ Scientific projects in drug discovery: from the experimental design to the communication
Paola BARRAJA *Università di Palermo, Italy*
- 11:30 *Coffee break*
- 12:00 Round table on scientific collaborations between UMG and Asian partners in medicinal chemistry & life sciences
Liu Zheng ▪ Huang Siyu ▪ Song Kai ▪ Zhou Qiaomei ▪ Nguyen Dan Phuc
Le Thanh Hang ▪ Xiaoyu Shi ▪ Shuo Wang
- 12:30 *Closing Session*



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