

GABRIELA BARBARA PLUCIŃSKA, PhD

SUMMARY

I am an experienced researcher in the field of neuroscience. Over the years of my scientific career I gained experience in writing scientific documents including manuscripts and grant proposals, image processing, and data visualization. Finding great satisfaction in communicating science I am looking for opportunities related to writing and editing grant proposals and manuscripts, as well as presenting scientific findings to general public, in both written and graphical form.

EDUCATION

1999-2003	XCIV High School, Warsaw, Poland	
2003-2008	Master of Science (MSc)	Interdisciplinary Department of Biotechnology, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Poland
2009-2014	Philosophy Doctor (PhD)	International PhD Programme in Medical Life Science and Technology, Technische Universität Munich, Germany

WORK EXPERIENCE

2015- present	Postdoctoral researcher	Department of Cell Biology, Faculty of Science, Utrecht University, Utrecht, the Netherlands
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- I participated in three research projects to which I contributed my expertise in live imaging of intracellular transport. Additionally, I developed methodology for visualizing endoplasmic reticulum (ER)-mitochondria contacts in hippocampal neurons. Running multiple projects enhanced my organizational skills and effective project management.
- I was awarded a 2-years research fellowship from DFG to run a project investigating role of ER-mitochondria contacts in neuronal function and degeneration.
- I assist Prof Hoogenraad in reviewing manuscripts in the process of peer-review and colleagues within the group in preparing their manuscripts for submission

2014-2015	Postdoctoral researcher	Institute of Neuronal Cell Biology, Technische Universität Munich, Germany
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- Results I obtained during my PhD encouraged me to gain more insight into mitochondrial dynamics. As a result I established collaboration with a Prof Don Lamb group specialized in super resolution imaging (Ludwigs-Maximilian University in Munich). Together we developed tools to perform high resolution single mitochondria tracking in living organism (zebrafish).
- In order to pursue the project and stay on the timeline, I selected a talented Master student which gave me my first leadership/mentoring experience.

2009-2014	PhD student	Institute of Neuronal Cell Biology, Technische Universität Munich, Germany
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- I went through extensive training in light microscopy, which included both theoretical and practical courses, as well as daily laboratory practice under supervision of imaging experts.
- I learned new sets of skills including zebrafish husbandry, DNA injections, and applied my newly acquired skills in fluorescence microscopy to conduct my research project. I was responsible for experimental design, performing experiments, data analysis, and image processing.
- To investigate role of microtubule associated protein I established collaboration with leading Alzheimer's laboratory of Prof Christian Haas. Thanks to this collaboration I learned the value of working in teams and skill and knowledge sharing.
- I developed strong science communication skills through participation in scientific writing and data presentation courses, and mentoring by researchers highly experienced in the publishing process.

2008-2009	Laboratory assistant	Laboratory of Epileptogenesis, Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, Warsaw, Poland
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- I gained my first hands-on experience in the neuroscience field. I learned most of the basic laboratory techniques and basis for understanding brain function and anatomy.
- I assisted PhD students with performing their experiments and once I gained more experience I was able to conduct my own project investigating role of immune system in development of epilepsy.

ADDITIONAL SCIENCE COMMUNICATION EXPERIENCE

I am the author of "Figure Makeover" blog, where I discuss preparation of scientific figures. Post topics' cover the design of single panels (image representation, graph design, etc.), overall composition of figures, and preparation of schematics and graphical abstracts. Since February 2017, I wrote 16 blog posts with nearly 3000 views from all over the world (<http://figuremakeover.blogspot.nl/>).

I actively develop my data visualization skills by attending courses (Infographic Storytelling and Graphic Literacy with Andy Kirk), as well as participating in #MakeoverMonday, a weekly social data project.

As a result I am an experienced user of the following computer programs:

Microsoft Package, ImageJ, Adobe PhotoShop, Adobe Illustrator

HOBBIES

My non-scientific interests are related to visual arts and photography. Moreover, I enjoy good literature and playing board games and sports.