

### "Scientist goes to School" – IMPaCT joined ITQB NOVA and Oeiras Town Hall initiative

The project IMPaCT joined the ITQB NOVA and Oeiras town hall on an initiative with young students from Oeiras municipality. Our scientists were welcomed by 22 happy 3<sup>rd</sup> year grade students. The initiative "Scientist goes to School" ("Cientista vai à escola") intends to show and explain to the young students all about being a scientist and their daily work.

The activities included playing with 3D-printed protein structure models, coloring drawings of different protein structures, understanding some solution properties, such as pH and energy transfer, and formation of crystals.



### Cryo-EM Seminar @ITQB NOVA - Ana Toste Rêgo

IMPACT was very pleased to welcome Ana Toste Rêgo for a great Cryo-EM seminar on December 19, 2019. Ana Toste Rêgo is a former ITQB NOVA research student who obtained her PhD at Birkbeck College in London and is now a Research Officer in Paula da Fonseca Lab @ MRC-LMB, Cambridge (UK).

Ana Rêgo presented a seminar on "Cryo-EM of fully recombinant human proteasomes - a new approach with new potential applications". Many thanks to Ana Rêgo for the great seminar and informal discussions with our researchers and PhD students.

### IMPACT Public Open sessions: MX-Unit open LAB session @ ITQB NOVA

In a joint initiative, IMPaCT project and the ITQB NOVA Macromolecular Crystallography Unit welcomed 17 students to the "MX-Unit open LAB session @ ITQB NOVA".

On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, the MX unit has opened its doors to undergraduate and master students who came to meet the different research groups within the Unit and learn about ITQB NOVA, the different research projects

and about our EU H2020 Twinning Project.

During the event, a close interaction between the students and the researchers was promoted. Our day was dedicated to brief presentations of the different projects being developed within structural biology applied to health, visits to the labs and facilities, and informal conversations with our researchers.



### IMPACT @ CCP4 Study Weekend

On January 8-9, a young post-Doc of the IMPaCT project, Sara Silva, attended the 2020 edition of the CCP4 study weekend that took place in Nottingham, UK.

This annual event brings together structural biologists that use the CCP4 suite for macromolecular structure determination by X-ray crystallography (XRC). Experts from around the world gave lectures on the latest updates and software for macromolecule model building, refinement and validation.

This year, many of those lectures focused also on model building using electron microscopy (EM) data.

EM has evolved steeply in the last few years, and as the obtained data approaches atomic resolution, so the data processing software used is evolving to keep up with the advances in the quality of the data collected. In fact, much of the software that is used for XRC structure refinement is also used for EM structure refinement.

This event clearly shows that the study of macromolecule structures stands to gain with the cooperation between scientists from XRC and EM fields.



### IMPACT Public Open sessions: Afternoon on Tech Transfer

On January 27 last, IMPaCT hosted an event on Tech Transfer, in collaboration with the Innovation Office from ITQB NOVA.

We are pleased to have welcomed 25 participants from all seniorities, different research areas and from different Research Institutes.

This event was organized to help the participants to better understand the theme of Intellectual Property and Tech Transfer, what are the main dos and don'ts, and what they should be aware of when starting a collaboration with another research institute or company.

IMPACT has opened this informative session not only to its ITQB NOVA team members, but also to all researchers from ITQB NOVA and nearby research Institutes, such as the Gulbenkian Institute of Science and the Faculty of Sciences from Lisbon University, as it considers this information extremely relevant for all researchers. Our thanks to Marta Ribeiro, head of the ITQB NOVA Innovation Office, for her very enlightening and easy-to-follow presentation on tech transfer, innovation and intellectual property topics.