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Ph.D. in Environmental Biotechnology

### **Education**

 Ph.D. in Environmental Biotechnology | UNESCO IHE, Institute for Water Education, Delft (the Netherlands)

**Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctoral Program** 

Thesis entitled "Novel bioremediation processes for treatment of seleniferous soils and sediment" October 2014 – December 2017

Research mobility: Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Leipzig, Germany (3 months)

Saarland University, Saarbrucken, Germany (3 months)
University of Napoli Frederico II, Naples, Italy (6 months)

Output: 5 research papers, 1 review, and 1 book chapter in peer-reviewed journals

 M.Sc. in Biotechnology | Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, Maharashtra (India)

July 2007 - April 2009

B.Sc. Diploma in Applied Biotechnology | RYK Science College, University of Pune, Nashik (India)
 June 2006 – June 2007

Projects undertaken:

- Evaluation of Amla, Tamarind, and Tulsi juice on scalp isolates of Malassezia species.
- Isolation of endosulfan degrading organisms from the soil.
- Microbiological activity of paan (betel leaf chew) and Antifungal action of Tridax
- B.Sc. in Biotechnology | Royal College, University of Mumbai, Mumbai (India)
   July 2003 May 2006

### **Experience**

- Assistant Professor | Modern College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Ganeshkhind, Pune(India)
   Sep 2022 Present
  - Teaching Genetics and Environmental Biotechnology courses to B.Sc. and M.Sc. students.

• Personal Sabbatical | Pregnancy and Child care

Jan 2018 - present

- Published manuscripts from Ph.D. research (including a review and a book chapter).
- Active reviewer for peer-reviewed journals (HAZMAT, Environmental Pollution, Scientific Reports Nature, etc.) and international conferences (ICSEEGT-2022, India).
- Currently pursuing online courses: Python and Programming in Bioinformatics.
- Research Fellow | Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai, Mumbai (India)
   July 2011 July 2014
  - Project: Bioremediation of dyestuff effluent compounds in a sequence bioreactor and metagenomic study of the rhizosphere.
  - Key activities: (1) Degradation of dyes using microbes isolated from dye contaminated sites. (2) Dye degrading micro-organisms isolated, 16S rDNA sequence submitted in NCBI nucleotide database.
     (3) Standardization of phytoremediation as one of the approaches for dye degradation.
- Research Assistant | Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad (India) October 2009 – October 2010
  - Project: In vivo screening and identification of RNA polymerase mutants defective for Rhodependent transcription termination in prokaryotes.
  - Key activities: (1) Standardization of protocol for linear DNA transformation using electroporation. (2) Screening and Isolation of RNA polymerase mutants defective for Rho-dependent transcription termination in E. coli. (3) Screening and Isolation of RNA polymerase mutants defective for Rho-dependent transcription termination in prokaryotes.

### **Publications**

- 1. Wadgaonkar SL, Lens PNL (2021) In situ and ex situ bioremediation of seleniferous soils and sediments. Lens P, Pakshirajan K (Eds.) Environmental Technologies to Treat Selenium Pollution: Principles and Engineering. IWA Publishing, London (UK). DOI: 10.2166/9781789061055 0217
- Wadgaonkar SL, Nancharaiah YV, Jacob C, Esposito G, Lens PNL (2019) Selenate reduction by *Delftia lacustris* under aerobic conditions. <u>Microbial Biotechnol.</u> 57(5): 362-371. DOI 10.1007/s12275-019-8427-x
- 3. Wadgaonkar SL, Nancharaiah YV, Esposito G, Lens PNL (2018) Environmental impact and bioremediation of seleniferous soils and sediments. <u>Crit. Rev. Biotechnol.</u> 38(6): 941-956. DOI: 10.1080/07388551.2017.1420623.
- 4. Wadgaonkar SL, Mal J, Nancharaiah YV, Maheshwari N, Esposito G, Lens PNL (2018) Formation of Se(0), Te(0) and Se(0)-Te(0) nanostructures during simultaneous bioreduction of selenite and tellurite in a UASB reactor. Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol. 102(6): 2899-2911. DOI: 10.1007/s00253-018-8781-3
- 5. **Wadgaonkar SL**, Ferraro A, Nancharaiah YV, Dhillon KS, Fabbricino M, Esposito G, Lens PNL (2018) *In situ* and *ex situ* bioremediation for removal and recovery of selenium from seleniferous soils of Northwestern India. <u>J. Soils Sediments</u> 19(2):762-773. DOI 10.1007/s11368-018-2055-7.
- Wadgaonkar SL, Ferraro A, Race M, Nancharaiah YV, Dhillon KS, Fabbricino M, Esposito G, Lens PNL (2018) Optimisation of soil washing to reduce selenium level of seleniferous soil from Punjab, Northwestern India. J. Environ. Qual. 47(6): 1530-1537. DOI:10.2134/jeq2018.05.0187
- 7. Ohlbaum M, Wadgaonkar SL\*, van Bruggen H, Nancharaiah YV, Esposito G, Lens PNL (2018) Phytoremediation of seleniferous soil leachate using the aquatic plants *Lemna minor* and *Egeria densa*. Ecol. Eng. 120: 321-328. DOI: 10.1016/j.ecoleng.2018.06.013 (\*Corresponding author)
- 8. Fulekar MH, **Wadgaonkar SL**, Singh A (2013) Decolourization of dye compounds by selected bacterial strains isolated from dyestuff industrial area. Int. J. Adv. Res. Technol. 2(7):182-192.

9. Pathak P, **Wadgaonkar SL**, Fulekar MH (2012) Ecological Remediation of Persistent Dye Compounds in Soil Water Environment. Proceedings - Strategies for Mitigation of Environmental Degradation and Climate Change, Hisar, Haryana, India, pp 94-100.

### **Technical Skills**

- Analytical techniques Fluorescence Spectroscopy, graphite furnace, and Flame AAS, Isotope Ratio
  Mass Spectrometer, Ion chromatography, Gas chromatography, HPLC, UV-Vis spectroscopy, DLS and
  zeta potential, and SEM-EDX.
- Microbial and molecular biology techniques Aerobic and anaerobic culture, isolation and maintenance, FISH, Cloning, primer design, PCR, genomic and plasmid DNA isolation from bacteria, transformation, transduction, electroporation, electrophoresis, bioinformatics for data processing; cloning and BLAST identification.
- Reactors Upflow Anaerobic Sludge Blanket (UASB) reactor, Biotrickling filter (BTF).

## **Communication/Organization/Other Skills**

- Excellent in communicating with different professional levels and different types of nationalities.
- Effective leadership skills, organized work, responsible and multi-tasking management abilities time management; mentoring master students in coursework and research.
- Basic knowledge in policy in environmental safety and health concerns; basic instrumentation and control for analytical instrument.
- Competent with computer programs Microsoft OfficeTM tools; basic knowledge in modeling and design method (Origin Lab, MatLab, Visual MINTEQ).

# Awards and Scholarship

- Short term scientific mission (COST Action ES1302, funded by EU Framework Programme Horizon 2020), July 2016 September 2016.
- Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctoral Fellowship, October 2014- September 2017.
- Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (National Level Exam conducted by Indian Institute of Technology for M.Tech/Ph.D.) -2011 Qualified (Gate Score:418, All India Rank: 913).
- National Eligibility Test conducted jointly by University Grants Commission-Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (Lectureship) December-2008 qualified (National Level Qualification to teach Undergraduates and Masters Level Students).

## **Workshops and Conferences:**

- 1. **Poster presentation** on "Selenate reduction by bacterial strains isolated from anaerobic granular sludge" at 4th International Conference on Research Frontiers in Chalcogen Science and Technology (G16) at Delft, Netherlands, May 28-29, 2015.
- 2. **Advanced Ph.D. course** on "Modelling in environmental technology, entrepreneurship and innovation and successful proposal writing", University of Cassino, Italy, July 2-7, 2017.
- 3. Summer School on "Biological treatment of solid waste", Gaeta, Italy, June 26-30, 2017.
- 4. **Summer School** on "Contaminated sediments characterization and remediation", Delft, The Netherlands, May 23-27, 2016.

- 5. Winter School on "Advanced Biological Waste-to-Energy Technologies Introductory Course", Delft, the Netherlands, January 18-22, 2016.
- 6. Summer School on "Contaminated soil Characterization and Remediation", Paris, France, June 29 -July 3, 2015.
- 7. Advanced Ph.D. course on "Contaminated soil and remediation", Paris-Est University, France, 22-26,
- 8. A1 SENSE Ph.D. Course on "Environmental Research in Context", Apeldoorn, the Netherlands, March 18-20, 2015.
- 9. Advanced Ph.D. course on "Anaerobic wastewater technology", UNESCO-IHE, Delft, The Netherlands, March 2-6, 2015.
- 10. Poster Presentation in the National Conference on "Environment and Sustainable Development" held at School of Environment and Sustainable Development, Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar, India, January 12-15, 2014.
- 11. Paper Presentation in National Conference on "Forest for the Future of Man" at N.E.S. Ratnam College, Mumbai, India, December 2-3, 2012.

### References

### 1. Prof. Piet N L. Lens

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### 2. Prof. Massimiliano FABBRICINO

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#### 3. Dr. Yarlagadda V. NANCHARAIAH

Scientific Officer G Biofouling & Biofilm Processes Section, WSCD, Chemistry Group, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India Kalpakkam - 603102, Tamil Nadu, INDIA

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