

# MSCA 2020

*Achieving more together*

Online Conference, 29 September 2020



## Workshop III

Perspective of supervisors from academic  
institutions

# WHO

Norbert Sewald

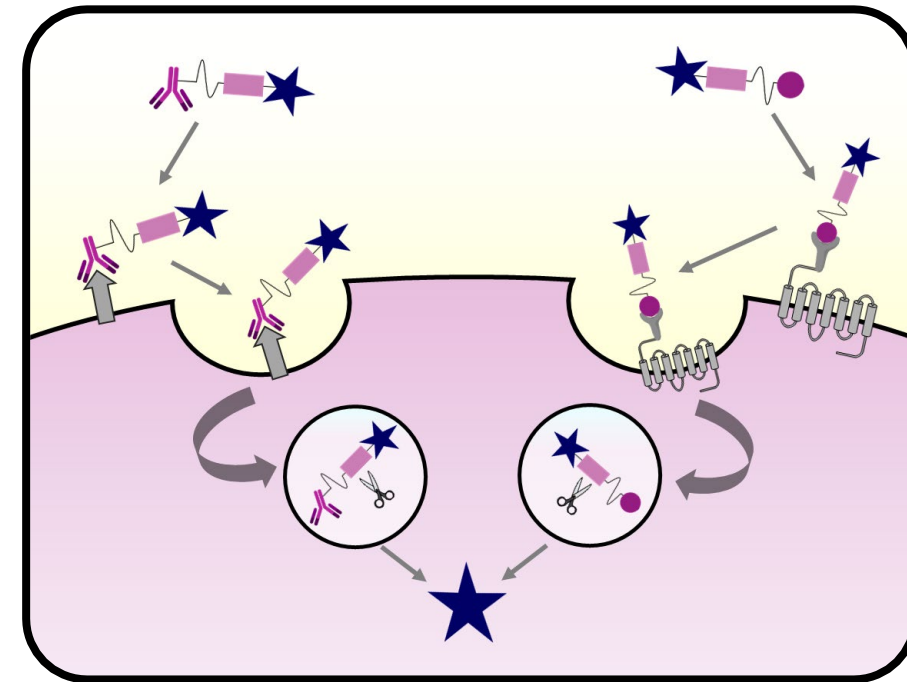
- 1991-1992 Postdoc at the University of Oxford, FP2-SCIENCE
- since 1999 Professor of Organic and Bioorganic Chemistry
  
- 2015-2018 Coordinator of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Training Network  
MAGICBULLET
- 2016-2025 Coordinator of the Bielefeld-Yaoundé Bilateral  
Graduate School YaBiNaPA
- 2019-2023 Coordinator of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Training Network  
Magicbullet::Reloaded
  
- 2020-2023 President of the European Peptide Society

<http://sewaldlab.de>

# PROJECT



- **Magicbullet::Reloaded**  
*Small Molecule Drug Conjugates for Targeted Delivery in Tumor Therapy* (Nov 2019 – Oct 2023)
- European Training Network
- Beneficiaries from 9 Universities, 2 Research Institutes, and 4 Companies located in IT, DE, HU, CH, FI, UK
- 3 Companies located in IT, DE, HU as Associate Partners
- ESRs will be involved in all stages of drug development: Synthetic Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry, Tumor Biology
- Highly cross-linked, inter-sectoral research network: Joint supervision with three supervisors for each ESR
- Inter-sectoral secondments: Each ESR will spend **7 months** at the premises of another ETN member in a different sector
- Well-balanced and tailor-made training in transferable soft skills



# SUPERVISION CHALLENGES

## Supervision goals:

- Provide intense and well-balanced interdisciplinary training
- Support acquisition of transferable skills
- Foster curiosity and creativity
- Promote different dissemination skills

## How we tackle the challenge:

- **Network Manager**
- **Joint Supervision:** 2-3 Supervisors from different sectors
- **Blended Learning:** Analysis of training needs | Introductory training by expert supervisors | Hands-on learning “on the bench” by PhD peers
- **Tuition** of research students by the ESRs is desirable
- **Structured Training Courses and Workshops** building on each other:  
Presentation skill training → Project Management → Intellectual property rights → Entrepreneurship → Individual Career Portfolio

# CHANCES

- Give more time to grow:  
A full PhD in 36 months full of trainings, research activities, secondments, network meetings, dissemination activities (e.g. video recording, public science articles, science slams) is challenging
- Give more assistance:
  - An ITN should be supported by at least 2-3 experienced postdocs
  - A Network Manager is highly recommended