



# Joanna Papadopoulou

## Molecular/Cellular Biologist

A dedicated and highly motivated scientist with a multidisciplinary academic background. Professional experience in cultured meat has given me strong expertise in experimental design, laboratory techniques, and managing skills.

## Contact

+31 625460341

joanna.papadopoulos08@gmail.com

Wageningen, The Netherlands

[www.linkedin.com/in/joannapapadopoulou08](https://www.linkedin.com/in/joannapapadopoulou08)

## Education

Sep 2018 - Oct 2020

MSc Nutrition and Health -  
Specialization in Molecular Nutrition  
and Toxicology

Wageningen University and Research, the  
Netherlands

Sep 2014 - May 2017

BSc Nutrition and Health  
University of Balamand, Lebanon

## Skills

### Lab skill:

- Cell culture, stem cells isolation, cryopreservation, 3D cell culture in spinners and microcarriers, gut-on-a-chip (OrganoPlate, Mimitas).
- Cellular imaging & microscopy including EVOS M7000 Imaging System, confocal, ImageXpress Pico.
- Immunostaining, ELISA, flow cytometry, FACs, staining assays.
- DNA & RNA isolation, PCR, qPCR, gel electrophoresis, RNA sequencing with Oxford Nanopore Technologies
- Western blot, JESS, Cedex Bio® Analyzer, karyotyping, DispenCell

### IT skill:

- Microsoft office, Google sheets
- GraphPad Prism
- ImageXpress Pico software, Las X
- FlowLogic
- Zotero
- SnapGene
- Python (Basic level)

## Work Experience

### November 2024 - Present

Wageningen University & Research - Wageningen, The Netherlands

#### PhD Candidate

PhD candidate in the Bioprocess Engineering (BPE) group, researching the structure and function of octopus muscle cells to assess their suitability for cultivated meat applications.

### February 2025 - July 2025

Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn - Naples, Italy

#### Visiting PhD Candidate

Completed a six-month PhD research visit in an external laboratory, focusing on optimizing isolation and cell culture protocols for establishing long-term cultures of octopus muscle cells.

### June 2021 - June 2024

Mosa Meat | Maastricht, The Netherlands

#### Junior Scientist

Part of the cell biology team. Took part in different projects including:

- Isolation, banking, quality control, and characterization of satellite and fibroadipogenic progenitor cells from bovine.
- Managed and executed RNA sequencing pipeline using Oxford Nanopore Technologies. Optimizing protocols, troubleshooting technical issues, and helping coworkers in planning experiments. Sequenced around 120 libraries.
- Independent design and execution of R&D experiments related to bioprocess optimization and satellite cell stemness and differentiation.
- Optimizing protocols for monoclonal cell line making and cell line characterization.

### May 2020 - October 2020

NIZO | Ede, The Netherlands

#### R&D Intern

Performed a literature review on "*Dietary Polyphenols Microbial Metabolism, in vitro Fermentation and Their Potential Health Benefits: A Review*" which aimed to investigate the possibilities of using the MicroColon® fermentation model to study in vitro polyphenols fermentation.

### March 2020 - May 2020

Wageningen Livestock Research | Wageningen, The Netherlands

#### Academic Consultant

Team-oriented academic consultancy training project investigated the possibilities of using Wireless Capsule Devices (WCDs) for intestinal research in pigs. Responsibilities among the team was secretary:

- Updated agendas, planned appointment, and executed interviews
- Detailed literature review was submitted, and results were presented to different stockholders.

#### Soft skill:

- Teamwork
- Committed
- Flexiable
- Communication
- Proactivity

#### Languages:

- Arabic (Native)
- English (Fluent)
- Dutch (Elementary)

#### September 2019 - March 2020

Food Biobased Research l Wageningen, The Netherlands

#### MSc Thesis

Master thesis under the title "Developing a protocol for growing 2D intestinal organoids and gut-on-a-chip obtained from 3D intestinal organoids.". Tasks performed:

- Provided a literature review on intestinal stem cells and intestinal cellular hemostasis to mimic the signaling pathways in the lab.
- Crypts isolation from a human intestinal biopsy and growing 3D intestinal organoids.
- Optimized protocols to break the 3D intestinal organoid and cultured it again in Transwells as a 2D intestinal layer and in OrganoPlate as gut-on-a-chip.
- Investigated the proliferation and differentiation of the 2D monolayer under different conditions.
- Execute tests on Caco-2 cell line.

#### September 2017 - June 2018

Saint George Hospital l Beirut, Lebanon

#### Clinical Nutrition Intern

- Performed clinical rounds in different departments such as ICU, Surgery, Oncology, Pediatrics, Renal, and Geriatrics, among others.
- Worked on applying the Nutrition Care Process (NCP) including completion of the nutrition assessment, determination of the nutrition diagnosis, developing and implementing nutrition intervention, and monitoring and evaluating the patient's progress.
- Successfully passed a national exam and attained certification as a "Registered Clinical Dietitian."

## Publications & Posters

#### Publications

- *Advances and Challenges in Cell Biology for Cultured Meat*. Martins B, Bister A, Dohmen RGJ, Gouveia MA, Hueber R, Melzener L, Messmer T, **Papadopoulos J**, Pimenta J, Raina D, Schaeken L, Shirley S, Bouchet BP, Flack JE. *Advances and Challenges in Cell Biology for Cultured Meat*. *Annu Rev Anim Biosci*. 2023 Nov 14. doi: 10.1146/annurev-animal-021022-055132. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 37963400.
- Meßmer, T. (2023). *Decoding cultured meat production: the transcriptomic landscape of bovine satellite cells in proliferation and differentiation*. [Doctoral Thesis, Maastricht University]. Maastricht University. <https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20230421tm> - **Contributed to chapter 4 & 5**

#### Posters

- CellAgri Portugal, Faro, Portugal 2025. "Towards the development of immortalized octopus muscle cell line"
- International Scientific Conference on Cultured Meat, Maastricht, the Netherlands 2023. "Variability in proliferation and differentiation between satellite cells culture emerges during long-term expansion."
- 24th LAAS International Scientific Conference, University of Balamand, Koura, Lebanon 2018. "Dano,D, Papadopoulos,J (2017). *Food Allergy Knowledge and Attitudes of Restaurant Managers and Staff in Beirut Region: Pilot study.*"

## Hobbies

I am an animal & nature lover who enjoys my cat's company, birding watching, and long nature walks. I also enjoy doing sports like crossfit, fitness and running. Additionally, I am passionate about art & literature, constantly exploring new music, artists, and authors.