

WIMA '26

September 23rd, 2026

11:00	Prof. Susan Napier Thomas Institute of Bioengineering and Bioscience, Georgia Tech <i>t.b.a.</i>
12:00	Lunch with Finalists & Jury
13:00	Welcome Laura De Laporte
13:15	 Matilde Concilio Department of Life Science, Imperial College London <i>Designing Materials that Respond, Adapt, and Instruct: My Journey in Interactive Polymer Systems</i>
13:45	 Paula De Dios Andrés Department of Chemistry, Aarhus University <i>Engineering Artificial Cells towards the Development of Bionic Liver Tissue</i>
14:15	 Miriam Filippi Soft Robotics Lab, ETH Zurich <i>Biohybrid Robots: When Interactive Materials Come Alive</i>

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14:45	Coffee Break
15:15	 Lucía López Gandul Leiden Institute of Chemistry, Leiden University <i>From Molecular Design to Functional Supramolecular Materials: Bridging the Gap towards Real-World Applications</i>
15:45	 Paulina Núñez Bernal Department of Clinical Sciences, Utrecht University & University Medical Center Utrecht <i>Beyond Architecture: Interactive Biomaterials for Bioprinting Functional Human Tissue Models</i>
16:15	 Maritza Rovers Department of Chemistry, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz <i>Engineering the Cellular Microenvironment: From Static to Cell-Reconfigurable ECM Mimics</i>
16:45	Jury Deliberation
17:30	Announcement of the Winners
18:30	Finalists' Dinner