

Curriculum vitae

Personal data & Education

M. Helena Garcia, mhgarcia@fc.ul.pt, is Associate Professor with “Habilitation” at University of Lisbon, Jubilated since May 2017, 73 years, currently holding a Collaboration Agreement with Faculty of Sciences of University of Lisbon <https://ciencias.ulisboa.pt/perfil/mhgarcia>. She is the Coordinator of the BIOIN group from Centro de Química Estrutural – FCUL Research Centre.

<https://cqe.tecnico.ulisboa.pt/members/499>

Ph.D in Chemistry (Inorganic Chemistry), Universidade de Lisboa (FCUL), May 1984; MSc. in Inorganic Physical Chemistry, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Junho 1978; Graduation in Chemistry (5 years course), Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa, 1972.



Research Interests & Research Experience

Her scientific areas of research have been mainly centred in synthesis of organometallic compounds in view to potential applications for the benefit of the society, lately more focused on the search of new anticancer drugs.

She authored more than one hundred papers in international peer reviewed scientific journals, 11 book chapters and 4 patents and co-authored the book ‘Nomenclatura de Química Inorgânica’, Edition by Sociedade Portuguesa de Química, IST Press, 2018.

M. Helena Garcia has been leader of 14 national and European funded scientific research projects and team member of another 12 projects. In 2002 she started to move her scientific interest to the field of the synthesis of new potential drugs for chemotherapy and she mentored and created in collaboration with Doctor Isabel Santos at ITN (National Institute of Technology) the MSc. course ‘Inorganic Medicinal Chemistry: Application in Diagnosis and Therapy’ involving also the Faculties of Pharmacy and Medicine of the University of Lisbon, the Portuguese Institute of Oncology and the Hospital Garcia d`Orta. This was a turning point on her research and since then she supervised a significant number of MSc. and PhD thesis, post-doctoral studies as well initiation to research studies focused in the search of new anticancer drugs. Her publications on this subject have attracted attention in the scientific media being distinguished some of them as the “most downloaded papers in last 90 days” on the prestigious Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry. As result of this recognition she has been invited to lecture in several annual conferences at USA, China, Japan and Europe. She is co-recipient of the 1st position prize of “RuPharma” project at the ‘ScienceIN2Business 2015’ promoted by TecLabs and co-founder of the ‘Proto-Company HATICancer’ created in Jan. 2017, by invitation of FCUL. Also, she co-authored the international patent application WO 2016/087932 that attracted the private investment of ‘Prodigy Bubble’ company to sponsor ongoing studies in the frame of “RuPharma”.

Leadership role

In the period 1991 to 2017 she was the delegate of Portuguese Chemical Society at the “Division of Organometallic Chemistry” of European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences. She played a leadership role in the implementation of the Erasmus Program at FCUL in the early nineties being for many years the coordinator of that program at Chemistry and Biochemistry Department later accumulated with the position of Erasmus coordinator at the International Office of FCUL. She belonged to the director board of Chemistry and Biochemistry Department as vice-president, during two mandates and was for many years, the coordinator of BSc. and MSc. courses of Technologic Chemistry at FCUL. By nomination of FCUL, M. Helena Garcia attended the United Nations session in Geneva, 15 to 21 July 2012, to participate in the discussion on measures for mitigation of risks due to new science and technology developments of relevance to the Biological Weapons Convention.