

Dario Riccardo Valenzano, PhD

Curriculum Vitae of Dario Riccardo Valenzano

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Academic status

From April 2023	Principal Investigator at the Cluster of Excellence “Balance of the Microverse” at the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena, Germany
From July 2021	Full Professor at the Friedrich Schiller University of Jena (Germany) and Senior Group Leader at the Leibniz Institute on Aging (Fritz-Lippman Institute)
2013-2021	Max Planck Research Group Leader (equivalent to Associate Professor), Max Planck Institute for Biology of Ageing

Education

April 2006	Ph.D. in Neuroscience, Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy
December 2002	Diploma in Biology at Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy
October 2001	BSc and MSc in Biology at the University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy

Research Experience

Jan 2016 – 2021	CECAD Principal Investigator, CECAD, University of Cologne
Jun 2013 – 2021	Max Planck Research Group Leader Max Planck Institute for Biology of Ageing
May 2011 – May 2013	Research Associate Stanford University, Department of Genetics (Brunet lab)
May 2006 – Apr 2011	Postdoctoral Fellow Stanford University, Department of Genetics (Brunet lab)
Jan 2003 – Apr 2006	Graduate Student in Neurobiology at Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy (Cellerino lab)
Aug 2000 – Dec 2002	Undergraduate Thesis Research ISTC of the CNR, Rome, Italy

Awards and Honors

2019	Nathan Shock New Investigator Award
2018-2021	EMBO YIP Young Investigator Award
2010-2011	Ellison/AFAR postdoctoral fellowship
2007-2010	Stanford Center on Longevity postdoctoral fellowship
2006	First prize at the Stanford Genetics Retreat poster session
2005	Young Researcher Scuola Normale Superiore Award
2004	Young Researcher Scuola Normale Superiore Award
2003	Young Researcher Scuola Normale Superiore Award
2002	University of Pisa Gold Medal for outstanding curricular achievements
1999	Scuola Normale Superiore undergraduate scholarship

List of current third-party grants

2018-2025*:	DFG (SFB) CRC 1310 “Predictability in Evolution”: Funded four-year grant on “Co-evolution of gut microbiota and immune cells during ageing in killifish”, €1.073M
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2023-2027: Carl-Zeiss Foundation “microbAlome, AI-based microbiome analysis in aging”, €1.25M

Presentations

2002 Associazione Italiana di Primatologia, Rome, IT
2004 Evolution and Human Behavior meeting, Berlin, GE
2004 Italian Organization of Science Teachers (ANISN), Viareggio, IT
2005 International Symposium on Neuroplasticity, Pisa, IT
2008 Aging Symposium: Linking Evolution to Mechanisms, Fribourg, CH
2009 Stanford Current Issues in Genetics, Stanford, CA, US
2009 Lunch Bunch UC Riverside Seminar Series, Riverside, CA, US
2009 Stanford Center on Longevity, Stanford, CA, US
2010 Stanford Current Issues in Genetics, Stanford, CA, US
2010 Bay Area Aging Meeting Club, San Francisco, CA, US
2010 Longevity Consortium, Washington D.C., US
2010 Molecular Genetics of Aging, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, US
2010 Bay Area Population Genetics Meeting, Stanford, CA, US
2011 Buck Institute for Aging Research, Novato, CA, US
2011 Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, IT
2011 University of Pisa, Dept. Biologia Cellulare, Pisa, IT
2011 Max-Planck Institute for the Biology of Ageing, Cologne, DE
2012 Harvard University, Department of MCB, Cambridge, MA, US
2012 UC Berkeley, Department of MCB, Berkeley, CA, USA
2012 Max-Planck Institute for the Biology of Ageing, Cologne, DE
2012 American Klifish Association, WKW, Portland, OR, US
2012 University of Alabama at Birmingham, NORC, Birmingham, AL, US
2012 ENDO 2012, Houston, Tx, US
2012 DGIST, Hyeonpung-Myeon, Daegu, SK
2013 Max-Planck Institute for the Biology of Ageing, Cologne, DE
2014 1st Nothobranchius Symposium, Pisa, Italy
2014 Poppelsdorfer Schlossgespräche: University of Bonn, DE
2014 SFB670 – Cell-autonomous Immunity CECAD, Cologne, DE
2014 IRB, Barcelona, ES
2015 ERIBA, Groningen, NL
2015 MPI Molecular Biomedicine, Münster, DE
2015 SFB680, Institute for Theoretical Physics, Cologne, DE
2015 King's College, MCR Centre for Dev Neurobiol, London, UK
2015 Babraham Institute, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
2015 Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding, Cologne, DE
2015 Francis Crick Institute, London, UK
2015 Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
2015 German Association for Aging Research (DGfA), Jena, DE
2016 DZNE, Munich, DE
2016 2nd Cologne Ageing Conference, Cologne, DE
2016 2nd Nothobranchius Symposium, Jena, DE
2016 Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology, Tuebingen, DE
2016 CSHL, Mechanisms of Aging, Cold Spring Harbor, USA
2016 University of Bern, Bern, CH
2016 Eawag Institute, Zürich, CH
2016 Cellular Mechanisms of Neurodegeneration, Eibsee, DE
2016 CECAD Faculty Retreat, Cologne, DE
2016 Forum Scientiarum, University of Tuebingen, Tuebingen, DE
2016 1st International Symposium Research on Healthy Ageing, Lille, FR
2017 GIF Young Scientists' Meeting, Ma'ale Ha-Hamisha, IL
2017 LCSB, Luxembourg Center for Systems Biomedicine, Luxembourg, LU
2017 Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Pisa, IT
2017 ICM Institute for Brain and Spinal Cord, Paris, FR

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2017 American Aging Association, NY, US
2017 GRC, "Aging, Biology of", Les Diablerets, CH
2017 GRC, "Ecological and Evolutionary Genomics", Biddeford, US
2017 Jackson Laboratory, Farmington, US
2017 14th Transgenic Technology Meeting, Salt Lake City, US
2017 Leibniz Institute on Aging, Jena, DE
2017 IFOM, Milan, IT
2017 Symposium on Innovative Models in Infection and Immunity, Lille, FR
2017 EMBO, Heidelberg, DE
2017 BMS Symposium, MPG, Berlin, DE
2017 Oxford University, Zoology Department, Oxford, UK
2017 AGEART, MPI-AGE, Cologne
2017 Exploratory Round Table Conference (MPG, CAS), Shanghai, CN
2018 Healthy Ageing: from molecules to organisms, Hinxton, UK
2018 KU Leuven, Leuven, BE
2018 Keystone Symposium Aging, Inflammation and Immunity, Austin, US
2018 MyAgeGroup Symposium, Austin, US
2018 Microbiome in Host Physiology and Aging Workshop, Singapore, SG
2018 Humans and the Microbiome (CIFAR), NTU, Singapore, SG
2018 Journée de la Recherche Translationelle, Pasteur Institute, Paris, FR
2018 Interventions to extend healthspan and lifespan, Kazan, RU
2018 Annual EMBO YIP meeting, Vienna, AT
2018 University of Pisa, Cellular and Developmental Biology, Pisa, IT
2018 Seminar über Versuchstiere und Tierversuche, BfR, Berlin, DE
2018 Old Herborn University Seminars, „Aging and the Microbiome“, DE
2018 University of Kiel, CRC/SFB 1182, Kiel, DE
2018 Max Planck Institute for Ornithology, Seewiesen, DE
2018 Microbiological Colloquium (SFB 766), Tübingen, DE
2018 UK Genome Science, Nottingham, UK
2018 Models and insights in translational research, Goethe U, Frankfurt, DE
2018 Cell Symposium Aging and Metabolism, Sitges, ES
2018 Mechanisms of Aging, CSHL, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, US
2018 Frontiers in Aging, Moscow State University, Moscow, RU
2018 Bioscience Symposium Complexity of Aging, Copenhagen, DK
2018 MRC London Institute of Medical Sciences, London, UK
2018 Aquatic Models to study regeneration and aging, IRCAN, Nice, FR
2018 IPMM/IPHS graduate program on Molecular Medicine, Cologne, DE
2018 EMBO YIP Sectorial Meeting in Microbiology, Heidelberg, DE
2018 DGfA meeting, Jena, DE
2018 CECAD annual retreat, Cologne, DE
2019 1st Crick-Beddington DevBio Symposium, Crick Institute, London, UK
2019 Genetic, Evolution and Environment Lecture, UCL, London, UK
2019 CDDF Workshop on Cancer Growth and Therapy, Munich, DE
2019 Helsinki Institute of Life Science, Helsinki, FI
2019 John Stuart Mill College, Vrij Universiteit, Amsterdam, NL
2019 NUS, Singapore, SG
2019 EMBO YIP, Singapore, SG
2019 Genome Editing for Comparative Genomics, JEB, Massa Marittima, IT
2019 GSK, Siena, IT
2019 Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology, Jena, DE
2019 Hallmarks of Biological Failure, Santa Fe Institute, Santa Fe, US
2019 Model organisms for the study of aging and disease, Lausanne, CH
2019 EMBL, Unit of Developmental Biology, Heidelberg, DE
2019 Quadram Institute, Norwich, UK
2019 FLI Colloquium, Jena, Leibniz Institute on Aging, DE
2019 Keynote seminar at the 5th Annual ISEMPH meeting, Zurich, CH
2019 EMBO YIP Evolution Sectorial Meeting, Basel, CH

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2019	PhD Day, IRCAN, Nice, FR
2019	1 st European Geroscience Conference, Madrid, ES
2019	Beyond the Standard: Non-model Vertebrates in Molecular Biomedicine, EMBO Workshop, MDC, Berlin, DE
2019	Asociación Latinoamericana de Genética, ALAG, Mendoza, AR
2019	120 th Intl Titisee Conference “Evolution of Immune Defense Mechanisms” Titisee, DE
2019	Department of Genetics, University of Bari, IT
2019	Max Planck for Chemical Ecology, Jena, DE
2019	Gutenberg Workshop: The Biology of Ageing, Mainz, DE
2019	CRC 1310 midterm symposium, Cologne, DE
2019	Microbiota and Aging Symposium, CECAD, University of Cologne, DE
2019	Gerontological Society of America, Austin, US
2019	ICMM annual meeting, University of Copenhagen, Helsingør, DK
2019	BIG Talk, Faculty of Biology and Medicine, University of Lausanne, Lausanne CH
2020	Microbiota and Aging Symposium, Leibniz Institute, Jena, DE
2020	Hohenheim University, Stuttgart, DE
2020	Department of Genetics, University of Cologne, Cologne, DE
2020	Seminar at PRBB, Barcelona, ES
2020	Museum Mensch und Natur, Munich, DE
2020	Keynote seminar, Signalife, Nice, FR
2020	Intra- and Inter-cellular mechanisms of Aging, Keystone meeting, Vancouver, CA
2020	ZMBH, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, DE
2020	Brown University Colloquium on the Biology of Human Aging, video conference
2020	AgingScienceTalks, video seminar
2020	Institute Gulbenkian de Ciência, video seminar
2020	7 th Aging Research & Drug Discovery Meeting (ARDD), video seminar
2020	Michigan State University Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, video seminar
2020	University of Muenster, Muenster, DE
2020	TU Dresden, CMCB program (video)
2020	Keynote talk, SynAge annual retreat, University of Magdeburg, DE (video)
2020	Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam (video)
2020	BTI-PGS Virtual distinguished lecture, Cornell University (video)
2020	2020 Molecular Biology Society of Japan (video)
2020	eLife Symposium: Aging, Geroscience and Longevity (video)
2021	MolMet webinar, Karolinska Institute (video)
2021	Aarhus University, Kjeldgaard Lectures (video)
2021	Life Science Switzerland (LS2), keynote (video)
2021	USC L. Davis School of Gerontology, L.A., US (video)
2021	University of Leicester, UK (video)
2021	Max Planck Lecture, MPFI, US (video)
2021	Keynote Speaker, 3rd International Symposium of the RTG1743, DE (video)
2021	Basic Biology of Aging Spring Speaker Series, UW in Seattle, US (video)
2021	Seeon Conference – Microbiota, Probiotics and Host, Keynote speaker, DE (video)
2021	Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology, Tuebingen, DE
2021	8 th Aging Research & Drug Discovery Meeting (ARDD), Copenhagen, DK
2021	International African Turquoise Killifish Conference, MDI BL, Bar Harbor, US
2021	EMBO YIN evolution sectoral meeting (online)
2021	International Congress of Zoology (online)
2021	EMBO YIN microbiology sectoral meeting, Bordeaux, FR
2022	IPMM Web-Lecture Molecular Medicine (online)
2022	“Balance of the Microverse” Cluster of Excellence (online), Jena, DE
2022	Interdisziplinäres Zentrum für Klinische Forschung (online), Jena, DE
2022	2nd Euro-Geroscience Conference, Toulouse, FR
2022	UMC and Hubrecht Institute, Utrecht, NL
2022	European Institute of Technology, Health Aging advanced course (online)
2022	Molecular, Cellular and Organismal drivers of aging, CNIO, Madrid, ES

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2022	Developmental Circuits in Aging – EMBO workshop, Crete, GR
2022	2022 IMB Conference Epigenetics of Ageing – Mainz, DE
2022	ProMoAge: Protein Modification: a Key Mechanism for Ageing, Oberhof, DE
2022	NIA Genetic Variation and Aging, UW, Seattle, US
2022	INTECOL22, Geneva, CH
2022	Annual Retreat, Hannover Medical School, Goslar, DE
2022	Royal Belgian Zoological Society, Kortrijk, BE
2022	Nathan Shock Center, University of Alabama, Birmingham, US
2022	Living Systems III Symposium, Max Planck Institute for Biology, Tübingen, DE
2023	Keynote lecture at Behavioral Ecology Meeting (BEM), Chioggia, IT
2023	IIMBC, Warsaw, PL
2023	CRC1310, annual meeting, Cologne, DE (online)
2023	Jena Microbiome Meeting, Jena, DE
2023	Biology of Aging Symposium IV, 2023, Montreal, CA
2023	Jacques Monod Conference on regeneration and aging, Roscoff, FR
2023	American Aging Association, Oklahoma City, US
2023	2023 Biology of Aging Summer School, MBL, Woods Hole, US
2023	10 th Aging Research & Drug Discovery Meeting (ARDD), Copenhagen, DK

Professional memberships and activities

German Association for Aging Research (DGfA)

Faculty of 1000 (F1000)

Board member, graduate school of Biology, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy

Cologne Graduate School on Aging, committee member, Cologne, Germany

Organization of meetings and symposia

2012	discussion leader, Gordon Research Seminar, Biology of Aging
2015	moderator, German Association for Aging Research
2016	organizer, Second Nothobranchius Symposium
2018	organizer, 2018 Nothobranchius Symposium
2019	discussion leader, GlaxoSmithKlein “Palio Meeting” on the future of vaccines
2019	vice-chair, Gordon Research Conference, Biology of Aging
2021	chair, 2 nd eLife symposium on Aging, Geroscience and Longevity
2021	2021 Nothobranchius Symposium
2021	EMBO/YIN Evolution Sectoral Meeting
2022	Annual Meeting of the German Society for Aging Research
2022	chair, Conservation Genomics at the Population Level, Wellcome Genome Campus
2023	chair, Gordon Research Conference, Biology of Aging
2024	chair, Keystone Aging, TBD

Serving on editorial board

eLife

Reviewing activities

Scientific journals: Aging Cell; Aging and Mechanisms of Disease; BBA – Molecular Basis of Disease; BMC Genomics; BMC Microbiology; Cell Reports; Current Biology; Developmental Dynamics; Development Genes and Evolution; eLife; Frontiers in Microbiology; Experimental Gerontology; Fishes; G3: Genes, Genome, Genome Biology; Genome Biology and Evolution; Genome Research; Genetics; Gut Microbes; Hormone and Metabolic Research; Invertebrate Reproduction and Behavior; iScience; Journal of Comparative Physiology B; Journal of Experimental Biology; the Lancet Healthy Longevity; Microbial Cell; Microbiome; Molecular Biology and Evolution; Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution; Nature; Nature Aging; Nature Communications; Nature Medicine; Nature Protocols; PLoS Genetics; PLoS ONE; PNAS; Proceedings of the Royal Society B; Science; Science Advances; Scientific Reports; Trends in Genetics.

Scientific publishers: Chicago University Press, Oxford University Press.

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Research Grants: AFAR, Blood Cancer UK, Czech Science Foundation, DFG, ERC, HSFP, INSPIRE Geroscience, Polish National Science Centre, SWO (Belgium), Research Foundation - Flanders (Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek - Vlaanderen, FWO), Università di Camerino (Italy), Simons Foundation, Swiss National Science Foundation, Wellcome Trust.

Media coverage

- 2006 "Eat less, live more", The Economist
<http://www.economist.com/node/6823498>
- 2015 "A model for ageing", Max Planck Gesellschaft news
<http://tinyurl.com/oykxp92>
- 2015 "Short-lived fish may hold clues to human ageing"
<http://www.nature.com/news/short-lived-fish-may-hold-clues-to-human-ageing-1.18945>
- 2016 "Live fast, die young", Nature | Technology feature
<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v535/n7612/full/535453a.html>
- 2016 "Dem Traum der ewigen Jugend auf der Spur" BR Wissen
<http://www.br.de/themen/wissen/altern-alterungsprozess-tierwelt-100.html>
- 2017 "Young poo makes aged fish live longer" Nature News
<http://www.nature.com/news/young-poo-makes-aged-fish-live-longer-1.21770>
- 2017 "A fishy way to longevity: young poo" Science
<http://www.sciencemag.org/news/sifter/fishy-way-longevity-young-poo>
- 2017 "Youthful poo makes aged fish live longer" Scientific American
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/youthful-poo-makes-aged-fish-live-longer/>
- 2017 "Wired awake: 10 must read articles for April 6" Wired
<http://www.wired.co.uk/article/wired-awake-060417>
- 2017 "Biology gone wild" Cell
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0092867417307626>
- 2017 "Gut microbes influence life expectancy" Elife
<https://elifesciences.org/for-the-press/779a3695/gut-microbes-influence-life-expectancy>
- 2017 "Gut microbes from younger killifish extend life in older killifish" Medium
<https://medium.com/beautyinaging/gut-microbes-from-younger-killifish-extend-life-in-older-killifish-9aafe1c15cf5>
- 2017 "Young guts make elderly fish sprightly" Nature
<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-017-02936-1>
- 2018 "Gut microbes as a novel anti-aging intervention?" The Science Breaker
<https://thesciencebreaker.org/breaks/microbiology/gut-microbes-as-a-novel-anti-aging-intervention>
- 2019 "Neutral Evolution shapes lifespan and ageing"
<https://www.mpg.de/13660866/0702-balt-110438-neutral-evolution-shapes-lifespan-and-ageing>
- 2019 Der Killifisch und die Falten meines Vater
<https://www.arte.tv/de/videos/086132-008-A/verknuepft/>
- 2019 "Die genetische Last des Killifisches"
<https://www.laborjournal.de/editorials/1861.php>
- 2019 "Will he be 130?" Nov 22, Spiegel Online
- 2022 "Das Uhrwerk des Lebens" <https://www.zdf.de/arte/das-uhrwerk-des-lebens>
- 2023 "Alte Fische, altes Immunsystem" <https://www.laborjournal.de/editorials/2730.php>
- 2023 "My heartening summer school class on the new science of aging"
<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2023/09/03/opinion/my-heartening-summer-school-class-new-science-aging/> (The Boston Globe)

Teaching

- 2003 Undergraduate orientation school. Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, San Miniato Pisa, Italy.
- 2008 Undergraduate course "Longevity", Stanford University, USA.
- 2009 Undergraduate course "Longevity", Stanford University, USA.

2015	Graduate course "Genomics for the Neurosciences". Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Italy.
2015	Master module "Functional Genomics". University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.
2016	Graduate course "Neurogenomics". Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Pisa, Italy.
2016	Master module "Population Genetics". University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.
2016	Undergraduate course "Evolutionary Biology". Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy.
2016	Master module "Functional Genomics". University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.
2017	Master module "Population Genetics". University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.
2018	Master module "Functional Genomics". University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.
2018	Master module "Population Genetics". University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.
2018	Module "Analysis of the Microbiome and Quantitative Genetics" for the PhD course "Neurogenomics". Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy.
2018	"Stochastic models in DNA sequence evolution" (SS 2018), University of Cologne, Institute of Mathematics (with Professor Alexander Drewitz).
2018	PhD Summer School on "Aging and the Microbiome", Old Herborn University, Herborn, Germany.
2018	"Comparative and Experimental Approaches in Aging Biology Research, An Applied Laboratory in Aging Research Models" for undergraduates and PhD students. MDI Biological Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Maine, United States.
2018	CECAD Summer School, CECAD, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.
2018	"Forever young" – Frontiers in Aging Research. Lecture series of the IPMM/IPHS graduate program on Molecular Medicine, Cologne, Germany.
2019	Master module "Functional Genomics". University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.
2019	Master module "Population Genetics". University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.
2019	Module "Analysis of the Microbiome" for the PhD course "Neurogenomics", Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy.
2020	"Evolutionary biology of Aging", Cologne Graduate School on Aging, Cologne, Germany.
2020	Cologne Graduate School on Aging Summer School, Cologne, Germany.
2021	"Genetics, Genomics, and Cell Biology of Aging", Princeton University, US.
2021	"Population Genetics and Molecular Evolution", University of Cologne, Germany.
2022	"Alterung und Krankheitsentstehung: Intestinal stem cells and microbiome in aging", Friedrich Schiller University, Jena, Germany.
2022	European Institute of Technology, Health Aging advanced course
2023	"Alterung und Krankheitsentstehung: Intestinal stem cells and microbiome in aging", Friedrich Schiller University, Jena, Germany.
2023	MBL Biology of Aging Advanced Research Training Summer Course, Woods Hole, Cape Cod, US.