PERSONAL INFORMATION

Laura Rossini

POSITION

Full Professor in Crop Genetics
University of Milan
Department of Agricutural and Environmental Sciences (DiSAA)
Via Celoria 2, 20133 Milano

laura.rossini@unimi.it

WORK EXPERIENCE

Since October 2023

President of Master degree programme in Crops and Plant Sciences

University of Milan

Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (DiSAA)

www.unimi.it/it/corsi/laurea-magistrale/scienze-della-produzione-e-protezione-delle-piante

University of Milan Academic Coordinator of emPLANT+ Erasmus Mundus Master in Plant Breeding

https://emplant-master.eu

Since April 2022

Full Professor in Crop Genetics

University of Milan

Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (DiSAA)

www.unimi.it

- Coordination of research activities in genetics and genomics of cereals and fruit trees with focus on barley and peach.
- Coordination of a research team including post-docs, graduate and undergraduate students.
- Responsibility of research grants obtained in competitive national and international calls.
- Establishment of national and international scientific collaborations.
- Publication and dissemination of research outputs (ISI journals, international conferences and workshops).
- Lecturing in the context of BSc and MSc courses of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences:
- Plant Genetics (BSc level, in Italian)
- Plant Molecular Biology (MSc level, in English)
- Development of crop ideotypes (MSc level, in English)

Institutional roles as chair of DiSAA's Scientific Research Committee (since 2020), member of DiSAA's Self-Assessment Committees (since 2017), Steering Committee of PhD programme in Agriculture, Environment and Bioenergy (since 2015).

Business or sector University, Scientific Research

October 2017 – March 2022

Associate Professor in Crop Genetics

University of Milan

Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (DiSAA)

- Coordination of research activities in genetics and genomics of cereals and fruit trees with focus on barley and peach.
- Coordination of a research team including post-docs, graduate and undergraduate students.
- Responsibility of research grants obtained in competitive national and international calls.
- Establishment of national and international scientific collaborations.
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- Lecturing in the context of BSc and MSc courses of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences:
- Plant Genetics (BSc level, in Italian)
- Plant Molecular Biology (MSc level, in English)
- Development of crop ideotypes (MSc level, in English)
- Institutional roles as chair of DiSAA's Scientific Research Committee (since 2020), member of DiSAA's Joint Committee (2017-2020) and Self-Assessment Committees (since 2017),Steering Committee of PhD programme in Agriculture, Environment and Bioenergy (since 2015).

November 2008 – October 2018

Coordination of plant genomics research activities

Parco Tecnologico Padano (PTP, Lodi)

www.ptp.it

- Coordination of plant and agri-food research activities in the context of agreements between PTP and University of Milan.
- Coordination of research and development projects in crop genetics and genomics.
- Coordination of a research team including research scientists and technicians.
- Responsibility of research grants obtained in competitive national and international calls and private customers.
- Establishment of national and international scientific collaborations.
- Publication and dissemination of research outputs (ISI journals, international conferences and workshops).

Business or sector Scientific Research

March 2000 – September 2017

Research Scientist in Crop Genetics

University of Milan

Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (DiSAA)

- Coordination of research activities in crop genetics and genomics.
- Coordination of a research team including post-docs, graduate and undergraduate students.
- Responsibility of research grants obtained in competitive national and international calls.
- Establishment of national and international scientific collaborations.
- Publication and dissemination of research outputs (ISI journals, international conferences and workshops).
- Lecturing in the context of BSc and MSc courses of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences:
- Plant Genetics (BSc level, in Italian)
- Plant development and biotechnology (MSc level, in Italian)
- Plant genetics and breeding (BSc level, in Italian)
- Breeding applied to herbaceous crops (BSc level, in Italian).
- Institutional roles as member of DiSAA's steering committee (2012-2017) and the teaching board of the PhD programme (since 2003).

Business or sector University, Scientific Research

July 1996 – March 2000

Post-doctoral fellow

University of Oxford (UK)

Department of Plant Sciences

https://www.plants.ox.ac.uk/

- Research activity on genetic and molecular analysis of photosynthetic cell differentiation in grasses. Supervisor: Prof. Jane Langdale.
- Research assistant contract from the Department of Plant Sciences (July 1996 – September 1997)
- EMBO Post-doctoral long-term fellowship (October 1997 – June 1999)
- Fellowship from Accademia nazionale dei Lincei (June 1999 – March 2000)

Business or sector University, Scientific Research

March 1996 – June 1996

Post-doc

University of Milan

Department of Genetics and Microbiology

- Research activity on genetic and molecular analysis of herbicide tolerance in maize. Supervisor: Prof. Mirella sari Gorla.

Business or sector University, Scientific Research

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

November 1992 – 1996

PhD in Genetics

University of Milan

Department of Genetics and Microbiology

- Project: Genetic basis of herbicide tolerance in maize. Supervisor: Prof. Mirella sari Gorla.
  Plant Biotechnology Section, Jealott's Hill Research Centre, Zeneca, Bracknell (UK)

Research collaboration with Dr. Ian Jepson as part of the PhD project (March 1995 - Sept 1995).

Business or sector University, Scientific Research

November 1993

Biologist national habilitation

University of Milan

Department of Genetics and Microbiology

- Traineeship under the supervision of Prof. Mirella sari Gorla.

Business or sector University, Scientific Research

October 1987 – February 1992

University degree in Biological Sciences (110/110 cum laude)

University of Milan

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue: Italian

English

UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
Replace with name of language certificate. Enter level if known.				
Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level

Replace with language

Replace with language

Levels: A1/A2: Basic user - B1/B2: Independent user - C1/C2 Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Excellent command of both written and spoken English matured in over four years spent in the UK and continued daily use in both private and professional context.

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Communication skills

- Excellent written communication skills acquired from scientific writing in both English and Italian (publications, grant proposals).
- Excellent public speaking and oral communication skills in both Italian and English acquired through years of academic teaching, national and international seminars and conference presentations, interactions with partners of collaborative projects, public engagement activities (Fascination of Plants Day, European Researchers Night, etc.)
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Organisational / managerial skills

- Leadership – coordination of an international and multicultural research team including up to 15 people at different training levels.
- Scientific and administrative management and coordination of research projects as documented from grants awarded from national and international competitive calls.
- Capacity to relate and collaborate with people of diverse nationality and cultural background matured in multicultural environments in the UK, numerous international projects and collaborations and the presence of co-workers from different countries in the research team.

Job-related skills

- LR has over 30 years-experience in genetics and molecular biology of cereals with particular focus on developmental processes and plant architecture traits linked to agronomic performance in barley. Related interests include the use of genomic and molecular approaches and tools for analysis of natural and induced genetic diversity and gene isolation, analysis of regulatory mechanisms of gene expression, functional analysis of transcription factor families and developmental pathways. Over the past 15 years, LR also led the application of genomics-based approaches for genetic dissection and improvement of agronomic and fruit quality traits in peach – a model crop for the Rosaceae family. She and her team identified genes involved in spike architecture and meristem function, shoot branching and leaf size in barley, as well as maturity date and fruit traits in peach.
- In her present position she tutors and supervises students in plants genetics and genomics at BSc, MSc and PhD level, and leads and supports a research team with competences in molecular biology, biotechnology and genomics approaches, characterization of gene function through forward and reverse genetics, molecular markers, positional cloning, linkage and association mapping, allele mining analysis on NGS data, image analysis-based phenotyping of morphological traits, gene expression analyses.

Digital skills

SELF-ASSESSMENT				
Information processing	Communication	Content creation	Safety	Problem solving
Independent	Proficient	Proficient	Independent	Independent

Levels: Basic user - Independent user - Proficient user
Digital competences - Self-assessment grid

- Good command of Office suite (word processor, spread sheet, presentation software)
- Good command of software and databases for sequence analysis.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Publications

Up to date list at the following link https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6509-9177

Projects

- Principal Investigator of PRIN 2022 PNRR project iSMARTBAR (2023-2025)
- Partner of PRIN 2022 project RADICALS (2023-2025)
- Partner of Horizon Europe project BEST-CROP - Boosting photosynthESis To deliver novel CROPs for the circular bioeconomy (2023-2028)
- Partner of FACCE-JPI SusCrop ERANET project RecoBar - Recovering and Exploiting Old and New Barley Diversity for Future-Ready Agriculture (2023-2025)
- Co-Principal Investigator for University of Milan of Agritech Spoke 1 research activities https://agritechcenter.it (2022-2025)
- Partner of Italy-Israel MAECI project Plant-RED - Development of climate resilient crops under the global change scenario of the Mediterranean Basin (2021-2023)
- PI UNIMI SEED call project CLIMBER - Confronting CLIMate change impacts in BarlEy and Rice: a hormonal perspective on inflorescence development (2020-2021)
- Partner of FACCE-JPI SusCrop ERANET project BARISTA - Advanced tools for breeding BARley for Intensive and SusTainable Agriculture under climate change scenarios (2019-2022)
- PI of Italy-Iran mobility project Integrated approaches for the functional characterization of key developmental and adaptation genes in cereals - Pietro della Valle call funded by the Italian Ministry of Research (2018)
- Leader of WP dedicated to natural genetic diversity and allele mining in ERANET FACCE SURPLUS project BARPLUS (Modifying canopy architecture and photosynthesis to maximize barley biomass and yield for different end-uses, 2016-2019)
- Leader of exome sequencing task in EU FP7 project WHEALBI (Wheat and barley Legacy for Breeding Improvement, 2014-2018)
- Partner of ERANET+ FACCE JPI project ClimBar (Barley adaptation to climate change, 2015-2017)
- Co-PI of project BIOSORG (Diversifying and optimizing biomass sorghum value chains for Mediterranean and Semi-arid environments, Italy - France call funded by Fondazione Cariplo and Agropolis Foundation, 2014-2017)
- Responsible for genomic and biochemical characterization of sweet orange germplasm in IT-CITRUS GENOMICS, PON project (2012-2015)
- Partner of EU FP7 large collaborative project FruitBreedomics (2010-2015)
- Leader of WP Gene isolation and new allele discovery in TriticeaeGenome, EU FP7 project (2008-2012).
- Partner of project Comparative genomic approaches for the identification of candidate developmental genes in barley, funded by PRIN programme, Italian Ministry of Research (2005)

Invited seminars and conference talks (last 5 years)

- Genetic control of plant architecture in barley, invited webinar, International Barley Hub, March 24., 2022
- Genetics of barley plant architecture, invited speaker at 10th biennial conference of the Polish Society of Experimental Plant Biology “Experimental plant biology at various scales: from molecules to the environment”, Katowice (Poland), September 20-23, 2021 (online format)
- Design and realization of the multi-site PeachRefPop collection: an international research and breeding tool for fruit trees, invited speaker at «ISHS Peach webinar - Current trends and challenges on peach fruit production», 1-4/06/2021
- Design of ideotypes: architecture, development and phenology, invited seminar in the context of the course Breeding small grain cereal crops in a climate change scenario, International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (IAMZ) (Spain), 19-23/02/2018
- Mining the WHEALBI germplasm collection for variation in barley biomass-related genes and traits, BarPLUS workshop - Plant architecture traits and efficient energy assimilation for improved biomass and grain production in cereals, Katowice (Poland) 10-11/07/2019
- Hunting genes for barley shoot architecture through mutant and germplasm collections, invited speaker at international Barley Mutant Workshop, Dundee (UK) 25-27 June 2018, https://ics.hutton.ac.uk/ibmw2018/

Honours and Memberships

- Associate Editor of the Editorial Board of The Plant Genome (Wiley)
- Associate Editor of the Editorial Board of Plant Evolution and Development, Frontiers in Plant Science.
- Session chair LXII SIGA Annual Congress "Plant development and crop productivity for sustainable agriculture", Verona, 25-28 September 2018
- Session chair at International Barley Mutant Workshop, Dundee (UK), 25-27 June 2018
- Scientific Committee and session chair, Breeding cereals for sustainable agriculture EUCARPIA cereal section / IWIW2 meetings, Clermont Ferrand, March 19-22, 2018
- Invited lecturer at course BREEDING SMALL GRAIN CEREAL CROPS IN A CLIMATE CHANGE SCENARIO, Zaragoza (Spain), 19-23 February 2018
- Invited visiting scholar at University of Clemson (USA), 14-21 November 2015
- Associate professor national scientific habilitation (validity 27/11/2014 to 27/11/2020)
- Member of 9th Plant Genomics European Meeting board (Plant GEM), Istanbul, 4-8 Maggio 2011
- Member of Italian Society for Agricultural Genetics (http://geneticagraria.it/soci.asp?a_pag=2)
- Long-term post-doctoral fellowship (2 years) from European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO), 1997-1999
- Two-year fellowship from Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, 1999-2000
- Member of Genetical Society (UK): 1997-2000
- ISI journal referee https://publons.com/researcher/1310491/laura-rossini
- Ad hoc reviewer for competitive calls NWO Innovational Incentives Scheme / Talent Programme (NL), POR PUGLIA FESR-FSE 2014 / 2020 bando “Research for Innovation (REFIN) per l’individuazione dei progetti di ricerca”, Israel Ministry of Agriculture, BARD – The US-Israel Agricultural Research & Development Fund, Lund University.

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Personal information

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Date, 26/03/2024 Signature