About the authors

Paolo Ugo is a former Professor of Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry and, currently, honorary Senior Researcher at Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Italy). Paolo earned his doctorate degree in Industrial Chemistry in 1980. After working for two years in a pharmaceutical company, he started his academic carrier as Assistant Professor of Analytical Chemistry at the University of Venice in 1983. In 1987–88, he worked as visiting associate at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena. Prof. Ugo has been the coordinator of research projects concerning electrochemistry, chemical sensors and biosensors for environmental, food and health control, collaborating actively with several research institutions in Italy and abroad. He has authored more than 150 peer-reviewed scientific research articles and served as guest editor for various special issues of international journals on topics related to electroanalytical chemistry and biosensors.

Pietro Marafini studied Chemistry at Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Italy) and, as a part of an Erasmus Lifelong Learning Programme placement at the University of Southampton, he worked on nanostructured surfaces for DNA detection by SERS (surface-enhanced Raman scattering). He then completed a DPhil in Chemical Biology at the University of Oxford where he specialised in Nucleic Acid Chemistry, focusing on biophysical studies of chemically modified oligonucleotides. After his studies, Pietro joined Illumina where he worked on novel reagents and consumables for DNA sequencing as part of the Product Development and the Research and Technology Development teams. Pietro is currently Principal Scientist at CS Genetics, where he leads Chemistry and Chemical Biology R&D.

Marta Meneghello obtained her Bachelor and Master degrees in Chemistry at the Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Italy). After an Erasmus exchange at the University of Southampton (UK), she started a PhD programme, supported by an ITN Marie Curie fellowship, at the same university. Here, under the supervision of Prof. P. N. Bartlett, she worked on enzymatic biofuel cells and enzyme immobilisation for amperometric electrodes. After her PhD, in 2018 she started a post-doctoral research activity at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), in the group of C. Leger and V. Fourmond in Marseille, to study metalloenzymes using electrochemical methods.

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