



# yEFIS Elections 2021

## Welcome to the yEFIS elections!

After a very exciting year of constant growth and change, yEFIS is celebrating its first elections for the leading positions in the yEFIS Task Force.

Below you will find the candidates to our positions of spokesperson/deputy spokesperson and treasurer.

Remember that:

- Most voted candidate for spokesperson will become the spokesperson of yEFIS.
- Second most voted candidate for spokesperson will become the deputy spokesperson of yEFIS.
- Most voted candidate for treasurer will become the treasurer of yEFIS

## Important!

- You can only vote for one candidate per position (one vote for your candidate for spokesperson and one vote for your candidate for treasurer).
- You can only submit one response. Additional or incorrect responses will be deleted by our election committee.
- In order to keep the points mentioned above right, unfortunately we need to ask you to sign-in with a google account for the vote. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience that this might cause you.

## Link to voting system:

<https://forms.gle/VD5Ffnmpk5VK8oZT6>

**End of voting: 7th August at 22.00 (CET)**

---

## *Candidates for spokesperson*

---

### **Nathaniel Edward Bennett Saidu**



#### **What did you motivate to apply for this position?**

My name is Nathaniel Saidu, a postdoc working on innate lymphocyte-based strategies to predict and prevent acute graft-versus-host disease after HSCT with Prof. Marit InngJerdingen at the Oslo University Hospital in Oslo, Norway.

My motivation for applying for the position of spokesperson of the yEFSI stems from my belief that young early career immunologists (yECIs) need a voice, and I want to be that voice. I am passionate about the impact that societies such as yEFIS can have on the experience and career of an early stage researcher such as myself, and I want to promote this as much as I can.

#### **What would you can bring to yEFIS as spokesperson?**

I have experience in management skills along with organising and coordinating scientific meetings at both national and international levels. I therefore, want to use this yEFSI platform to interact with not only yECIs, but also immunologists who are at the peak of their careers, from different background across Europe, and to bring about change that will have a positive impact on the lives of these yECIs. I want to help showcase their research work, defend their interests and support their career development through outreach events such as newsletters, seminars, workshops and conferences; along with career development programmes that are tailor made for these yEFIS'.

## Rami Bechara



### **What did you motivate to apply for this position?**

I am Rami Bechara, postdoc at the University of Pittsburgh-USA and I am currently transitioning to an assistant professor position at Paris-Saclay University-France, starting September 2021. I am genuinely interested in the spokesperson position and would be honored to represent young and early career European immunologists. As recently reported in this nature paper ([shorturl.at/vxRSY](https://shorturl.at/vxRSY)), young researchers are in a much more precarious position than were previous generations. This situation was aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Indeed, we, as young and early career immunologists, dealt with prolonged research laboratory lockdowns and career development instability. Therefore, I strongly believe that there is a major unmet need for actions that support young immunologists and I am committed to take an active part in these actions. I am convinced that promoting yEFIS activities provides the opportunity to engage in decisions that support our career development and will hopefully continue to play a stimulating role in our scientific community.

### **What would you can bring to yEFIS as spokesperson?**

I am a dedicated and conscientious team player. I'm excited by all the challenges inherent in the spokesperson position and look forward to the opportunities it presents. Over the past year, I have coordinated multiple efforts that sustained yEFIS ongoing collaboration with the European Journal of Immunology, EJI (organizing editorial webinar, scientific writing, organizing EJI session at ECI 2021). Moreover, I lead actions that highlighted young immunologists during the International Day of Immunology (April 29th) in collaboration with EFIS, IUIS and Immunopaedia. Therefore, I am very familiar with yEFIS environment and I am always in touch with our collaborators (EFIS and EJI). In the future, I am committed to sustain the amazing work that the 2020-2021 yEFIS team has established. I am committed to develop actions that highlight young immunologists' achievements. Moreover, I would aspire to establish our first yEFIS scientific meeting. In addition, I believe that more actions should be taken by yEFIS to introduce young scientists to non-academic jobs. We are the next generation of immunologists and I will do my best to make our voices heard.

---

## *Candidate for treasurer*

---

### **Myriam Nabhan**



#### **What did you motivate to apply for this position?**

I am Myriam Nabhan, postdoctoral researcher at University College Dublin (UCD – Ireland). I recently moved from France where I completed my PhD in immunology at Paris-Saclay University. In 2020, I was delighted to hear about the creation of societies for young immunologists all over Europe and I joined yEFIS and the French Club of Young Immunologists (FCYI). Even though I haven't been an active member of the yEFIS this past year, I followed closely the different actions held to support young researchers. This year I wish to dedicate more of my time to the community of young and early career European immunologists and I am interested in the treasurer's position. I believe that the treasurer's role is essential in financing yEFIS activities and can help highlight and support the work of yEFIS for instance by getting funds through sponsorships, allocating travel grants and awards to yEFIS members.

#### **What would you can bring to yEFIS as treasurer?**

I am motivated, hard worker and appreciate working alongside my peers to get the job done in a fun, young and efficient setting. Throughout my 3 years as a PhD student, I was an active member of 2 associations for young researchers. I have experience in conference organization for young researchers as treasurer (2017-2018) and then vice-president (2018-2019) of the Young Researchers in Life Science (YRLS, <http://yrls.fr>) Federation and as president of the PhD students' association of my doctoral school (2017-2018). These experiences have helped build my team management, time and budget management skills as well as communication skills as I was in constant contact with the different parties essential for the conference: the organizing committee, the conference attendees, the keynote speakers and the sponsors. Moreover, over the past year and as an active member of the French Club of Young Immunologists, I had the opportunity to participate in the organization of

a series of monthly scientific webinars during which young immunologists presented their work in an enriching and open environment.

I am very excited for the opportunity to take part in yEFIS's actions to support young immunologists not only in their careers but also in their day-to-day experience in the research field.