

### Lígia O. MARTINS



**Assistant Professor**  
**Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica – Universidade Nova de Lisboa**

Lígia O. Martins is an experienced enzymologist and the Head of the Microbial and Enzyme Technology Laboratory at Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica – Universidade Nova de Lisboa. The main target of research is the design of biological systems for new functions, a key tenet of synthetic biology, by exploring the catalytic properties of multiple and engineered enzymes with impact in the Industrial Biotechnology and Biorefinery fields. A multidisciplinary approach has been followed to investigate bacterial oxidoreductive, including lignolytic, enzymes; laccases, metalloxidases, azo/quinone reductases, DyP ligninolytic peroxidases and recently, pyranose 2-oxidases, combining Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Enzymology, and Structural Biology.

#### Career background

Lígia O. Martins graduated in Biology and completed her PhD in Biotechnology in studies focused on the biosynthetic pathways of bacterial exopolysaccharides. During her postdoctoral period she had identified novel low molecular weight solutes using NMR in hyper-thermophilic microorganisms with a role in the thermo-stabilization. Seminal investigations of enzymes at the spore coat of *Bacillus subtilis* implicated in the extreme physicochemical resistance of dormant spores were performed as a basis of her independent career. 66 papers were published in international peer-reviewed journals (Google Scholar times cited: 3219, h-index: 30), 3 highlights in journal covers, 2 book chapters, 1 patent, 60+ oral and invited talks and 100+ poster communications in national and international scientific meetings. She led 6 research projects, 2 of which EC funded and acted as national delegate of two COST actions. She has supervised or is currently supervising 6 Post-docs, 7 PhD students and several post-graduate and undergraduate students. She lectured Microbiology and Microbial Technology courses and is currently in the Scientific Committee of the PhD Program in Sustainable Chemistry jointly hosted by Aveiro, Porto and NOVA Universities and is responsible for Biocatalysis Curricular Unit.

#### Current/past Chairs/Committees/Boards served on

- Member of the Scientific Committee of the Oxizymes Conference
- Member of editorial board of PLOS ONE, BMC Biotechnology and Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology, Environmental Science and Microbiology
- Expert reviewer for the EC in FP7 and Horizon 2020 calls