

Agents of Change Judging Panel

Meet the team judging the Agents of Change grant awards. The judging panel will evaluate proposals based on the criteria need for nomination:

- What the initiative intends to achieve and what it has achieved so far (if applicable)
- How the award money would help to support the initiative
- The data sources used to identify the need for the initiative, and the data sources that will be used to evaluate the initiative
- How the project will continue beyond the initial grant
- The potential impact of the initiative and why the grant of the award would be significant for the initiative.

Charlotte Berrezueta



Charlotte Berrezueta Palacios is a Ph.D. candidate in physics at the Freie Universität Berlin, specializing in low-dimensional materials using Raman spectroscopy. Originally from the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, she earned her B.Sc. in nanotechnology engineering at Yachay Tech University before completing an M.Sc. in physics at the Freie Universität Berlin, where she continues her research in Prof. Stephanie Reich's laboratory, focusing on 2D nanostructured materials, a field she has been working in since 2020. In addition to her academic pursuits, Charlotte is dedicated to science outreach. She co-chairs the Nanoscience Summer School at Yachay Tech (NSSY), a conference held in the Galapagos Islands that promotes student development and community engagement. She received the 2023 Materials Today Agents of Change Award for her contributions to NSSY.

Vishal Chaudhary



Dr Vishal Chaudhary has been working as an assistant professor at the Bhagini Nivedita College, University of Delhi, India, since 2018. He is an expert in the field of green semiconductors at the nanoscale for One Health management, with a special focus on breath-based diagnosis, environmental sensors and waste-water remediation. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed articles, 4 authored books, and 3 edited books in reputed journals. He has been recognised as Top 2% of Scientists in both 2023 and 2024 by the Stanford University List and is also serving as an associate editor and review editor in significant journals. He founded “The Happy Mentals Club” after battling depression during his doctorate tenure and started to aid the research community, especially students, for mental health-related help through his public talks and club events. He is the recipient of the 2023 Materials Today Agents of Change Award due to his dedicated work in the field of mental health for

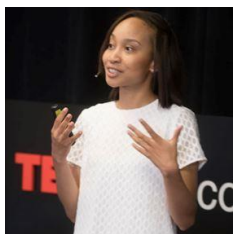
researchers. Currently, he is aiming to establish mental health clubs in academic and research institutes, examine the prevalence of mental health issues by conducting a survey during his talk and examining its causative factors, correlate mental health concerns with environmental factors, develop non-invasive biosensors to screen mental health, root out the stigma related to mental health, especially in LGBTQI+ community, and developing awareness on suicide prevention through his club and institute collaborative initiatives.

Barbara Rothen



Prof. Dr. Barbara Rothen-Rutishauser has received her Ph.D. in 1996 in cell biology at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETHZ). She worked as postdoc and group leader at ETHZ and University of Bern, Switzerland. She is an expert in the field of cell-nanoparticle interactions, with a special focus on human 3D tissue models. Since 2011 she is the chair in BioNanomaterials at the Adolphe Merkle Institute (AMI), University of Fribourg, Switzerland, the position is shared equally with Prof. Alke Fink. Prof. Rothen-Rutishauser has published more than 300 peer-reviewed papers and is associate editor of “Particle and Fibre Toxicology”. She is the recipient for the 2019 Materials Today Agents of Change Award with Dr. S. Martin Caba and Prof. A. Fink from the University of Fribourg.

Lanell Williams



LaNell A. Williams is a PhD Candidate and NSF GRFP Fellow at Harvard University. She is also our Tutor Coordinator! Her research focuses on understanding the self assembly of RNA-Viruses, in particular, the Bacteriophage MS2. She graduated from Wesleyan University with her BA in physics, and she went on to receive her MA in physics from Fisk University before going to Harvard. LaNell has also been heavily involved in programming with the National Society of Black Physicists (NSBP). Additionally, she serves on the American Physical Society Council of Representatives representing the Forum on Graduate Students & the Forum on Early Careers. She's the founder of the Women+ of Color Project and hopes to encourage more BIWOC to pursue academic careers.

Domiziana Francescon



Partnerships Director, The Elsevier Foundation

Domiziana Francescon serves as the Elsevier Foundation's Partnerships Director and is a strong supporter of the company's Corporate Responsibility program. She also works as Program Director for Elsevier's externally focused partnerships, especially in sustainability and Inclusion & Diversity spaces. Additionally, Domiziana is the Co-Chair of the Communications team of Research4Life, a UN-publisher partnership to bridge access gaps for researchers and doctors in developing countries. Domiziana obtained a master's degree in Book and Digital Media Studies at Leiden University in the Netherlands, with a specialization in Publishing Studies.

Feng Jiang



Feng (Mike) Jiang received his PhD in Inorganic Chemistry from Leiden University in 2018, in collaboration with Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. He then worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the same institutes for a short period before joining Elsevier's Amsterdam office as a managing editor in January 2020. In this role, he was responsible for the pre-screening of a portfolio of physical journals. Since 2021, he has served as a publisher of materials science at Elsevier, overseeing a portfolio of general materials science journals, including part of the Materials Today family, Materials Science and Engineering R, Journal of Materiomics, Journal of Alloys and Compounds, Computational Materials Science, and Materials Science and Engineering B, to name a few here.

For more details regarding the Agents of Change Awards please click [here](#).