

Process engineering

Ioannis Papantoniou

Ioannis Papantoniou is a Principle Investigator at the Institute of Chemical Engineering Sciences, Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (FORTH), Greece, while he is also visiting Professor at the Prometheus division of Skeletal Tissue Engineering, Department of Development and Regeneration of KU Leuven. He is a Chemical engineer by training aiming to develop bioprocesses that will enable biomanufacturing of functional skeletal implants. His research aim is to engineer progressively complex yet autonomous skeletal 3D living implants adopting technological breakthroughs in automation technologies and organoid platforms. His research activities have resulted in 1 granted patent, 3 book chapters, 40 peer reviewed journal publications and more than 60 conference presentations to date. He is scientific coordinator of the H2020 project Jointpromise and is member of the advisory board of Cell and Gene Therapy Insights a key opinion journal in the industrial cell and gene therapy field. He has collaborated and consulted multiple industrial partners on technology-based bioprocesses for scale-up and automation for cell-based products as well as automated manufacturing of tissue products.

Bastian Nießing

Bastian Nießing is group leader of the group "Automation in the Life Sciences" at the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology. I completed my bachelor's degree at the University of Applied Sciences in Aachen and was able to gain a lot of practical experience here. Afterwards, I deepened my scientific knowledge in the field of biomaterials and biomechanics through my master's degree in medical engineering at the University of Stuttgart. During my master thesis I had my first contact in the field of laboratory automation and developed a universal method for programming a Hamilton liquid handler. As a scientific assistant at the Fraunhofer IPT, I continued to work in the field of laboratory automation and, together with the project management of the StemCellFactory, developed a procedure for automated genome editing. Since March 2020, I have been group leader of the newly established group "Automation in the Life Sciences" and now focus on building up and expanding this group in order to continue to carry out excellent research and industrial projects at the Fraunhofer IPT.