

# Foreword

Between the 10 and 12 October 2019, it was held in Porto in the School of Arts of *Universidade Católica Portuguesa* the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of Green Conservation of Cultural Heritage, organized by the Research Centre of Science and Technology of the Arts (CITAR) and the Centre of Biotechnology and Fine Chemistry (CBQF)

The chairs of this conference were Eduarda Vieira (CITAR), Patricia Moreira (CITAR/CBQF), Manuela Pintado (CBQF) and Andrea Macchia (Yococu-Italy).

The event registered the attendance of large number of speakers and participants (circa 130) from different European, Asian and Latin American countries (21 in total), as well many professionals and students.

The Conference was divided in different work and poster sessions covering a wide range of topics related with Cultural Heritage:

- Biotechnology and Bio-based products for conservation;
- Green chemistry and Biotechnology;
- Innovative Methods and Strategies;
- Sustainability in the conservation practice: case studies;
- Sustainable Conservation.

We would like to highlight the keynotes that contributed to the high quality of the event such as Manuela Pintado (CBQF) who spoke about *The circular economy: opportunity to obtain eco-friendly processes and new-value added bioproducts*. From United Kingdom, David Thicket (English Heritage) gave us a novel approach of *Sustainable collection environments*. In the second day we had the collaboration of Maria Mosquera (Cadiz University, Spain) from the European TEP-243 Nanomaterial Group who spoke of the project *Nanotechnology for Preserving Concrete Heritage*. Connecting the conference with the ICOM working group of Climate Change, Morien Rees (Varengen Museum, Norway) focused on the role of museums within the climate change challenge with the lecture *On Navigating a perfect moral storm. Climate breakdown and a global museum institution*.

The articles published in the present Special Issue were reviewed both by members of the conference scientific committee: Daniel Oliveira, David Thicket, Eduarda Vieira, Frederico Henriques, Maria Mosquera and Rui Bordalo and by invited reviewers such as Amélia Dionísio (IST), Ana Calvo (UCM, Spain), Cláudia Carvalho (Rui Barbosa Museum, Brazil), Cláudia Ferreira (FEUP, UP, Portugal), Clara Vale (FAUP, IP, Portugal), João Guedes (FEUP, UP, Portugal), Maria Gato (ISCTE, Portugal)

The publication of this Special Issue on Green Conservation and the organization of this conference highlight the strong commitment of CITAR's research focus area of Heritage, Conservation and Restoration with the 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges towards the Cultural Heritage Study, Preservation and Management, and the partnership with YOCOCU Italy in the promotion of new approaches for Cultural Heritage research and expertise.

**Eduarda Vieira**  and **Patricia Moreira** 

*Conference chairs*

*ECR- Studies in Conservation and Restoration editors*

*CITAR- Research Centre of Science and Technology, School of Arts*

*Youth in Conservation of Cultural Heritage- YOCOCU- Portugal association*

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