

**Dear Sirs/Madams**  
**EACR Council Nominating Committee**

Porto, February 25, 2011

Subject: **Motivation Letter for a seat on the EACR Council in representation of Portugal**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a member of EACR since 2002, organization to which I applied after the completion of my Ph.D. thesis, partially performed at the USA. During my stay in the US, I realized the importance of the organization of researchers dedicated to cancer research in scientific societies which may enable the construction of networks enabling knowledge and experience exchange, as well as representation before the public. For that reason I became a member of AACR in 1999 and after returning to Europe the membership of EACR was the obvious path to follow.

My main research interest in Cancer Epigenetics applied to biomarker development in urological cancer. Although this might be seen as a relatively narrow field in cancer, I develop my research activities at the largest oncology center in Portugal, the Portuguese Oncology Institute – Porto, a member of OEI, with a governmentally recognized Research Centre (rated as Very Good in the last evaluation), in which I coordinate the Cancer Epigenetics Group. The Center has also active research groups in Cancer Genetics, Molecular Oncology, Experimental Pathology and Medical Physics / Radiation Protection (<http://sites.google.com/site/ipoportoresearchcenter/researchgroups/cancerepigenetics>). Thus, we have a substantial exposure to different research areas in Oncology and the possibility to rapidly translate them to the clinics. In addition, I hold the position of Associate Professor at the University of Porto, the largest university in Portugal, thus making a close connection between research and teaching activities.

In Portugal, there is no specific society dedicated to Cancer Research. The foundation of such society could strengthen the existing cancer research

networks already existing in Portugal and foster their collaboration with international research teams. This is an motivating challenge which might be accomplished with the support of EACR and to which I would like to contribute.

Thank you for considering my application to the EACR Council in representation of Portugal.

Sincerely,

Carmen Jerónimo

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