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Dipartimento di
Biologia Cellulare, Computazionale e Integrata

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Dear SIBBM President,

Dear SIBBM Members,

It is with great enthusiasm that I am submitting my candidacy as a Member of the SIBBM Executive Committee.

I have been a member of this Scientific Society since 2013, having participated in its conferences and workshops since much before. During these years I attempted to increase my active contribution to SIBBM's life: in 2014 I was one of the local organisers of the SIBBM Meeting, which was held in Trento; in December 2019 I contributed to organize a SIBBM Lecture at the University of Trento. Now that life and circumstances allow me to get involved even further, I am motivated to give back to the Italian Molecular Biology Community in general, and SIBBM in particular, what they have been contributing to my personal and professional growth since the years of my undergraduate studies.

I believe that our community greatly benefits from the diversity of identities and ways of thinking of its components: gender, scientific background, age, language, work environment, geography. I appreciate the **inclusiveness** policies of SIBBM, and I intend to prompt and support them even further so that Scientists with different identities feel valued, leveraged, and welcomed within SIBBM.

Science is today impossible on a purely national basis, and Molecular Biology makes no difference. The **international** character of SIBBM is one of the aspects I appreciate more in our Society: the use of English as a common language, the sponsoring of



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visiting fellowships, travel grants and lectures, the international guest speakers in our Conferences. I will work to reinforce the international dimension of our Society.

I have always appreciated the commitment of SIBBM in **Science Communication**, and even more during the COVID-19 pandemic. Indeed 2020 has been a terrible year for all of us, but for an RNA Molecular Biologist as myself it has also been the impressive year in which two unprecedented RNA-based vaccines are being developed and used against an RNA virus! Never as today, I felt the duty, as a citizen who also is a scientist and a scientist who is also a citizen, of being a skilled Science Communicator, to help people navigate through these difficult times with rationality and insight: "Is the virus mutating?"; "Is the vaccine safe?"; "Where does the virus come from?". I am determined to contribute to the dissemination and communication tasks of SIBBM, and to support its role in forming and informing policy makers.

Finally, I highly value the **multidisciplinarity** that characterises our Scientific Society, whose members daily integrate Molecular Biology with neighbouring disciplines such as Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, Structural Biology, Biophysics etc., in a vibrating environment which produces outstanding Science. Multidisciplinarity is not easy, however, as people from different backgrounds need to “learn to speak a common language”. To that end, I believe that SIBBM will have an instrumental role in the education of new generations of multidisciplinary scientists, also through the organization of Courses and Workshops.

In conclusion, I express my availability to serve as Counsellor for the SIBBM for the next three years and I look forward to the coming challenges and opportunities.

In faith,

Michela Alessandra Denti, PhD