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We are pleased to announce that the winner of the 2019 Young Investigator Award, sponsored by MDPI and *Biomolecules*, is **Dr Azzurra Stefanucci**.

2019 BIOMOLECULES YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

WINNER

Azzurra Stefanucci received her Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences in 2012 from the University “G. d’Annunzio” Chieti under the supervision of Prof. Enrico Pinnen, working on the synthesis and characterization of opioid peptide analogues and natural bioactive compounds. During her research studies, she joined the group of Prof. J. Nowick with a junior scientist fellowship at the University of California-Irvine, working on β -sheet analogues of ARC repressor in collaboration with the University of Santiago De Compostela-Spain. After completing her Ph.D., she served as a Postdoc at the Department of Pharmacy of the University G. D’Annunzio and then in the Department of Chemistry of “La Sapienza” Rome under the supervision of Prof. Rinaldo Marini Bettolo. In 2016, she conducted a two-year Postdoc fellowship at the Department of Pharmacy of the University G. d’Annunzio, studying biphalin analogues and bioactive peptides from natural sources. Her research experience encompasses topics ranging from molecular modeling of FPPS inhibitors and SPPS and natural product synthesis to small molecule functionalization. She is currently studying the design, synthesis, and characterization of new potential drug candidates with a remarkable antinociceptive profile for targeting opioid and cannabinoid systems.

Dr. Vladimir N. Uversky
Editor-in-Chief, *Biomolecules*