

UNIVERSEH Mentoring Programme 2026-2027

Mentors list – By Alphabetical Order



for UNIVERSEH.

BRETSCHNEIDER Sonja **Project Manager for UNIVERSEH**

A teacher of over 20 years experience on three continents, Sonja has started her own business teaching presentation and writing skills, as well as other soft skills. She is currently using her networking skills as her university's stakeholder manager and manages the innovation initiatives



BRETSCHNEIDER Timo **Former Academic & Innovation Professional, PhD**

Timo did his PhD on remote sensing, was a professor for computer engineering at NTU in Singapore, and then the manager for Airbus' innovation centre in Southeast Asia, as well as Singapore's lead public sector agency for science, technology, and research.



CRUZ Eduardo **Country Manager & Business Developer at AIRMO – MBA**

Eduardo Cruz is an experienced leader in the space sector, combining technological expertise, business development, and international management. Currently Country Manager & Business Developer at AIRMO, he previously worked at the University of Luxembourg, GomSpace, CGI, and the European Space Agency. His career has taken him from software engineering to senior leadership roles, managing teams, complex projects, and international customer relationships. With an MBA and a strong background in computer engineering and space systems, Eduardo brings extensive expertise in leadership, innovation, negotiation, and technology transfer.



GATKOWSKA Martyna

EO Expert; Partnership Development Director, IAC 2027 Local Organising Committee, PhD

Martyna Gatkowska is a satellite remote sensing expert with 15 years of experience in the space sector. She served as the European Space Agency's Business Ambassador to Poland and as an EO Expert at the Executive Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture. Her interests revolve around EO data applications for agriculture, insurance, natural hazards management, etc. She specializes in obtaining funds for research and innovation projects from the European Space Agency and the European Commission, as well as business model and pitch deck preparation.



LUPA Michał

Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Space Technologies, AGH; Principal Data Engineer, Spyrosoft – PhD

Michał Lupa is the Head of the Remote Sensing Research Group at the Faculty of Space Technology, AGH University of Krakow. He has over 15 years of experience in designing and delivering advanced IT systems based on Earth Observation (EO) data. During his career, he has led projects for key national and international institutions, including ESA, UK Space Agency, Ordnance Survey (UK), the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography (Poland), the Institute of Meteorology and Water Management – National Research Institute (Poland), the Geospatial Commission (UK), and UK Research and Innovation. His work focuses on satellite data analysis, machine learning, and geospatial technologies.



O'DONNELL Scarlet

Senior Space Law Consultant at BHO Legal, International Institute of Space Law (IISL) Director

Scarlet is a specialist in international space law. She worked with the German Space Agency Mentoring (DLR) as a Scientific Advisor, including a secondment by DLR to the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA). She also worked as a consultant for UNOOSA under the Space Law for New Space Actors Project, advising States on national space law and policy. She's currently a Senior Space Law Consultant at BHO Legal and the International Institute of Space Law (IISL) Director.



PARASOLE Gianluca **Junior Research Fellow at ESPI**

Gianluca is a space policy researcher with a strong background in law and international space affairs. Currently a Junior Research Fellow at the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI), seconded by the Italian Space Agency (ASI), he contributes to research on space sustainability, European and national space policies, and space applications for environmental challenges. His experience includes legal and policy analysis, stakeholder engagement, data analysis, and research on emerging space ecosystems. With a Master's degree in Law and postgraduate specialisation in Space Policies and Institutions, Gianluca brings valuable expertise in ESA and EU programmes, international space law, sustainability, and Earth observation, offering insightful perspectives on policy-oriented careers within the European space sector.



RANA Loveneesh **Founder & CEO of SPAIDER SPACE, PhD**

Loveneesh Rana is an experienced leader in the space sector, combining expertise in aerospace engineering, artificial intelligence, strategic innovation, and entrepreneurship. Currently Founder & CEO of SPAIDER SPACE, he previously led the Concurrent Design Facility at the University of Luxembourg and contributed to projects with NASA, the U.S. Department of Energy, and the U.S. Air Force. His career spans space systems design, multidisciplinary R&D, technology strategy, and decision support. With a PhD in Aerospace Engineering and a strong background in strategy and innovation, Loveneesh brings extensive expertise in leadership, systems engineering, AI, entrepreneurship, and the development of innovative solutions for the space industry.



SCHÜRMEYER Ilana

M.Sc. student in Industrial Biotechnology - TUM

Ilana is currently an M.Sc. student in Industrial Biotechnology at the Technical University of Munich (TUM). During her bachelor's in biology, she initiated and led the REXUS/BEXUS team SpiCy, launching their biological experiment on the BEXUS34 stratospheric balloon mission. Alongside her studies, she co-founded NivoCell, a DNA synthesis service, and gained experience through her role as a systems engineer for the EPFL Spacecraft Team and multiple corporate internships.



SHASHKOVA Elizaveta

Research Fellow seconded by CNES at ESPI

After a bachelor's degree in physics at the University of Strasbourg, Elizaveta did a Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering at ISAE-SUPAERO in Toulouse. In 2022, the International Astronautical Federation selected her as one of the 30 Emerging Space Leaders for her paper on an AI-based assistant for astronauts based on her work at the Spaceship FR team in CNES, the French Space Agency. Additionally, she participated in the European Student Assembly 2022 to help draft higher education recommendations for the European Parliament. Former UNIVERSEH student and first President of the Student Council, Elizaveta is now a UNIVERSEH Alumni-Pioneers member, alongside her role on the Advisory Board. She currently works as a Research Fellow seconded by CNES at the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI), in Vienna (Austria), on topics related to space education and exploration in Europe.



VÁZQUEZ MARTÍN Sandra

Customer Project Manager, Unibap Space Solutions, PhD

Sandra combines a strong scientific background in physics and astrophysics with expertise in atmospheric science developed through her PhD. Passionate about science, space, technology and innovation, she is currently a Customer Project Manager at Unibap Space Solutions, where she coordinates projects, supports international customers, and works across cross-functional teams to translate technical expertise into effective project delivery and customer value. Prior to joining Unibap, Sandra worked as a Project Manager at SSC Space, where she led international missions, coordinated cross-functional and multicultural teams, and fostered collaboration between academia and industry. She brings experience in developing partnerships, supporting teams, and working at the intersection of science, technology and business. Strongly committed to gender diversity and inclusion in the space sector, Sandra also has previous mentoring experience through Women in Space Sweden, where she supported women in their career development, professional growth and networking, demonstrating a genuine commitment to empowering others.



YEMSI-PAILLISSE Anne-Claire

Associate professor at ISTHIA (Institute for Tourism, Hospitality and Food studies sectors) at the University Toulouse Jean Jaurès, specializing in Hispanic Studies and Gastronomy through an interdisciplinary approach, PhD, MBA

Anne-Claire is an Associate Professor at the University of Toulouse with a multidisciplinary background combining humanities, management and innovation. She holds a PhD in Humanities and an MBA in General Management. During several years in Germany, she worked as a corporate researcher in design and marketing for a start-up developing eVTOLs — electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft — and bringing them to market. As a mentor, she can support students in exploring career paths, interdisciplinary profiles, international mobility, and transitions between academia and industry.