

# RDA Technical Advisory Board Elections 2023

## Nominated Candidates

### Dr Rossella Aversa



Researcher, KIT-SCC  
Germany

*I got a Ph.D. in Astrophysics at the International School of Advanced Studies (SISSA-ISAS) in Trieste (Italy) in 2015. In the same town, I finalized my studies with a Master in High Performance Computing (MHPC) in 2016, and I worked as a postdoc at the National Council of Research - Istituto di Officina dei Materiali (CNR-IOM) for three years, acquiring experience in machine learning techniques applied to nanoscience and in research data management. I currently work in the Data Exploitation Methods group at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) in Karlsruhe (Germany). I'm coordinating the Metadata Management activities and leading the Virtual Access in the European project Nanoscience Foundries and Fine Analysis Europe Pilot (NEP). I'm leading the Metadata Working Group in the Joint Lab "Integrated Model and Data Driven Materials Characterization" (MDMC) of the Helmholtz Association. I'm member of the Task Area Materials Data Infrastructure of the NFDI-MatWerk Consortium.*

*As I've done for two years, I would like to contribute to the TAB with my expertise on data and metadata management, especially in the Materials Science domain.*

Region: Europe and Africa

Discipline: Natural Sciences

### Dr Daniel Bangert



Librarian, 4TUResearchData  
Netherlands

*Dr Daniel Bangert is Director of 4TU.ResearchData, an international data repository for science, engineering and design, based in the Netherlands. I have a background in open science and research data across a range of national and institutional contexts, including working in Ireland on national open science policy and coordination as National Open Research Coordinator, and positions in Germany and Australia supporting open science in European projects and academic libraries. My research background is in musicology, digital humanities, and information management. Previous Board experience includes serving on the Board of the Council for National Open Science Coordination*

*(CoNOSC) and the governance bodies of Ireland's National Open Research Forum (NORF).*

*My involvement in RDA includes supporting RDA Europe and its network of national nodes from 2018 to 2020, contribution to Secretariat, and serving as co-chair of the National PID Strategies WG from 2021 to 2023. Further RDA contributions include the Libraries for Research Data IG (Top 10 FAIR data and software things) and the CODATA-RDA Schools for Research Data Science (data steward school). Through these activities, I have developed a sound understanding of RDA's values, processes and breadth of activities, and have enjoyed engaging and working with members of RDA's global community. RDA is an important, supportive and inclusive forum for data professionals to learn from each other and solve shared challenges, and I am keen to support its further development and success.*

*As a TAB member I would support the community by engaging with membership and facilitating the processes and promotion of RDA's Working Groups, Interest Groups and Communities of Practice. I would also bring experience in consensus building and strategy development from previous roles to help advance RDA's Strategic Plan 2024-2028. I am particularly interested in RDA's strategic areas related to global capacity, regional engagement, sustainability and supporting leadership, as these will be crucial for organisational growth, capacity building and empowering current and future community leaders.*

Region: Europe and Africa

Discipline: Humanities

### **Dr Louise Bezuidenhout**



Senior Researcher, Leiden University  
Netherlands

*I am a social science researcher who specializes on issues relating to Open Science, data sharing and access. My work is broadly oriented around themes such as justice and access, inclusion and marginalization and equity. Much of my work to date has concentrated on identifying ways to improve the inclusion of low/middle-income country researchers into the Open Science landscape. As a South African, I am passionate about the potential for Open Science to advance truly global research. I feel that my areas of specialty would be complimentary to the work of TAB, in particular being able to contribute to the support of the growing number of IGs and WGs focusing on the social sciences, ethics and training. I am a long-standing member of the RDA and have been an active member of a number of IGs and WGs. In particular, I have been involved in the CODATA-RDA Schools for Research Data Science since their 2016 launch, and have been a co-chair since 2018. I have also recently served as the co-chair of the RDA Organizational Assembly. This year I have been an active member of the RDA TIGER project, working to provide support services to RDA WGs. These different opportunities to contribute to the RDA community have given me a good understanding of the community structure, something that will assist in making a meaningful contribution to TAB. I hold PhDs in cardiothoracic surgery (University of Cape Town, RSA) and sociology (University of Exeter, UK). I have held postdoctoral research posts at the Universities of Exeter (UK), Notre Dame (USA), Oxford (UK) and Cape Town (RSA). I have also held lectureships at University College London (UK), University of the Witwatersrand (RSA) and the University of Oxford (UK). Until recently I have been working for the Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS) in The Netherlands as a research data*

*expert on projects relating to the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC). As of November I will be moving to the Centre for Science and Technology Studies (CWTS) at the University of Leiden as a senior researcher.*

Region: Europe and Africa

Discipline: Social Sciences

### **Dr Marek Cebecauer**



Researcher, J. Heyrovsky Institute of Physical Chemistry in Prague  
Czech Republic

*My scientific career has been interdisciplinary ever since I started experimenting in my father's laboratory. The central theme has always been the human immune system, encompassing biochemistry, molecular and clinical immunology. More recently, I've incorporated biophysical approaches and the development of tools utilizing two-dimensional nanomaterials.*

*In 2021, I joined the RDA, and a year later, I was appointed as the RDA/EOSC Future Ambassador for the Materials Sciences and Engineering Domain. I am an active member of all relevant Interest Groups (IGs) and Working Groups (WGs). Currently, I am contributing to the establishment of three new WGs focused on harmonizing standards and tools for research data management. In the Czech Republic, I serve as the founding chair of the Czech EOSC WG for Materials Sciences and Engineering, bringing together like-minded enthusiasts dedicated to advancing FAIR data and Open Science principles in a community that has historically been less engaged. Through my extensive involvement in RDA (participation in plenaries and WGs) and EOSC Task Forces, I also spearhead the automation of data management processes in the Czech research data ecosystem.*

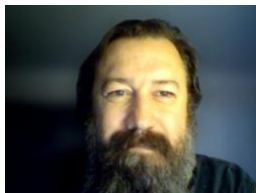
*While the RDA is an invaluable source of information and a platform for supportive peers, it faces several challenges in fulfilling its mission. Uneven engagement across domains and regions, low implementation of IG/WG outputs, and a disproportionate focus on large research infrastructures have constrained its impact on the broader research community. With the understanding that TAB members should not advocate for specific interests, my goal would be to represent the voices of underrepresented communities in the TAB by offering constructive feedback to Communities of Practice (CoPs), IGs, WGs, and Birds of a Feather (BoFs). This includes three main objectives: i) enhancing inclusivity across diverse RDA groups and communities, ii) facilitating the dissemination of RDA activities to underrepresented researchers and regions, and iii) maximizing the integration of RDA outputs into daily workflows of researchers, regardless of their affiliations.*

*Additionally, leveraging my effective communication skills and collaborating with fellow TAB members, I aim to facilitate the convergence of diverse groups and communities in RDA, resulting in its more transparent structure. I firmly believe that non-invasive guidance can lead to a reduction in RDA granularity, ultimately fostering increased engagement of new RDA members and introducing fresh topics for discussion within the RDA community.*

Region: Europe and Africa

Discipline: Engineering and Technology

## Dr Romain David



Researcher, ERINHA AISBL (European Research Infrastructure on Highly Pathogenic Agents)  
France

*Romain DAVID, PhD, Health Sciences communities, background in océanography and data mining -  
Marine - Terrestrial Ecology - Agronomy*

*I am a researcher and data steward at ERINHA (European Research Infrastructure on Highly Pathogenic Agents). My professional rôle is to develop good data management practices, to implement data catalogs and FAIR-compliant data resources in the framework of ERINHA, an European Research Infrastructure federating Biosafety Level 4 laboratories.*

*My work concerns large-scale interoperation of observation and experimentation systems coupled with information systems (before on terrestrial and marine (agro)ecosystems, now in health sciences with a focus on pathogenic agents). This includes the dissemination of life science knowledge and data sharing practices for meta-analyses. I am particularly interested in new methods of data mining and data representation in the form of graphs to analyze heterogeneous data, and in metadata schemas, data annotation, data quality and semantic interoperability topics. I am also a FAIR data management and open science addict and "Data Management Plan with FAIR Compliance" evangelizer.*

*I have been a long-time member of the RDA (first attendance to the RDA Ninth Plenary Meeting), co-chair of several IGs (SHARC (SHAring for Rewarding and Credits), PDS (Professionalising Data Stewardship), SD (Sensitive Data)). I was also involved in the FAIR Data Maturity Model WG as an active member carrying 4 case studies for its report and in the Agro Semantic WG as its recommendation co-author. I was also involved in several other outputs and RDA-linked papers (e.g. published in CoDATA Data Science Journals).*

*Through my investment in the TAB, I would like to improve the tools for monitoring and supporting activity in RDA groups and improve the coordination of groups and communities. As a future member of the TAB, I would like to encourage the adoption of the RDA results by different networks. My experience should also enable me to help the activity of groups through the transmission of animation methods such as "radical collaboration" [see <https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/articles/1-69>].*

*I was involved in several international projects and research teams working as a data steward and researcher in CNRS, IFREMER, INRAE and finally ERINHA so in several networks (oceanography, ecology, agriculture and now health sciences). I should be able to help build bridges between communities as a TAB member. I wish to continue to invest in the development of multidisciplinary research programs and partnerships involving scientists, public actors and all other stakeholders adopting all the principles of RDA and RDA good practices & recommendations.*

*At the global level, I am part of the data strand of the PARSEC project involving Americans, Australians, Brazilians, French, Japanese researchers in meta-analyse researches and data handling methods at a large scale;*

*At the European level, I am a Work Package and Task Leader in several european projects linked to*

*European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) like ISIDORE (Integrated Services for Infectious Diseases Outbreak Research), By-COVID (The BeYond-COVID project aims to make COVID-19 data accessible), and I have driven a “radical” collaboration demarch in the framework of EOSC-Life bringing 13 European LS Research Infrastructures together that I would take as a model for future collaboration building in the framework of RDA [see <https://doi.org/10.15252/embj.2023115008>]. I am active in EOSC as a representative of ERINHA, a Member of the EOSC Task Force FAIR Metrics and Data Quality, participating also in the Semantic Interoperability Task Force work. I am a member of FDO Forum and involved as a FAIR champion of the FAIR Impact project. Our work always starts by drawing a landscape of FAIR and semantic practices so I have a good understanding and knowledge of the level of practices of several communities in these domains, that would be useful for my TAB involvement and contribution. At the French level, I am co-chairing of the list "RDA France FAIR" that is a relay for news about FAIR towards the French community, with the 24th letter published and available on the FAIR France group webpage of the RDA website [see <https://www.rd-alliance.org/group/rda-france/wiki/lettres-rda-france-fair>].*

*In the next 4 years, I will also be a WP leader in the OSCARS project that will promote Competence Centers development and harmonization in research data handling and reuse through 5 Europeans research clusters (EOSC-Life, ENVRI, SSHOC, PaNOSC and ESCAPE). This demarch would be positively linked and synchronized with others worldwide using the RDA framework.*

*For all these reasons, I am a candidate for the next RDA TAB Elections.*

Region: Europe and Africa

Discipline: Medical and Health Sciences

## **Dr Anupama Gururaj**



Program Officer, NIH/NIAID  
United States

*I am a Program Officer at National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, US with expertise in data and repository management as well as data discovery and data sharing strategies. I oversee the management of a biomedical domain specific repository currently. My background involves stints as a wet-lab, bench researcher in the cancer research space as well as clinical informatics researcher focusing on NLP, data-mining and management of software development. My interests are currently in the area of clinical and immunological data sharing, models and data harmonization.*

*I have been a member of RDA since January, 2015 and have been involved in various working groups and interest groups, as both a researcher and part of a funding organization. I have also been a co-chair of a Working group that completed its work recently. I hope to leverage my scientific and technical expertise, my experience as a researcher and the requirements that I noticed as a co-chair and member of groups in RDA to help and serve the RDA community.*

Region: Americas

Discipline: Medical and Health Sciences



## Dr Laurel Haak



CEO / Managing Director / Chief Executive, Mighty Red Barn  
United States

*Laure Haak (she/they) is an entrepreneur, strategist, researcher, and author. She enjoys working with communities to weave compelling stories and create collaborative spaces that inspire sharing, trust, and transparency. Her practice areas are socio-tech entrepreneurship, research infrastructure, nonprofit governance, decision frameworks, and product strategy.*

*Laure is the CEO and Founder of Mighty Red Barn <<https://mightyredbarn.com>>, a consultancy that equips non-profits with the strategy and tools to launch tech that benefits communities. She is also a Research Scholar at the Ronin Institute. Her work draws on diverse experiences – workplace, sector, community, travel - including service as founding Executive Director of ORCID; leadership roles at Thomson Reuters, The US National Academies, and Science Magazine; as well as volunteer service on nonprofit Boards and as a SCORE small business mentor.*

*Laure is the recipient of the NIH Director's Award and the Vietsch Medal of Honour. She has a BS and MS in Biology and PhD in Neuroscience from Stanford University and did postdoctoral work at the US National Institutes of Health.*

*Laure was a cofounder of the RDA Persistent Identifier Interest Group and has served as its co-chair since 2013; and, while at ORCID was a participant in the RDA Organizational Assembly. More recently, Laure worked with RDA-US to support their organizational purpose and visioning process, including conducting community interviews to explore foundational history and designing and facilitating workshops to develop and test options for future directions and organizational sustainability.*

*As a TAB member, Laure would bring her experiences developing, sustaining, and evaluating global-scale research infrastructure as well as ideas on ways to engage RDA Interest Groups in supporting and mentoring Working Groups.*

Region: Americas

Discipline: Medical and Health Sciences

## Dr Anca Hienola



Researcher, Finnish Meteorological Institute  
Finland

*Anca Hienola, a PhD holder in Atmospheric Physics with a 23-year career in atmospheric sciences and climate change research, possesses a breadth of expertise. Her work spans various facets of the field, from studying new particle formation and contact phenomena to diving into global and regional*

*climate modeling.*

*Among her many research achievements, one standout moment was when a paper she authored as the lead was cited in the latest IPCC report on Global Warming of 1.5 degrees. Currently, she serves as the leading specialist in Open Science at the Finnish Meteorological Institute.*

*In early 2017, her journey took an interesting turn. Driven by the challenges she faced, Anca ventured into open data and open access initiatives, research infrastructure activities, and involvement in several European projects related to the development of EOSC. Notable projects she's been a part of include EOSC pilot, EOSC Nordic, and ENVRI-FAIR, where she held the role of co-coordinator. Her work extended to projects like EOSC-Future, OSCARS, and ENVRI-hub NEXT. During this period, she discovered RDA, a crucial resource that aided her in establishing a FAIR research data repository at her institute. Since then, she religiously joined almost all the RDA plenaries (a couple of exceptions do exist) as part of various WGs, IDs etc.*

*Anca has a deep passion for data and its transformative potential in research, innovation, and societal progress and therefore joining RDA TAB will allow her to contribute to shaping data-related technical standards and solutions that can drive positive change. In this context, she hopes that more representatives from various research institutes will join and find RDA plenaries and networking to be influential in their work towards FAIRness.*

*As RDA's TAB plays an important role in developing recommendations and guidelines for the RDA community, Anca aspires to make meaningful contributions that enhance the quality, interoperability, and accessibility of research data.*

*In addition, RDA is known for its collaborative ethos, bringing together diverse experts from around the world. As a social animal, Anca is excited about the opportunity to work with this global community to address complex challenges.*

Region: Europe and Africa

Discipline: Natural Sciences

## **Ms Victoria Smith**



Programme Manager /Project Manager, Digital Research Alliance of Canada  
Canada

*As Data Governance & Ethics Lead for the Digital Research Alliance of Canada, I lead national work on improving sensitive research data infrastructure, services, and best practices and on research data governance more broadly. I contribute expertise on data governance, data ethics, sensitive data, and research ethics to a broad variety of services and initiatives. My academic background is in ethics and philosophy, and I'm involved in organizational work on Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity, and Accessibility and on Indigenous Data Sovereignty. In the past, I've conducted health research ethics review, research contract negotiation, privacy review, and research policy analysis.*

*I've generated national buy-in and broad support for complex work related to sensitive data by understanding and addressing the needs of a wide variety of impacted and involved parties. I excel at developing effective messaging and communications strategies. As a lateral thinker, I see possible connections and transform them into opportunities and solutions by drawing from a variety of*

*information sources and working relationships. As a member of the TAB, I will use these skills to support how we conceive and talk about the activity of the WGs and IGs (e.g. mapping and clustering activities), working to maximize the effectiveness of WG/IG activity, identifying overlaps and gaps in activity and functionality, and proposing actions to mitigate gaps and overlaps. In my current role, I've succeeded in creating and sustaining national engagement on sensitive research data management, and will use these skills to contribute to TAB engagement with RDA bodies and membership, and with RDA Working Groups and Interest Groups. My background includes substantial administrative accomplishments, including conference planning, program management, and funding administration, so I am well-able to contribute effectively to plenary planning. My academic background in philosophy will help me to contribute meaningfully to the complex Landscape analysis work the TAB undertakes on WG/IG activity classification; and my background in leadership roles for non-profits (Board Chair, Director, etc.) will help me to support the internal functioning of the TAB.*

*In summary, I have a broad variety of professional competencies that I believe will enable me to be an effective member of the TAB, and I look forward to contributing to my skills and knowledge to this important work.*

Region: Americas

Discipline: Humanities

### **Dr Mingfang Wu**



Senior Research Data Specialist, Australian Research Data Commons  
Australia

*I joined the RDA in 2014, and since then, I have been actively involved in various roles. I have co-chaired three groups, namely the Data Discovery Paradigms Interest Group (DDP IG), the Research Metadata Schemas Working Group (RMS WG), and the Data Versioning Interest Group (DV IG). While co-chairing the DDP IG, I collaborated with other co-chairs and members to deliver three supporting outputs. Additionally, I led the spin-off of the RMS WG from a task force of the DDP IG, resulting in one RDA recommendation and one supporting output. I also contributed to two supporting outputs from the Data Versioning Working Group.*

*From 2020 to 2023, I served as an active member of the TAB (Technical Advisory Board). This experience has been rewarding, allowing me to support fellow members, working groups/interest groups, and the organisation as a whole. I have a deep appreciation for RDA as a community organisation that unites individuals from diverse technical, skill, and cultural backgrounds to address common challenges in open research. As a community, we provide mutual support and strive for consistent practices and understandings to enhance open research data infrastructures.*

*In my current role as a product manager at the Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC), I oversee an existing and mature product, Research Data Australia - a national research data registry and discovery platform; as well as the development of a new product, Research Link Australia - a national research capability and collaboration information platform. My prior position as a senior research data specialist involved facilitating communities of practice on various topics related to FAIR data and software, such as data quality, data provenance, metadata standards, data service harmonisation, software citation, and data application. I hold a Ph.D. in computer science and have worked as a research scientist in the field of information retrieval.*



*With my expertise in data and information infrastructures, my experience in facilitating communities of practice, and my extensive involvement in RDA groups, I am eager to contribute and serve my second term to the Technical Advisory Board. I look forward to collaborating with fellow TAB members to engage with RDA groups, foster connections among them, and identify any existing gaps. I am also committed to promoting the RDA and encouraging the participation of the Asian Oceania region within the RDA.*

Region: Asia and Oceania

Discipline: Engineering and Technology