

# Despina Vassou

## Chemist, Ph.D.

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date of birth: 31/5/1974

Place of birth: Athens, Greece

Marital status: married

Children: 2

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### EDUCATION

- |      |     |   |
|------|-----|---|
| 2008 | PhD | <b>Immunomodulatory actions of opioids</b><br>Laboratory of Experimental Endocrinology, Laboratory Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Crete. Supervisor: Prof. E. Castanas ( <a href="mailto:castanas@med.uoc.gr">castanas@med.uoc.gr</a> ) |
| 2002 | MSc | <b>Spectroscopic study of the interactions between poly(ethylene glycol), PEG, and nifedipine.</b><br>“Polymer Science and its applications” Polymer Technology, Faculty of Chemistry, National and Capodistrian University of Athens                 |
| 1999 | BSc | Degree in Chemistry<br>Faculty of Chemistry, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki   |

### PROFESSIONAL-RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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| 11/2016-today   | <u>Fellow researcher.</u> Laboratory of post-genomic applications & ancient DNA lab, Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (IMBB), Foundation for Research & Technology-Hellas (FORTH). Supervisor: Dr D. Kafetzopoulos   |
|                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Head of ancient DNA lab operation</li><li>• Development &amp; Establishment of DNA analysis methods for the ancient DNA lab (DNA extraction, library construction for next generation sequencing, NGS)</li><li>• Supervision and training of young scientists (under- and post- graduate students)</li><li>• Support of Post-Genomic Applications Laboratory. Lab management and organization</li></ul>  |
| 08/2014-10/2016 | <u>Fellow researcher.</u> MINOTECH Genomics Facility, IMBB, FORTH. Supervisor: Dr D. Kafetzopoulos   |
|                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MinION (Oxford Nanopore) single-molecule sequencing. Setting up of experimental protocols &amp; workflows to the Facility.</li><li>• DNA sequencing and microarray analysis, development of workflows and methodological procedures.</li><li>• Bioinformatic analysis and quality control of data from microarrays and next generation sequencing using dedicated software</li><li>• Experimental design and completion of the project “Identification and isolation of genes encoding novel psychrophilic enzymes using state-of-the-art technologies” in collaboration with Dr D. Koutsioulis Executive Director of Minotech Biotechnology IMBB-FORTH</li><li>• Experimental design and completion of the project “Genotyping of patients with schizotypal disorders using LUMINEX technology” in collaboration with Dr S.</li></ul> |

Giakoumaki, Assistant Professor in Clinical Neuropsychology, Department of Psychology, University of Crete

- Construction of the MINOTECH Genomics Facility Website

03/2010-07/2014 Post-doc researcher. Laboratory of post-genomic applications, IMBB, FORTH. Supervisor: Dr D. Kafetzopoulos

- Scientific Project Cooperation “OncoSeed Diagnostics”: “Biology of Circulating Tumor cells (CTCs): Metastasis and development of Liquid biopsy methods”. Isolation and molecular characterization of CTCs using imaging methods. Development of methodologies for the molecular characterization of micrometastatic cells. Gene expression profile analysis, genotyping and methylation status analysis of single cells using microarrays and next generation sequencing. Optimization of DNA and RNA amplification methods from single cells and development of methodologies for the evaluation of the protocols (e.g. immunostaining, real time PCR)
- Scientific Project “Hercules”: “Medical Genetics and Biomedical Informatics Infrastructure in support of early diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of children with neurological disorders in Greece”. Identification of gene expression profiles in the peripheral blood of children with Chronic Neurological Disorders, CND, using genotyping and pharmacogenomics microarrays. Development of Biobank for the safe collection, storage and manipulation of biological samples from children with CND at the Pediatric Clinic of the University General Hospital of Heraklion.
- Supervision and training of under- and post- graduate students
- Lab management and organization

03/2008-02/2010 Post-doc researcher. Laboratory of Molecular Medicine and Human Genetics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Crete. Supervisors: Assistant Prof. G. Goulielmos, Prof. D.T. Boumpas

- Study of the role of the pro-apoptotic protein Siva in the pathogenesis of Familial Mediterranean fever (FMF)
- Study of the role of pyrin in the activation of NALP-3 inflammasome
- Training of post-graduate students

06/2004-02/2006 Research Associate. Laboratory of Experimental Endocrinology, Laboratory Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Crete. Supervisor: Prof.: E. Castanas

02/2003-03/2004 Chemist. Laboratory of Quality Control, Industry of Veterinary Products, Agrochemicals and Piscicultural Products, VETERIN S.A. (afterwards ALAPIS)

- Development of analytical protocols for the quality control of new products and Quality control of veterinary pharmaceutical products, provenders, etc.

10/2001-09/2002 Research Associate. Applied Spectroscopy Laboratory, Theoretical and Physical Chemistry Institute (TPCI), National Hellenic Research Foundation (NHRF), Athens Supervisors: Dr G. Chrissikos, Dr V. Gionis

- Material characterization with non-destructive vibrational spectroscopy methods (IR, Near-IR, Raman)
- Development of methodologies for the identification and quantification of pharmaceutically active substances with vibrational spectroscopy
- Studies on polymorphism and devitrification of pharmaceutically active substances

01/2000-06/2001 Training and Specialization Fellowship. Institute of Electronic Structure and Laser (IESL), Foundation for Research and Technology (FORTH), Heraclion, Crete.

Scientific Supervisor: Prof. S. Anastasiades, FORTH-IESL. Took place at TPCI of NHRF. Supervisors: Dr G. Chrissikos, Dr V. Gionis.

- Material Structure and supramolecular assembly studies using vibrational spectroscopy
- FT-Surface Enhanced Raman (SERS) characterization of polymeric surfaces and interfaces

## **TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE AND RESEARCH SKILLS**

### Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology Methods:

- Ancient samples handling and processing, ancient DNA extraction and library construction. Optimization and standardization of methods and protocols for ancient DNA analysis.
- Gene expression profiling & Genotyping analysis studies using microarrays and Next Generation Sequencing, NGS (Design of the experiment, sample manipulation, library construction, sequencing or microarray scanning, data quality control and bioinformatics analysis)
- Development of standardized workflows for NGS and Microarrays analysis
- Use of micromanipulators and microinjectors for single-cell isolation
- Membrane and intracellular immunostaining, flow cytometry, immunofluorescence, confocal microscopy.
- DNA technologies (genomic and plasmid DNA isolation, plasmid constructs, site-directed mutagenesis, PCR κα)
- RNA technologies (isolation, cDNA synthesis, RT- PCR)
- Cellular, nuclear and membrane protein extracts, protein interactions (Western blot, Immunoprecipitation assays), protein quantification with Elisa, Nephelometry and Luminex 100, zelatin zymography (MMPs assay).
- Lymphocytes and monocytes isolation from peripheral blood, cell cultures, radioligand binding assays, cell transfection with plasmid constructs, cell migration, adhesion and spreading, survival, proliferation and apoptosis assays.

### Quality control of pharmaceutical products, polymers and other materials

- Development of analytical protocols, use and evaluation of Quality Control techniques (HPLC, UV, IR, Near-IR, FT-Raman, Dissolution Test Apparatus etc). Quality and quantity assays of pharmaceutical products.
- Material characterization with non-destructive vibrational spectroscopy methods (IR, Near-IR, Raman)
- Development of methodologies for the identification and quantification of materials with vibrational spectroscopy
- Polymer characterization and pharmaceutically active substances with Modulated Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC, MDSC)
- Material Structure and supramolecular assembly studies
- Characterization of polymeric surfaces and interfaces

### Processing, evaluation and presentation of results

- Development of protocols & reports for Next Generation Sequencing and Microarrays data. Use of specialized data analysis software for a variety of applications
- Processing & evaluation of high-throughput raw data, optimization of workflows
- Presentation of results

## **COMPUTER SKILLS**

2006 ECDL Progress: Word, Excel, Internet.  
Very good command of MS Office, Windows, Internet and specialized software for instrument control and bioinformatics analysis of NGS data.

## LANGUAGES

1992 English (Excellent)  
Certificate of Proficiency in English, University of Cambridge

## FELLOWSHIPS - SEMINARS – WORKSHOPS

- **Short term EMBO fellowship** on project: *Classification of archaeological remains by the means of population-specific genetic markers and comprehensive ancient DNA analysis*, June 19-29 2017, Centre for GeoGenetics, National History Museum of Denmark, Copenhagen, training and supervision by Dr. Morten Allentoft, assistant Professor at Geogenetics
- **2nd Annual Ion User Meeting**, Portugal Live Broadcast. 2012 October 9-11, IMBB-FORTH, Heraklion, Crete
- **1st European Ion User Group Meeting**, Berlin, Live Broadcast. 2011 October 25 IMBB-FORTH, Heraklion, Crete
- **April Imaging Workshop at Cold Spring Harbor**. Workshop on ImageXpress High Content Screening System κατά τη διάρκεια του συνεδρίου The Biology of Cancer: Microenvironment, Metastasis & Therapeutics, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, New York, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011
- **4th Genome Sequencer FLX User Conference (Roche)**. Athenaem InterContinental Hotel, 2010 June 15 –17 Athens
- **The 2009 Lectures in Biology: Immunobiology** Onassis Foundation Science Lecture Series, 2009 July 27-31 IMBB-FORTH, Heraklion, Crete
- **The 2005 Lectures in Biology: Programmed Cell Death and Cell Signaling**. Onassis Foundation Science Lecture Series, 2005 July 4-8, IMBB-FORTH, Heraklion, Crete
- **14th Conference of the European Colloid and Interface Society (ECIS 2000)** 2000 September 17-22 Patras.

## PUBLICATIONS

1. Maraki Sofia, **Vassou Despoina**, Kastanis Grigoris, Stafylaki Dimitra, Masunt Samer, Kapsetakis Petros, Stratidaki Irini, Scoulica Effie. *Wound infection attributed to Pasteurella multocida transmitted by a dog. Genome analysis classified the isolate to a distinct phylogenetic lineage and revealed new virulence traits*. Submitted to Pathogens and Disease, under review
2. Lies Laenen, Valentijn Vergote, Liana Eleni Kafetzopoulou, Tony Wawina Bokalinga, **Despoina Vassou**, Joseph A. Cook, Jean-Pierre Hugot, Ward Deboutte, Peter T. Witkowski, Panja Köppen-Rung, Detlev H. Krüger, Martina Ličková, Alexander Stang, Lucia Striešková, Tomáš Szemeš, Janusz Markowski, Janusz Hejduk, Dimitris Kafetzopoulos, Marc Van Ranst, Richard Yanagihara, Boris Klempa Piet Maes. *A novel hantavirus of the European mole, Bruges virus, is involved in frequent Nova virus co-infections*. Genome Biology and Evolution. 2018;10(1):45-55. doi: 10.1093/gbe/evx268
3. Lefteris Koumakis, Alexandros Kanterakis, Evgenia Kartsaki, Maria Chatzimina, Michalis Zervakis, Manolis Tsiknakis, **Despoina Vassou**, Dimitris Kafetzopoulos, Kostas Marias, Vassilis Moustakis, George Potamias (2016) *MinePath: Mining for Phenotype Differential Sub-paths in Molecular Pathways* PLOS: Computational Biology 12(11):e1005187.doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1005187

4. **Despoina Vassou**, Stilianos Arhondakis, Kalliopi Kalantzaki, Michalis Zervakis, Dimitris Kafetzopoulos (2015) *Towards Single-Cell Gene Expression Profiling: Assessing Amplification Biases*. 6th European Conference of the International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering IFMBE Proceedings Vol 45, pp 598-601
5. Argyro Repa, George K. Bertias, Eleni Petraki, Christianna Choulaki, **Despoina Vassou**, Konstantinos Kambas, Dimitrios T. Boumpas, George Goulielmos, Prodromos Sidiropoulos (2015) Dysregulated production of interleukin-1 $\beta$  upon activation of the NLRP3 inflammasome in patients with familial Mediterranean fever. *Hum Immunol.* 76(7) pp488-95.
6. Stelios Sfakianakis, Ekaterini S Bei, Michalis Zervakis, **Despoina Vassou** and Dimitrios Kafetzopoulos (2014). On the Identification of Circulating Tumor Cells in Breast Cancer, *Biomedical and Health Informatics, IEEE Journal of* , vol. 18, no.3, p.773-82. Featured Article
7. Maria Tsekrekou, Dimitris Mavroudis, Dimitris Kafetzopoulos, **Despoina Vassou** (2012) Stem Cell Characters in Primary and Metastatic Tumour Establishment. Chapter 25 in *Stem Cells and Human Diseases* R. Srivastava, S. Shankar, Springer, p. 533-575
8. **Vassou, D.**, Notas, G., Hatzoglou, A., Castanas, E. & Kampa, M. Opioids increase bladder cancer cell migration via bradykinin B2 receptors. (2011) *Int J Oncol* 39, pp 697-707.
9. Goulielmos, G.N., Petraki, E.\*, **Vassou, D.\***, Eliopoulos, E., Iliopoulos, D., Sidiropoulos, P., Aksentijevich, I., Kardassis, D. and Boumpas, D.T. The role of the pro-apoptotic protein Siva in the pathogenesis of Familial Mediterranean fever: A structural and functional analysis (2010) *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications*, 402, pp. 141-146. \*Equal contribution
10. **D. Vassou**, E. Petraki, E. Eliopoulos, D. Iliopoulos, I. Aksentijevich, P. Sidiropoulos, D. Kardassis, D. T. Boumpas, G. N. Goulielmos. Role of the pro-apoptotic pyrin-interacting protein Siva in the pathogenesis of familial Mediterranean fever. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2010, **69**, A29-A30
11. **D. Vassou**, E. Bakogeorgou, M. Kampa, H. Dimitriou, A. Hatzoglou and E. Castanas. Opioids modulate constitutive B-lymphocyte secretion. *International Immunopharmacology*, 2008, **8**, 634-644
12. K. L. A. Chan, S. G. Kazarian, **D. Vassou**, V. Gionis and G. D. Chryssikos. In situ high-throughput study of drug polymorphism under controlled temperature and humidity using FT-IR spectroscopic imaging. *Vibrational Spectroscopy* 2007, **43**, 221–226
13. **D. Vassou**, V. Gionis and G. D. Chryssikos. Glassy drugs: A Raman investigation of binary dihydropyridine systems. *Physics and Chemistry of Glasses* 2005, **46**, (2),144-147
14. K. L. A. Chan, O. S. Fleming, S. G. Kazarian, **D. Vassou**, G. D. Chryssikos and V. Gionis. Polymorphism and devitrification of nifedipine under controlled humidity: a combined FT-Raman, IR and Raman microscopic investigation. *Journal of Raman Spectroscopy* 2004, **35**, 353–359

## PRESENTATIONS IN CONFERENCES-SEMINARS

1. **Despoina Vassou**, *Next generation sequencing: Applications, Perspectives & Challenges* (2017), IMBB Colloquium, IMBB-ITE, May 26<sup>th</sup>.
2. Emmanouil Saloustros, Helen Latsoudis, **Despina Vassou**, Irene Stratidaki, Niki-Antonia Gounalaki, Vasiliki Fadoulglou, Ioannis Drositis, Emmanouil Kontopodis, Kitty Pavlakis, Dimitrios Mavroudis, Nikolaos Androulakis, and Dimitrios Kafetzopoulos (2017) *The pursue of genetic mechanisms underlying supreme response to Pazopanib treatment* American Association for Cancer Research, Washington DC, USA, 1-5 April.
3. Lies Laenen, Valentijn Vergote, Se Hun Gu, Liana E. Kafetzopoulou, **Despoina Vassou**, Joseph A. Cook, Dimitris Kafetzopoulos, Marc Van Ranst, Detlev H. Krüger, Richard Yanagihara, Boris Klempa, Piet Maes (2016) *Bruges Virus, A Newfound Hantavirus in the European Mole*,

*Contradicts Host-Specificity*. X International Conference on HFRS, HPS and Hantaviruses, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA, 31 May -3 June.

4. **Despoina Vassou** (2016) *MinoTech Genomics Facility-IMBB. State-of-the-art technologies for genomics analyses* IMBB-FORTH Retreat, Heraclion Crete, May 20-21
5. **Despoina Vassou**, Michalis Gounis, Stilianos Arhondakis, Michalis Zervakis, Dimitris Kafetzopoulos (2015). *Molecular and functional characterization of CTCs*. Control of Cell Polarity and Movement in Cancer, Glasgow, Scotland, July 5 – 8
6. **Despoina Vassou**, Konstantinos Lilakos, Dimitris Kafetzopoulos (2015) *Development of Single-Cell Genotyping, Gene Expression Profiling, & Genome methylation profiling for Circulating Tumour Cells*. London Calling (conference hosted by Oxford Nanopore Technologies). London, England, May 15-16
7. Dimitris Kafetzopoulos, **Despoina Vassou**, Stilianos Arhondakis, Kalliopi Kalantzaki, Michalis Zervakis (2015). *Challenges and solutions for single CTC gene expression profiling and molecular characterization*. The Biology of Cancer: Microenvironment, Metastasis & Therapeutics, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, New York, May 12–16
8. Karagiannopoulou L., Zouraraki C., **Vassou D.**, Karamaouna P., Kafetzopoulos D., Roussos P., Bitsios P., Giakoumaki S.G. (2015) *The Genome-Wide associated schizophrenia risk variant rs10520163 affects Prepulse Inhibition and executive functions: Preliminary findings from the PreMES cohort*. 4th International Congress on Neurobiology and Therapeutics, 14-17 May, Agios Nikolaos, Crete, Greece.
9. Zouraraki C., Karamaouna P., **Vassou D.**, Karagiannopoulou L., Kafetzopoulos D., Roussos P., Bitsios P., Giakoumaki S.G. (2015) *Differential effects of polymorphisms associated with schizophrenia on cognition and quality of life: Findings from the schizophrenia high-risk PreMES cohort*. 4th International Congress on Neurobiology and Therapeutics, 14-17 May, Agios Nikolaos, Crete, Greece.
10. **D. Vassou**, S. Arhondakis, K. Kalantzaki, M. Zervakis, D. Kafetzopoulos (2014). *A novel approach for classification of single CTCs expression profiles*. Advances in Circulating Tumour Cells [ACTC]: from Basic Research to Clinical Practice, Rethymno, Crete, 8-11 October.
11. **Despoina Vassou**, Chris Zoumadakis, Frosso Konstantaki, Anastasia Vasileiou, Maria Tsekrekou, Sevasti Gaspari & Dimitris Kafetzopoulos (2013). *Isolation & Molecular Characterization Of Circulating Tumor Cells: A challenging problem demanding multidisciplinary approaches*. 100 YEARS CRETE - 30 YEARS FORTH: Scientific Workshop, FORTH, Heraklion, Crete, July 12-13.
12. **Despoina Vassou**, (2012) *Unraveling the heterogeneity of Circulating Tumor Cells with single cell analysis. Approaches to isolation and molecular characterization*, IMBB Colloquium, IMBB-ITE, April 6th
13. **D. Vassou**, M. Tsekrekou, D. Mavroudis, D. Kafetzopoulos. (2012). *Molecular characterization of Circulating Tumor Cells*. Advances in Circulating Tumour Cells (ACTC): from Basic Research to Clinical Practice, Vouliagmeni, Athens, Greece, September 26-29.
14. **Despina Vassou**, Maria Tsekrekou, Aliki Siganou, Dimitris Mavroudis, Dimitris Kafetzopoulos (2011). *Isolation and Single-Cell Molecular Profiling of Circulating Tumor Cells*. The Biology of Cancer: Microenvironment, Metastasis & Therapeutics, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, April 26 - 30, Cold Spring Harbor, New York.
15. M. Tsekrekou, **D. Vassou**, A. Siganou, D. Mavroudis and D. Kafetzopoulos (2011). *Evaluation of Isolation and Single-Cell Molecular Profiling Methods for CTCs*. Stem Cells, Cancer and Metastasis. Keystone Symposia, March 6 - 11, Keystone Colorado.
16. **D. Vassou**, E. Petraki, E. Eliopoulos, D. Iliopoulos, I. Aksentijevich, P. Sidiropoulos, D. Kardassis, D.T. Boumpas and G.N. Goulielmos (2010). *The role of the pro-apoptotic, pyrin-interacting protein Siva in the pathogenesis of Familial Mediterranean fever (FMF)*. Abstracts of the 30th European Workshop of Rheumatology Research, Bamberg,

Germany, March 4-6. *Ann Rheumatic Diseases* 69 (suppl. 2):A29, 69:A29-A30  
doi:10.1136/ard.2010.129619f

17. E. Petraki, **D. Vassou**, E. Eliopoulos, D. Iliopoulos, I. Aksentijevich, P. Sidiropoulos, D. Kardassis, D. T. Boumpas, G. N. Goulielmos (2010). European Human Genetics Conference, June 12 – 15, Gothenburg, Sweden. *Eur. J. Hum. Genet.* 18 (suppl. 1):279.
18. E. Petraki, **D. Vassou**, E. Eliopoulos, D. Iliopoulos, I. Aksentijevich, P. Sidiropoulos, D. Kardassis, D. T. Boumpas, G.N. Goulielmos (2010). SIVA is unlikely to contribute to the pathogenesis of Familial Mediterranean Fever (FMF): A genetic, structural biological and functional study. Autoinflammation 2010, 6th International Congress on FMF and SAID, 2-6 September Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
19. **D. Vassou**, E. Eliopoulos, E. Petraki, P. Sidiropoulos, E. Thymiakou, D. Gumucio, D. Kardassis, D. T. Boumpas, G. N. Goulielmos (2009). *Implication of the pro-apoptotic protein Siva in the pathogenesis of Familial Mediterranean Fever (FMF)*. Annual European Congress of Rheumatology (EULAR 2009), June 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, Copenhagen.
20. M. Kampa, V. Pelekanou, **D. Vassou** and E. Castanas (2008). *Erythropoietin and steroid membrane initiated actions interact in breast cancer cells leading to enhanced cell survival*. 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the European Association for Cancer Research, July 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, Lyon, France.
21. G.N. Goulielmos, E. Petraki, **D. Vassou**, E. Fragouli, P. Sidiropoulos, D. Gumucio, D.T. Boumpas, E. Eliopoulos (2008). *Genetics and molecular pathways of the Familial Mediterranean Fever (FMF): Unraveling the mechanisms for inflammation and fever through molecular modeling of the PRYSPRY domain of pyrin*. Abstracts of the Marie Curie ToK programme “DRUGDESI” “Workshop on Molecular Modelling: Approaches to Computational Biophysics”, December 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, Athens.
22. **Despoina Vassou**, Prodromos Sidiropoulos, Dimitrios T. Boumpas and Giorgos N. Goulielmos (2008). *Elucidation of the role of the pro-apoptotic protein Siva in the pathogenesis of Familial Mediterranean Fever*. 20<sup>th</sup> Panhellenic Congress of the Hellenic Society for Rheumatology, November 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, Athens.
23. **D. Vassou**, M. Kampa, A. Hatzoglou, E. Castanas (2007). *A novel interaction of opioids with the Bradykinin B2 receptor promotes cancer cell migration*. 59<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Congress of the Hellenic Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, December 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, Athens
24. M. Kampa, V. Pelekanou, **D. Vassou** and E. Castanas (2007). *Erythropoietin inhibits the action of androgens via membrane binding sites in T47D breast cancer cells*. 59<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Congress of the Hellenic Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, December 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, Athens.
25. M. Kampa, V. Pelekanou, **D. Vassou** and E. Castanas (2007). *Erythropoietin inhibits the action of androgens via membrane binding sites in T47D breast cancer cells*. Rapid Responses to Steroid Hormones, 5<sup>th</sup> International Meeting, September 2<sup>nd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>, Dublin, Ireland.
26. **D. Vassou**, E. Castanas and A. Hatzoglou (2006). *Opioids promote adhesion and migration of T24 human bladder carcinoma cells*. 58<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Congress of the Hellenic Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, November 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, Patra.
27. **D. Vassou**, E. Castanas and A. Hatzoglou (2005). *Effect of opioids on B lymphocytes functions*. 57<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Congress of the Hellenic Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, December 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, Athens.
28. **D. Vassou**, V. Gionis and G. D. Chryssikos (2004). *Glassy Drugs: A Raman Investigation of Binary Dihydropyridine Systems*. 7<sup>th</sup> ESG Conference on Glass Science and Technology, April 25-28, Athens.
29. S. Kemidis, **D. Vassou**, G. D. Chryssikos, V. Gionis, C. Retsos, M. Lygeraki and S. Anastasiades (2001). *FT-Surface Enhanced Raman (SERS) characterization of polymeric surfaces and interfaces*. Abstracts of the 5<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Conference on Polymers, December 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, Heraklion, Crete