Annuncio Seminario - Martedi 25 novembre alle ore 15:00 Aula seminari presso l'istituto di Fisiologia generale (CU026), La Sapienza. Roma, Piazzale Aldo Moro 5.

Prof. Kirsi Mikkonen, Head of Food Materials Science Research Group Food Science Department, Helsinki University, Finland

## "Added value from biomass and fungi: Case studies with fungal mycelia and wood hemicelluloses"

Prof. Kirsi Mikkonen is a food material scientist, with interests in biocolloids, emulsions, etc toward sustainable bioplastic packaging alternatives to fossil fuels.

She describes her work this way: My research is focused on valorization of biomass streams, particularly hemicelluloses derived from wood and agricultural residues as well as fungal biomass. I am interested in functionality of biopolymers at multiphase systems and interfaces. The sustainability, biodegradability, and safety of hemicelluloses for food contact make them a highly interesting future alternative for petroleum-derived plastics. Other possible applications for hemicelluloses include, e.g., emulsions for food, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, and chemicals.

## Prof. Kirsi Mikkonen

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