

Dr. Julio Villena

Researcher from the National Council of Scientific and Technological Research (CONICET-Argentina), Laboratory of Immunobiotechnology, Reference Centre for Lactobacilli (CERELA-CONICET)

Presentation title: **The advantages of working in a multinational and multicultural research team**

Message to the participants:

Dear participants, welcome to the Youth Program! I'm a scientist from Argentina that has been working in collaboration with professors of Tohoku University for several years. In this time, it is a pleasure to have the opportunity to talk with young students that are the next generation of scientists. Throughout my years of work I have been able to identify some of the characteristics that must be gathered to be a good scientist, which are related to both personal characteristics and qualities of the group in which the activities are developed. The scientists that I admired most have a great **enthusiasm** for the work they do and are predisposed to **continuous learning**, which involves not only listening to people with more experience but also the ideas of young minds. I have also learned that **science is a teamwork** and that working in a **multinational and multicultural research team can enhance the quality of research**. In addition, an important benefit that can be achieved through international collaboration is the impact on the researchers themselves, including cultural and personal experiences. The "Youth Program of Agricultural Immunology" is a unique opportunity for young students to dialogue with scientists from different disciplines, ages and places of the world. Then, I invite the young students to make this meeting one of the most enriching experiences of their personal and academic lives. **Aprendamos juntos y hagamos nuevos amigos!** (Let's learn together and make new friends! in Spanish)

