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## 13<sup>th</sup> Campus Research Talks info sheet

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Title: Directed protein evolution: a potential game changer for the treatment of inborn metabolic disorders?

Date: 3 May 2019

### Principal Investigator



Full name: Joery De Kock

Research Group: [In Vitro Toxicology & Dermato-Cosmetology \(IVTD\)](#)

[ORCID](#) [PURE](#) [Google Scholar](#)

**Joery De Kock** graduated in 2006 as a Pharmacist and obtained his PhD degree in 2012 at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. He was a postdoctoral fellow of the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) from 2012 until 2017. He is currently a Tenure Track professor since 2017 affiliated to the VUB, Belgium, at the department of In Vitro Toxicology and Dermato-Cosmetology. He is also a visiting researcher at the Institute of Biotechnology of the RWTH Aachen University in Germany since 2016. He has extensive expertise in liver disease & liver modelling, stem cell technology and directed protein evolution.

### Doctoral Candidate



Full name: Jessie Neuckermans

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**Jessie Neuckermans** graduated from the Royal Atheneum (Ninove) and obtained her Master of Science in Drug Development from the VUB in 2016. She started her PhD as an FWO fellow under the supervision of Joery De Kock. During the first two years of her PhD, she was a visiting researcher at the Institute of Biotechnology in Aachen, Germany (Schwaneberg Lab), where she was trained in directed protein evolution technology. She currently applies this technology to develop novel therapies for hereditary tyrosinemia type 1, alkaptonuria and hawkinsuria based on evolved human enzymes.