

REVISED

August 8, 2022

Margherita Piccardi  
Via Bolzano n. 27  
Montepulciano  
Siena Italy 53045  
margherita.piccardi@phd.unipi.it

Office of the Provost/Dean of the Faculty  
Smith College  
Northampton, Massachusetts 01063  
(413) 585-3000

Dear Margherita Piccardi:

It is my pleasure to confirm that you will be at Smith College for a visit from September 12, 2022-September 11, 2023. We understand that you are being sponsored by the Department of Molecular Medicine of University of Siena, Pegasus scholarship provided by *Regione Toscana*, Siena (Italy). Sarah Moore, Associate Professor, Picker Engineering Program will serve as your campus host. Your visit will be part of Smith College's Research Affiliate program, and this letter confirms the details of our arrangements with you.

Federica Gemignani, at the University of Pisa, and her research group recently received a 5-year grant for their work from the Italian Association for Cancer Research. We understand that your primary responsibility will be pursuing research in Professor Moore's lab, working with other research students as part of a research team. While not scheduled, Professor Moore anticipates you will present a public talk on your research and provide a guest lecture(s) in courses relevant to your area of expertise, such as the Biomedical Engineering course being taught by Professor Moore in Spring 2023. Arrangements for the responsibilities described above will be coordinated by Professor Moore. It is understood that all terms in this letter are dependent on appropriate visa stipulations and your successful completion of the visa process through our Office of International Students and Scholars.

Please note the following details in relation to your visit:

- \* Your Ph.D. fellowship from the University of Sienna (Pegasus scholarship provided by *Regione Toscana*), will cover the cost of your airfare.
- \* Insurance: Depending on your situation and type of visa, the college may purchase an insurance policy on your behalf for the duration of your stay at no cost to you. The college will not cover the cost of insurance for members of your family who may accompany you on your visit.
- \* Your Ph.D. fellowship will cover the cost of your housing.

Please note the following in preparation for your visit:

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- \* Regardless of your current visa status, we must have a complete copy of a **Foreign National Information Form** ([available online](#)) in order to take the next step to bring you to campus.
- \* Please return it to Caitlin Szymkowicz, Associate Dean of International Students and Scholars, [cszymkowicz@smith.edu](mailto:cszymkowicz@smith.edu) and Rachel Siegel, Faculty Recruitment and Appointment Specialist, [rsiegel@smith.edu](mailto:rsiegel@smith.edu) as soon as possible.
- \* You should send to my office as soon as possible a confirmation of your exact **arrival and departure dates**.

- \* Within three days of your arrival at Smith, please contact Caitlin Szymkowicz ([cszymkowicz@smith.edu](mailto:cszymkowicz@smith.edu)) to arrange a time to meet with her to **register your passport** and enroll in the health insurance coverage, or to show proof of your own insurance coverage.
- \* This appointment as a Research Affiliate in the Picker Engineering Program is made in accordance with the Program's in Engineering and College policies and carries no stipend or benefits, no voting privilege. It does entitle you to library privileges at Smith, and to an email account through Smith's Office of Information Technology Services. Arrangements will be made for you to receive a campus OneCard for library and other campus access. Onecard access for buildings is dependent upon the health and safety protocols of Smith College. Information can be found at <https://www.smith.edu/covid19/policies>.

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Please visit our website ([https://www.smith.edu/deanoffaculty/academics-teaching\\_visiting-scholars.php](https://www.smith.edu/deanoffaculty/academics-teaching_visiting-scholars.php)) to access the referenced forms, a campus map, and additional resources. If our office may be of assistance in any way during your visit, please just let us know. And again, welcome to Smith.

Sincerely,



Hélène Visentin  
Associate Dean of the Faculty / Dean for Academic Development

HV/rs

cc: Michael Thurston, Provost and Dean of the Faculty  
Bill E. Peterson, Associate Provost  
Sarah Moore, Faculty Host, Associate Professor, Picker Engineering Program  
Drew Guswa, Chair, Picker Engineering Program  
Kristin Moore, Academic Assistant, Picker Engineering Program  
Controller's Office  
Caitlin Szymkowicz, Office of International Students and Scholars  
Melissa Heiden, Human Resources  
Dominique Tremblay, Neilson Library  
Andrew Weir, OneCard Office