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Since October 2000 Laura Montanaro is full Professor of Materials Science and Technology, at the Department of applied Science and Technology (DISAT) of Politecnico di Torino, Italy. She obtained the Master degree in Industrial Chemistry at the University of Torino (Italy) in 1983 and the European Ph.D. degree in Materials Processing at the ENSM, St. Etienne and INPG, Grenoble (France) in 1990. She is scientific Responsible of the INSTM (Italian InterUniversity Consortium on Materials Science and Technology) Reference Laboratory LINCE for ceramics technology and engineering. From October 2007 to November 2011 she was vice-Head of her Department; from November 2011 to March 2012, Head of the Doctorate School and, finally, from April 2012 to February 2017, Deputy Rector of Politecnico di Torino.

Professor Montanaro is author or co-author of more than 230 papers in International Journals or Proceedings of International Conferences and holder of 12 (national or international) Patents.

Her primary fields of research concern ceramic materials and their composites for structural, high-temperature, and functional applications, in particular non-conventional syntheses and characterization of pure and composite ceramic powders, bioceramics, porous ceramics, transparent ceramics, gas and humidity ceramic sensors, cements and concretes.

Since 2012 she has been appointed corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of Torino (established in 1783), and Senior Scientist at the Italian Institute of Technology (IIT) – Centre of Space Human Robotics, in the period 2012 – 2014. She is Member of the Italian Ceramic Society (ICerS) and received the Award for the best biannual paper published in the Journal of the European Ceramic Society (2009-2010, “Follow up of zirconia crystallization on a surface-modified alumina powder”).