

Laura Prati is presently Full Professor in Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Milan, Department of Chemistry. She graduated in Chemistry (1983) at University of Milan, and received her specialisation in "Tecniche Analitiche per la Chimica Organica Fine" from the Politecnico of Milano in 1985 and was awarded a PhD in Industrial Chemistry in 1988. Since the beginning of her scientific formation she was involved in the field of the heterogeneous materials particularly applied to catalysis, being awarded by a MONTEDIPE S.r.l. fellowship, concerning with the project "Substitutive catalysts of noble metals". In 1989 she became Researcher, in 1999 Associate Professor of General Chemistry and in 2017 Full Professor. Since this year she was elected as Head of the Department of Chemistry.

She is applying from several years to low impact environmental catalytic methodologies as alternative processes of the stoichiometric ones based on organic synthesis. She introduced the use of gold as active metal in the aerobic selective oxidation of organic compounds, contributing to the developing of the unusual gold catalytic properties, the main one being the resistance in the liquid phase to the poisoning due to the overoxidation. Her skills include the preparation and the functionalization of materials for obtaining high metallic dispersed catalysts on oxides, active carbons and mesoporous systems. The scientific results are reported in 150 publications on qualified international journals, h index 46, two patents and more than 100 communications at national and international Congresses (7 invited). From 2002 to 2006 she was the Referent of the research topic concerning with liquid phase gold catalysed oxidations, inside the European project AURICAT (HPRNN-CT-2002-00174). In 2007 she was funded by Fondazione Cariplo on "Metal based nanostructures materials for catalysis" and in 2009 on the project "Metallic nanoparticles: the issue of stability for their application". In 2012 she was awarded by ISIS Grant Coinvestigator, "Investigation of the role of functionalization in the catalytic activity of Au nanoparticles on carbon nanofibers" (ISIS Beam time application-RB1310041) and renewed Euminafab project "TEM characterization of metal nanoparticles on the surface or inside the framework of the support" (Project No: 1042 and 1104) with the Karlsruhe Tech Institute. 2016-2018 She received a grant from CNR bilateral project Italy-Hungaria on the project: Supported bimetallic AuCu and AuAg catalysts in selective alcohol (benzyl alcohol, glycerol) oxidation reactions: Au/Cu(Ag) atomic ratio, Au/Cu(Ag) structure and support effect". In 2017 she was granted by TOTAL on the project Catalyst for future.

She was Visiting Professor at Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris) [June – July 2015] and at Centro de Ciencias Aplicadas y Desarrollo Tecnológico, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (Mexico City) [November 2015 and 2017].

She collaborates actively with industrial partners (Taminco BV, TOTAL), and several research groups, in Europe (University College of London, Prof. Catlow and Dr Dimitratos; University of Valencia, Prof. Nieto; Karlsruhe Tech Institute, Dr Wang, RWTH Institut für Technische und Makromolekulare Chemie, Prof Palkowitz) and in United States (Oak Ridge National Laboratory TN, USA, Dr.Vieth).

She is an active member of the Italian Chemical Society, the Excellence Centre CIMAINA (Interdepartmental Centre of Nanostructure Materials and Interfaces), and American Chemical Society. From 2016 she is in the Advisory Board of ChemCatChem and of the Journal of Nanoparticle & Nanotechnology.