Sophien Kamoun

A Global Perspective
Dr. Kamoun first studied in Tunisia, followed by France, the U.S., the Netherlands, and finally the U.K. His experience as an immigrant has both motivated him to excel and allowed him to develop his own personality.

His research focuses on economically important plant pathogens like wheat and potato blights. After a wheat blast outbreak in Bangladesh in 2016, his lab started research on it in weeks.

Staying in the lab isn’t enough for Dr. Kamoun. He wants to use the available technology to bridge the gap between the “fundamental and applied” for “immediate impacts on global food security”.

“The thrill of learning something new every day is addictive. Sharing the experience with others – be they students, colleagues, stakeholders or members of the public – is priceless.”

Collaborative Science
Dr. Kamoun advocates the use of preprints, in part to receive collaborative feedback from a large community. He also published a paper on wheat blast using crowdsourced data analysis.

Social Media
Dr. Kamoun uses Twitter and other social media sites to stay up to date, share science, and connect with people who are impacted by the science, like teachers, farmers, and journalists.

He has received several awards for his work including, most recently, the Linnean Medal and being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Sources:

Social Media: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram
He is Twitter’s Adopted Scientist. His Twitter feed is available for engagement, photos are adapted from Freepik® – Vista, online, wiki lift, Unsplash background pictures.

Illustrations by Sajjad Tariq