

# MAKING ACADEMIA GREAT AGAIN

Maruxa Martínez-Campos 1,2 and the PRBB Good Scientific Practice Working Group

1. Barcelona Biomedical Research Park (PRBB), Barcelona, Spain;

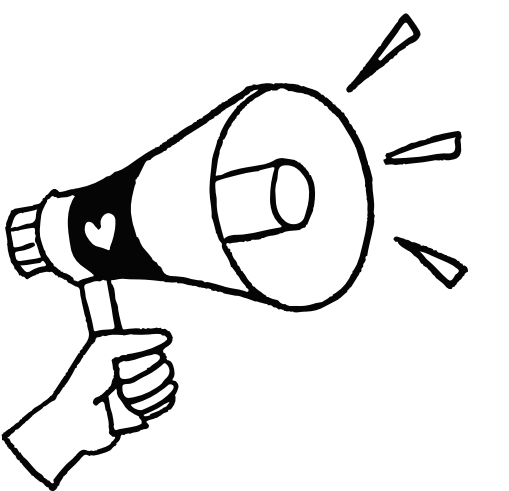
2. Department of Medicine and Life Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra (MELIS-UPF), Barcelona, Spain



Barcelona Biomedical Research Park

## THE WHY

Research culture is highly interlinked to the quality and integrity of research. The Good Scientific Practice working group at the Barcelona Biomedical Research Park (PRBB) organised a Cafè Culture, a workshop created by Wellcome Trust, to discuss the challenges of the research environment and how to solve them.



## THE HOW

Groups were given cards with facts and opinions on different aspects of the research environment to identify the most important challenges and brainstorm solutions; either existing good practices, or new ideas that could be applied to our context.



Over 50 participants: junior researchers (20%), mid-career researchers (25%), senior researchers or leadership management (11%), technicians (16%) and support staff (28%).

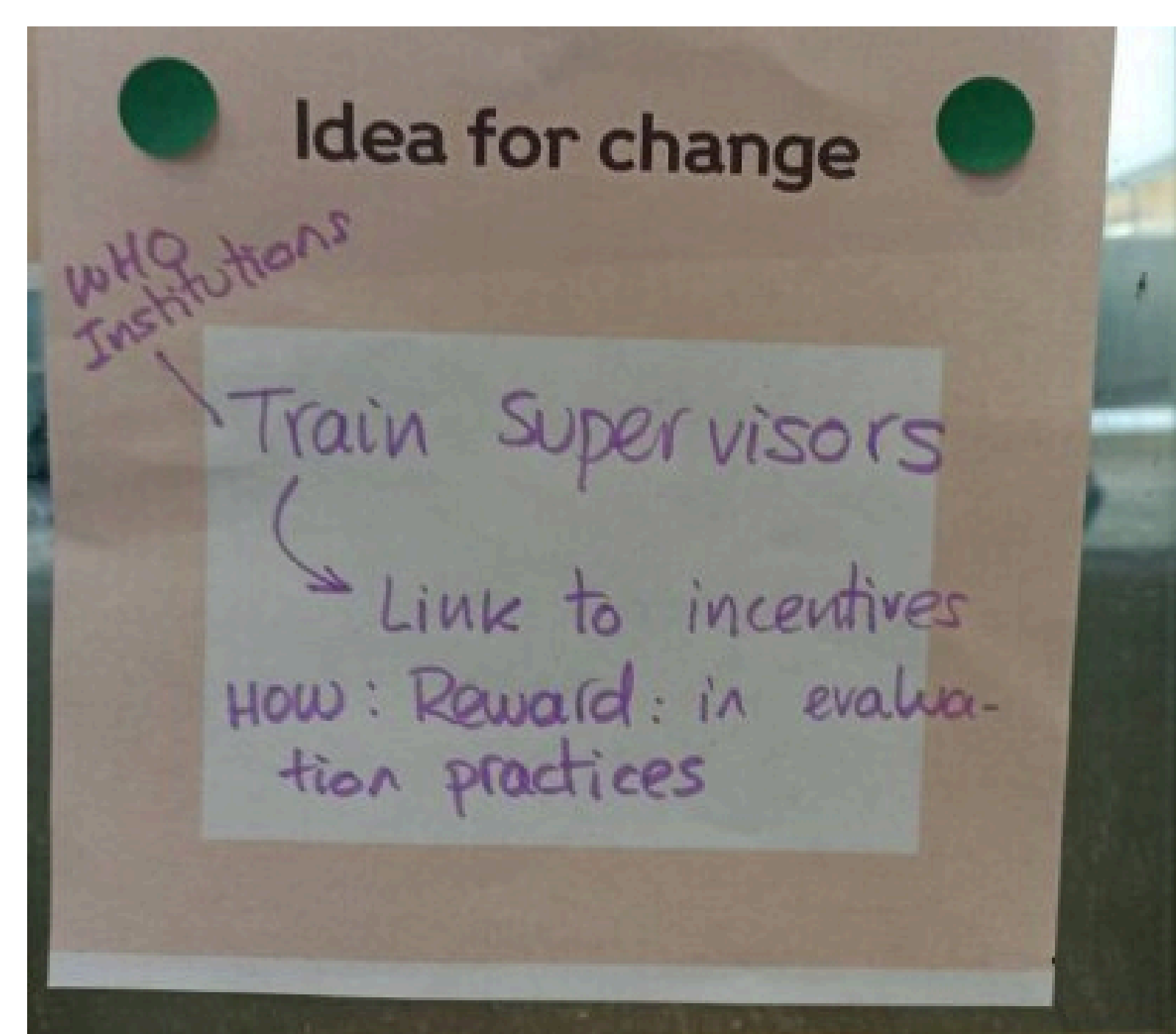
## THE WHAT

### Challenging topics:

Harassment and micro-aggressions / Mental health and wellbeing / Work-life balance / Research assessment / Supervision problems / Hierarchies / Communication issues / Precariousness / Job insecurity / Sustainability

### Suggested solutions:

People management training for PIs, peer support groups, mentorship programs, mediation service, periodic anonymous surveys and independent evaluations, rewards for good supervision, flexible working hours, qualitative assessments, longer fundings, more permanent contracts (also 'non-traditional' positions), institutional sustainability committees, hybrid conferences... and regular open discussions about research culture!



Feedback  
4.8/5

Follow up activities:  
event on supervision  
(2024)

And you? Share your ideas on how to improve the research culture! →

