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**E**nergy **C**hallenges & **M**echanics  
- working on small scales

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### **Speaker of Session 17**

#### **ENERGY HARVESTING**



Dr. Lucia Beccai is Tenure Track Researcher at the Center for Micro-BioRobotics ([mbr.iit.it](http://mbr.iit.it)) of the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia ([iit.it](http://iit.it)) of Genoa, Italy, where she entered as Team Leader in November 2009. She graduated in Electronic Engineering from the University of Pisa in 1998 and received the Ph.D. in Microsystem Engineering from the University of Rome Tor Vergata in 2003. From 1999 to 2009 she was at the Institute of Biorobotics of Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (SSSA), and in 2008 had a position as Assistant Professor in Biomedical Engineering. She is expert in biomechatronics and microsystem engineering and collaborated to many international projects, being also

responsible for management activities in several of them, like in Cyberhand (EU-IST-FET-2001-35094) where she focused on bionic hand artificial tactile systems, DARPA Revolutionizing Prosthetics Program, Nanobiotact (FP6-NMP-033287) and Nanobiotouch (FP7-NMP-228844) where she investigated biorobotic platforms for human touch studies and biomimetic fingerpads for tactile encoding. She collaborates to the PLANTOID Project (ICT-2011.9.1 FET Open “Innovative Robotic Artefacts Inspired by Plant Roots for Soil Monitoring”) focusing on bioinspired sensing systems. Her current scientific interests are related to biorobotics, soft energy harvesting methods for self-powered devices, smart tactile systems in soft robotics inspired from living organisms-especially plants, and bio-hybrid approaches to mechanotransduction. She is author of about 100 articles on refereed international journals, books, and international conference proceedings, has 3 patents. She's Member of IEEE Robotics&Automation Society and Material Research Society.

