Societies’ journals team up

A virtual special issue (VSI) showcases a selection of the best research in recently published in some of the journals produced by Societies in the FEMS microbiology Network.

See a recent selection of recent microbiological research in this Virtual Special Issue – a collaboration between some of the top Society journals in the FEMS microbiology Network. Participating Member Societies are:

• British Phycological Society
• British Mycological Society
• Croatian Microbiological Society
• Czechoslovak Society for Microbiology
• Society for Applied Microbiology
• Spanish Society for Microbiology
• German Society for Hygiene and Microbiology
• Federation of European Microbiological Societies

PEER REVIEW: SURVEY

What is the role of peer review and the issues facing it? In the runup to Peer Review Week in September this year we’re highlighting this most critical and often critical, and often undervalued, function in academic endeavor, using microbiology as a case study, together with the UK’s University of East Anglia and our publisher, Oxford University Press, we’ve created a short questionnaire (it takes less than 10 mins) on peer review to get an idea of who’s doing what and why. It would be great if you could complete the survey – any time before Thursday 30th June

Thanks very much for your time,

Catherine Cotton (CEO, FEMS)
Richard and Laura Bowater (UEA)
and
Matt Pacey (Senior Publisher, OUP)
**FEMS Microbiology Letters**

**Commentary**

Implementing innovative bio-processes in the metal mining industry

Toxic acid and metal-containing waters can be remediated by sulfidogenic microorganisms. If the process is pH-controlled, different metals can be separated and reused for industrial applications.

Authors: Irene Sánchez-Andrea et al.
DOI: 10.1093/femsle/fnw106

**FEMS Microbiology Reviews**

**Review**

Survival proteomes: the emerging proteotype of antimicrobial resistance

A review of recent high-resolution mass spectrometry studies that examine the proteomes of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria.

Authors: Park, Krieger and Khursigara
DOI: 10.1093/femsre/fuv051

**FEMS Microbiology Ecology**

Bacterial biofilms on gold grains—implications for geomicrobial transformations of gold

This review summarizes the current understanding of biofilm communities involved in the biogeochemical cycling of gold, including their role in the (trans)formation of gold grains and nuggets.

Authors: Zeilinger et al.
DOI: 10.1093/femsec/fiw082

**Pathogens and Disease**

**Editor’s Choice**

**Research Article**

Comparison of the efficacy of natural-based and synthetic biocides to disinfect silicone and stainless steel surfaces

Use of natural-based compounds on disinfection of hospital surfaces to increase antimicrobial efficiency and reduce environmental burden.

Authors: Gomes et al.
DOI: 10.1093/femspd/ftw014

More on Biosecurity here

**FEMS Yeast Research**

**Research Article**

The GCA1 gene encodes a glycosidase-like protein in the cell wall of Candida albicans

Candida albicans Gca1 is a putative glucosylase enzyme isolated from cell walls of strain SC5314 involved in carbohydrate metabolism.

Authors: Maicas et al.
DOI: 10.1093/femsyr/fow032

**New Yeast Genus**

congratulations to Teun Boekhout who got a new yeast genus

Teunomyces named after him

Description of Teunomyces gen. nov. for the Candida kruisii clade, Suhomyces gen. nov. for the Candida tanzawaensis clade and Suhomyces kilbournensis sp. nov.

Authors: Kurtzman, Robnett and Blackwell
DOI: 10.1093/femsyr/fow041

To anyone working on yeast, the title of this retrospective is obvious. The last four decades have seen yeast systems become preeminent as models for cell biology research, and anyone working on yeast during that period has had an exciting and very fulfilling journey.

Read more

**Retrospectives**

IAN DAWES
‘THE THIRD POPE’ LUCKY TO BE A RESEARCHER

To anyone working on yeast, the title of this retrospective is obvious. The last four decades have seen yeast systems become preeminent as models for cell biology research, and anyone working on yeast during that period has had an exciting and very fulfilling journey.

Read more
SFAM MOVING OFFICES

United Kingdom, London - The Society for Applied Microbiology has announced that they will be moving to new premises this summer.

Their new headquarters will be based at Charles Darwin House, 12 Roger Street, London WC1N 2JU and the move prompted by many factors. The Society is growing rapidly after an extensive review of their strategic direction and the move to Charles Darwin House will enable them to collaborate more closely with other Learned Societies within the sector, many of whom are already based in the premises.

By placing themselves at the heart of the science policy and science communication communities, they will also be better placed to serve their Members and the applied microbiology community at large in a way that is both real, relevant and distinct.

SFAM will be operating as normal during the move period. If you have any questions about this or any other SFAM business, you may get in touch with them at communications@sfam.org.uk and they will be happy to answer those questions for you. The news story can also be found on SFAM’s website.

A bit about
• SFAM is the oldest microbiology society in the UK, serving microbiologists around the world. As the voice of applied microbiology, SFAM works to advance, for the benefit of the public, the science of microbiology in its application to the environment, human and animal health, agriculture, and industry.
• Charles Darwin House is home to five charitable societies active in the Biosciences: Biochemical Society, Royal Society of Biology, British Ecological Society, Society of Experimental Biology and Microbiology Society - and soon to come Society for Applied Microbiology.
• Charles Darwin House also houses a modern conference center which boasts a state of the art lecture theater seating up to 110 delegates and a collection of smaller meeting rooms and breakout areas with space for trade exhibitions and poster display.
• The building was awarded a BREEAM Excellence Award for ‘The Code for Sustainable Buildings’ in 2010.

Sources: Charles Darwin House, SFAM

GRANTEE IN THE PICTURE

DR IOANNIS PAPAIOANNOU

Research interests:
Primarily the field of microbial genetics, with a particular emphasis on mechanisms involved in sexual and asexual reproduction, meiosis, recombination and non-self recognition in yeasts and filamentous fungi. In addition, understanding the impact of these processes on the population biology and evolution of these microorganisms.

Grant: FEMS Meeting Attendance Grant

Dr Ioannis Papaioannou obtained his M.Sc. degree in microbial biotechnology and his Ph.D. in molecular microbiology from the University of Athens (Greece). Currently, he is a post-doctoral research fellow at the Center for Molecular Biology at Heidelberg University (Germany).

With the FEMS Meeting Attendance Grant Dr Papaioannou attended and presented the results of his recent research on heterokaryon incompatibility in the plant-pathogenic fungus Verticillium at the 13th European Conference on Fungal Genetics (3-6 April 2016, Paris).

“The conference program was of remarkably high calibre, including many inspiring talks and presentations from established scientists in several areas of fungal genetics and biology. Thus, attending this conference was an ideal opportunity for me to increase my awareness of cutting-edge research in many different fields, and to garner new exciting ideas for my future research.

Furthermore, attending this conference enabled me to network with several widely recognised specialists in my field, as well as many researchers from different areas of fungal biology. The opportunities I had to present my own research results on heterokaryon incompatibility in asexual fungi and to discuss experimental problems and limitations greatly helped me to identify possible solutions and interesting ideas to address in the future.

I am grateful to FEMS for having given me the opportunity to attend and present my research at this exciting conference; I believe it was valuable for both my scientific advancement and my career development.”
On behalf of the Organization Committee, I’m great honored to host the 14th International Congress on Yeasts (ICY14) at Awaji Yumenbutsu International Conference Center, Awaji Island, Japan, in September 11-15, 2016. General topic of ICY14 is “Yeasts for Global Happiness”. It means that yeast science & technology will contribute to the world in terms of food & beverage, health & medicine, energy & environment. This congress will be the first time held in Japan since ISSY2 in back to 1972. We’ll send valuable message and information from Japan to the world. More importantly, this will be a great opportunity for young scientists as they can attend and present their research. I am very much looking forward to seeing you in Awaji Island, Japan!!

Hiroshi Takagi
Head of the Organizing Committee of ICY14

Keynote lecture
Dr. Yoshinori Ohsumi (Japan)
“Molecular machinery of autophagy in yeast”

Plenary lecture
Dr. Graham Bell (Canada)
Dr. Jef D. Boeke (USA)
Dr. Davis Ng (Singapore)
Dr. Satoshi Harashima (Japan)
Dr. Isabel Sá-Correia (Portugal)
Dr. Charles Abbas (USA)
Dr. Andriy A. Sibirny (Ukraine)
Dr. Duccio Cavalieri (Italy)
Dr. Hyun Ah Kang (South Korea)

Concurrent sessions
- Ecology, systematic and taxonomy
- Production and quality control of proteins
- Signaling, sensing and gene expression
- Food and beverage
- Yeasts in health science
- Chromatin, cell cycle and sporulation
- Growth and stress response/tolerance
- Systems and synthetic biology
- Organelle, membrane traffic and autophagy
- Bioenergy and biofuels

Concurrent workshops
- Interaction with yeasts
- Nomenclatural workshop
- Yeast fermentation in Asia
- Non-conventional yeasts
- Imaging technology
- International workshop of iBioK

Deadline for abstract submission: June 10, 2016

http://icy2016.com/

FEMS Partner message

The biannual European Congress on Biotechnology (ECB2016) – at EXPO Krakow in Krakow, Poland, from 3 to 6 July 2016 is fast approaching!

Over 700 abstracts have been received and attendance is reaching capacity rapidly.

Don’t miss our medical symposia speakers:
- Jozef Dulak | Induced pluripotent stem cells for research and therapy: perspectives and challenges
- Fatima Bosch | Gene therapies: towards a gene therapy for Neurological and Somatic mucopolysacchariadosis
- Pamela Silver | The mammalian cell factory: Designing Biology for Human Health
- Harold Kolmar | Novel antibody and ligand formats: Bifunctional single-domain antibodies for applications in biotechnology and medicine
- Hitto Kaufmann | Biotherapeutics and vaccines: Biologics Manufacturing 3.0

PLENARY SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE:
- Jens Nielsen | Chalmers University of Technology
- Emmanuelle Charpentier | Umeå University / Max Planck Institute
- Patrick Schnable | Iowa State University/China Agriculture University
- Tai Hyun Park | Seoul National University
- Luke Alpehy | The Pirbright Institute/Oxford University

Programme

Sponsors:

Have a look at the opportunities on our website

Looking for a career in bioscience? Leiden Biosciencepark now has over 60 vacancies, varying from Biomarker Lead HIV to Associate Director R&D.

You can still apply for FEMS sponsored meeting: 3rd Innovative Approaches for Identification of Antiviral Agents Summer School, providing an informal and interactive environment to review the application of HTS techniques to identify novel and clinically-significant antiviral drugs. The Summer School is aimed at researchers at an early stage in their career, combining examples of drug discovery from internationally-recognized experts in the field.

Application deadline: 30 June 2016

At the third IAAASS a representative of Gilead and IRBM will join the meeting and they will chair a bio-tech round table entitled “working in a company after PhD”, to help all the students to have a wider perspective about future work decisions.

Ellen MacArthur Foundation: Louise Viet discusses the importance of life sciences in the next wave of entrepreneurial innovation. Watch the video here.

Did you know we have a section on Professional Development in FEMS Microbiology Letters? Look here for articles or to submit as an author.
Addressing antibiotic resistance with nonantibiotic adjuvants
Coupled with the crisis in antibiotic drug resistance is a dearth of mechanistically new classes of antibacterial agents. One possible solution to this problem is to improve the efficacy of existing antibiotics against otherwise resistant bacteria using a combination agent approach. Lee et al describe just such a combination agent strategy to resuscitate the efficacy of β-lactam antibiotics. They identify nonantibiotic adjuvants (termed tarocins) that restore the killing activity of β-lactams against methicillin-resistant staphylococci, thereby enabling the application of β-lactams to treat Gram-positive bacterial infections.

Source: The Scientist

DDX3 protein target for antivirals
A single drug against all viral infections, capable of hitting the protein that the virus uses to multiply. A study conducted in a collaboration between the University of Siena and the National Research Council, has identified new molecules capable of inhibiting the human protein that ‘feeds’ the virus DDX3.

Source: Galileonet