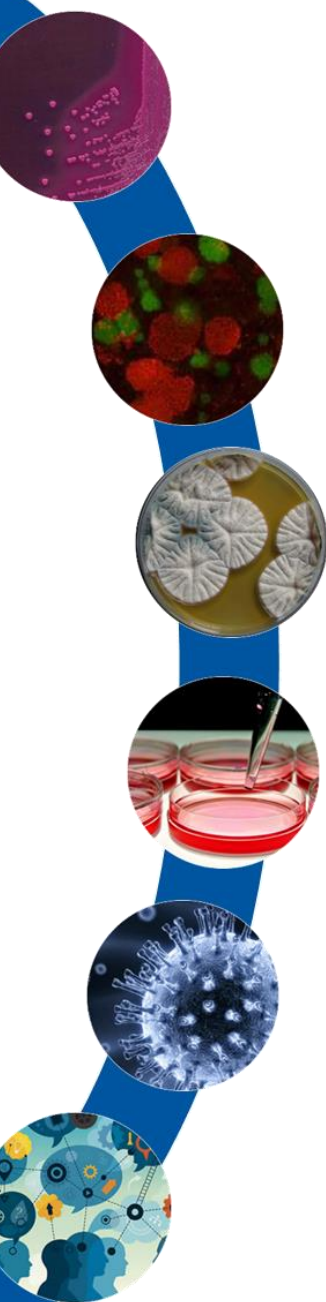


SSM Annual Report 2020

INFO 68



The Swiss Society for Microbiology (SSM) is a professional association with more than 600 members mainly from Switzerland but also from other countries, all working in the field of human and veterinary medical microbiology, molecular microbiology, environmental microbiology, virology and mycology.
www.swissmicrobiology.ch



Contents

SSM Committee	2-4
Word of the President	5
SSM Annual Meeting	
Invitation to the General Assembly	6
Financial News	7-14
Income statement 2019	8
Balance sheet at 31.12.2019	9
Report of the auditors	10
Report of fiduciary	11
2019 Budget	12
2020 Budget	13
2021 Budget	14
Sections Reports	15-23
Molecular Microbiology	16
Clinical Microbiology	17-18
Virology	19-20
Mycology	21
Environmental Microbiology	22
Lay Communication	23
Early Career	24
SSM Benefits	25-26
Travel Grants Reports 2019	27-36
Members and Affiliations	37-43
Calendar of Events	44-45

Prof. Pilar Junier

University of Neuchâtel
Rue Emile-Argand 11
2000 NEUCHÂTEL
Tel: 032 718 22 44
e-mail: pilar.junier@unine.ch

President 2019-2021**Prof. Jacques Schrenzel**

Laboratoire de Bactériologie
Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève (HUG)
Rue Gabrielle-Perret-Gentil 4
CH-1211 GENEVE 14
e-mail: Jacques.Schrenzel@hcuge.ch

Future President 2022-2024**Prof. Christof Holliger**

Epfl Enac IIE LBE
CH C3 425 (Bâtiment CH)
Station 6
CH-1015 LAUSANNE
Tel: 021 693 47 24 Fax : 021 693 47 25
e-mail : christof.holliger@epfl.ch

Treasurer**Nathalie Mermoud**

Champ-Pamont 12,
1033 CHESEAUX-SUR-LAUSANNE
Tel: 078 842 18 07
e-mail: secretary@swissmicrobiology.ch

General Secretary

Prof. Hubert Hilbi

University of Zürich
Institute of Medical Microbiology
Gloriastrasse 30
8006 Zürich
e-mail: hilbi@imm.uzh.ch

**Molecular Microbiology
Section**



Prof. Adrian Egli

Head Clinical Bacteriology/Mycology
University Hospital Basel
Petersgraben 4, 4031 Basel
Switzerland
Phone: +41 61 556 5749
e-mail: Adrian.Egli@usb.ch

**Clinical Microbiology
Section**



Prof. Volker Thiel

Institut für Virologie und Immunologie IVI
Länggass Strasse 122
CH-3001 Bern
Tel: 031 631 24 13
e-mail: volker.thiel@vetsuisse.unibe.ch

Virology Section



Dr. David Johnson

Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and
Technology (Eawag)
Department of Environmental Microbiology
BU-F04, Überlandstrasse 133
8600 Dübendorf, Switzerland
Tel: +41 (0)58 765 55 20
e-mail : david.johnson@eawag.ch

**Environmental
Microbiology Section**



Dr. Alix Coste

Institut de Microbiologie
CHUV
Rue du Bugnon 48
CH-1011 Lausanne
Tel. 079 556 87 37.
e-mail: alix.coste@chuv.ch

Mycology Section



Prof. Gilbert GREUB

Directeur de l'institut de Microbiologie et Chef de Service
Département des laboratoires
Bureau IMU 02-222
Bugnon 48, CH-1011 Lausanne
Tel: 021 314 49 79 Fax: 021 314 40 60
e-mail: gilbert.greub@chuv.ch

Lay Communication Section



Dr. Florian Tagini, MD-PhD

Institut de microbiologie de l'Université de Lausanne
Département des Laboratoires
Bureau IMUL 03-322
Bugnon 48, CH-1011 Lausanne
Tel : 021 314 49 79
e-mail: florian.tagini@chuv.ch

Early Career





Dear Members,

The year 2020 started off with great promises for microbiology in Switzerland. This was the year in which we expected to hold the first of a regular series of joint meetings between the SSM and the Swiss Society of Infectious Diseases. It was the year in which we were also to test new initiatives to promote the participation of our members for the organization of the annual meeting. All of this changed with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. After the urgent need for a response to the sanitary crisis in which many of the members of the SSM committee were directly involved, followed many weeks of uncertainty and constant change. None of us was exempted: changing the way in which we teach, we collaborate or we communicate, meant a full re-thinking of our role in society at a large. The importance of Microbiology became even more evident. All areas represented in the SSM had a role to play. The recent tragic loss of one of our colleagues investigating emerging viruses became even more painful and saddening.

Europe is no longer the epicenter of the pandemic but the emergency is far from over. Slowly society is opening up and with it, the fear of a second wave of infections in a highly interconnected planet. We need to do all we can to prevent this and, accordingly, after long deliberation and consultation with experts, the three societies agreed on a modified concept of the annual joint SSM-SSI-SSHH meeting. While the SSI-SSHH meeting will go ahead, the SSM meeting was postponed to 2021. This decision will not come without consequences, but we believe that maintaining a meeting in which social interactions and personal exchange are a big part of the motivation of the participants, would not be possible under the current situation. I am happy nonetheless to announced that we have already found an alternative venue to convey the meeting for 2021 in conditions as close as possible to the conditions initially planned for 2020.

Although the agenda of the SSM for 2020 has changed, we still want to share with you this INFO and extend our invitation for your participation to the annual assembly that will be held virtually on Thursday 3rd of September 2020. We need you there. This assembly will offer a possibility to debate about the future of the society and to discuss ideas about how to construct something positive out of the current situation.

With my best regards,

Pilar JUNIER

President SSM 2019 to 2021

Invitation to the General Assembly

All SSM members are cordially invited to attend the General Assembly of the Swiss Society for Microbiology (SSM) that will take place

On Thursday 3rd of September 2020 from 5 PM to 6 PM

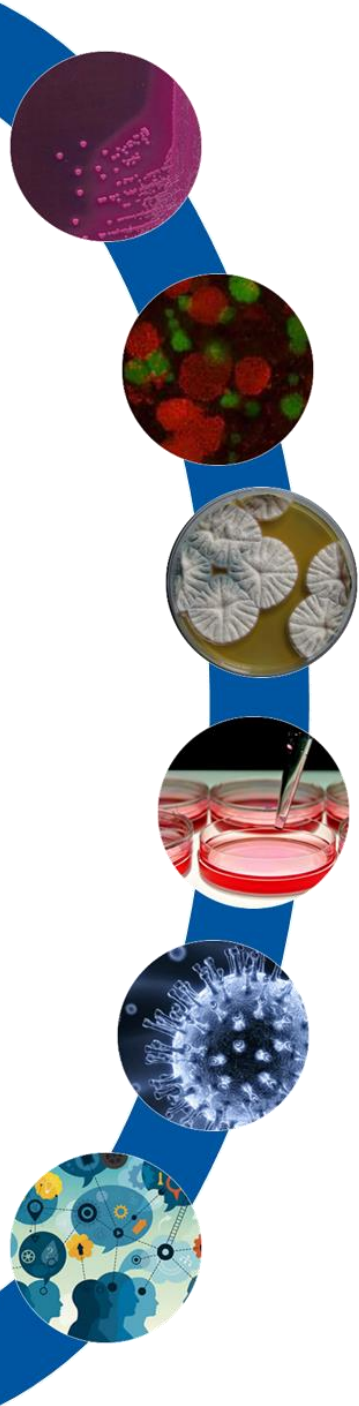
Remote video conference through Zoom

An invitation by mail will be sent.

Agenda:

1. Review of the agenda
2. Approval of Annual Assembly Minutes
3. Approval of 2019 Accounts and report by auditors
4. Discussion of 2020 budget
5. Approval of 2021 budget
6. Approval of 2020 commission reports:
 - Molecular Microbiology
 - Clinical Microbiology
 - Virology
 - Mycology
 - Environmental Microbiology
 - Lay Communication
 - Early career
7. New members
8. Website information: Update contact info
9. Vote to have new student annual fee
10. Modified SSM Grant Rules and Award Rules to be validated
11. Travel Grants
12. SSM Annual Meeting 2021
13. Other / varia / news

*** IMPORTANT:** *Kindly send your inquiries by mail to the president via our general secretary (secretary@swissmicrobiology.ch) before the 6th of August 2020..*



FINANCIAL NEWS

1. SSM Income statement 2019 vs. 2018

	2019	2018
INCOME (I)	76,095.71	119,436.72
Membership fees income	40,274.60	41,856.22
SCNAT Support	-	14,000.00
Sponsoring	-	-
Interest Incomes	-	-
Annual Meeting Benefit	35,821.11	63,580.50
EXPENSES (II)	74,366.52	83,606.32
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	-	29,807.00
Annual Meeting Organisation	-	5,400.00
Annual Meeting Deficit	-	-
Satellite Symposium	-	10,407.00
SCNAT Contribution	-	14,000.00
PERSONNEL EXPENSES	31,928.78	34,243.54
Net Salary	23,819.48	25,602.89
Social Charges	8,109.30	8,640.65
OTHERS EXPENSES	42,437.74	19,555.78
Course, Workshop, Symposium	21.00	-
Travel, Commissions expenses	4,661.61	1,955.00
Committee Member Fees	3,929.30	1,180.20
SSM communication	-	-
Support contribution and SSM award	3,000.00	5,500.00
SSM Deficit Guaranty	11,876.75	-
Travel grants	9,000.00	1,000.00
Subscription Fees to pay	7,239.80	7,284.53
Office Supplies, Computer and IT Equipment	295.55	220.90
Web Site Fees	1,166.30	1,430.85
Postal Charges	-	31.00
Postfinance and Bank Charges	94.40	103.20
Others Expenses	298.10	120.40
Financial Expenses	11.13	-
Fiduciary Fees	600.00	600.00
Audit Fees	243.80	129.70
A - Operating result (I-II)	1,729.19	35,830.40
C - Exceptional result (V-VI)	9,425.05	1,723.38
Exceptional income (V)	9,425.05	1,723.38
Exceptional Charge (VI)	-	-
Taxes	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	85,520.76	121,160.10
TOTAL EXPENSE	74,366.52	83,606.32
PROFIT	11,154.24	37,553.78
LOSS	-	-

2. Balance sheet at 31.12.2019

As of 31.12.2019



Fr.

Fr.

Assets	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
Currents Assets	359,252.08	340,674.16
- Cash	1.25	1.25
- Postal Account Current	159,250.83	140,672.91
- Postal Account Saving	200,000.00	200,000.00
Prepaid Expenses	5,612.00	15,695.05
- Prepayments / Prepaid expenses	-	-
- Accrued Income	5,612.00	15,695.05
Total Assets	364,864.08	356,369.21
Liabilities and Stockholder's equity		
Debts	12,109.20	12,109.20
- Payable	-	-
- Dieter Haas Provision	12,109.20	12,109.20
Accrued Expenses	8,031.79	10,691.16
- Accrued Expenses	7,806.79	10,316.16
- Deferred revenue / Prepaid income	225.00	375.00
Capital	344,723.09	333,568.85
- Capital	333,568.85	296,015.07
- Period Profit/ Loss	11,154.24	37,553.78
Total Liabilities and Stockholder's equity	364,864.08	356,369.21

3. Report of the auditors



SWISS SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY
SOCIÉTÉ SUISSE DE MICROBIOLOGIE
SOCIETÀ SVIZZERA DI MICROBIOLOGIA
SCHWEIZERISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR MIKROBIOLOGIE

Rapport des réviseurs des comptes relatifs aux comptes annuels de la Société Suisse de Microbiologie (SSM) à l'attention de l'assemblée générale de la SSM

Mesdames, Messieurs,

En notre qualité de réviseurs des comptes, nous avons contrôlé la comptabilité et les comptes annuels constitués des comptes de bilan et de pertes et profits de la SSM pour l'exercice se terminant au 31 décembre 2019.

La tenue de la comptabilité incombe au comité alors que notre fonction est de contrôler et d'évaluer cette dernière.

Compte tenu des examens effectués par sondages, nous confirmons que

- les soldes des comptes du bilan sont justifiés,
- les justificatifs correspondent à la comptabilité,
- la comptabilité est tenue avec soin et précision.

Le rapport des révisions établi par la fiduciaire Fidurev S.A. à Assens, daté du 6 avril 2020, ci-annexé, conclut que les comptes annuels sont conformes aux dispositions du droit suisse et des statuts.

Les comptes annuels clôturent avec un bénéfice de **11,154.24 CHF**. Cela porte le capital de la société de **333'568.85 CHF (2018) à 344,723.09 CHF (2019)**.

En conséquence, nous recommandons à l'assemblée d'accepter les comptes tels que présentés et d'en donner décharge au comité.

Dr. Jakob Zopfi Membre SSM

Dr. Robin Tecon Membre SSM

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Zopfi'.

Basel, 5 Juin 2020

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Tecon'.

Zürich, 5 Juin 2020

Pièces jointes :

- *Rapport des révisions établi par la fiduciaire Fidurev*
- *Bilan avec comparaison de l'année précédente*
- *Compte de résultat par rapport à l'année précédente*

Nathalie Mermoud / General Secretary SGM SSM / (T) +41 (0) 78 842 18 07 secretary@swissmicrobiology.ch

4. Report of the fiduciary

Fidurev FIDUCIAIRE
REVISION
CONSEIL

Société Suisse de Microbiologie
Route d'Yverdon 3
1033 Cheseaux

Assens, le 6 avril 2020

Rapport de contrôle de la gestion des comptes de la Société Suisse de Microbiologie

Mesdames, Messieurs,

En notre qualité de vérificateurs des comptes de votre association et conformément au mandat que vous nous avez confié, ainsi qu'aux dispositions légales, nous avons vérifié les comptes annuels arrêtés au 31 décembre 2019.

Suite à nos contrôles, nous avons constaté les faits suivants :

1. Le bilan et le compte de pertes et profits établis concordent avec la comptabilité.
2. Les comptes pour l'année 2019 sont tenus de manière exacte.
3. L'état de la fortune sociale et des résultats répond aux règles établies par la loi et les statuts pour les évaluations en matière de bilan.
4. Les liquidités sont placées avec toute la prudence que la situation économique actuelle exige.

Selon notre appréciation, nous vous proposons d'approuver les comptes qui vous sont soumis.

Ceux-ci font ressortir un bénéfice de **CHF 11'154.24**, que nous vous proposons de virer au compte de profits et pertes.

Dès lors, nous vous recommandons également d'approuver cette proposition et de donner décharge au Trésorier pour la comptabilité 2019.


Fidurev S.A.

Jean-Luc Dondenz
Agent Fiduciaire Breveté


Nicolas Despont
Expert-comptable diplômé

Annexe : compte de profits et pertes 2019

Fidurev SA · Route St-Germain 17 · 1042 Assens · 021 886 31 20 · info@fidurev.ch · www.fidurev.ch · CHE-112.453.745 TVA

 Membre d'EXPERTSuisse

5. SSM Budget 2019

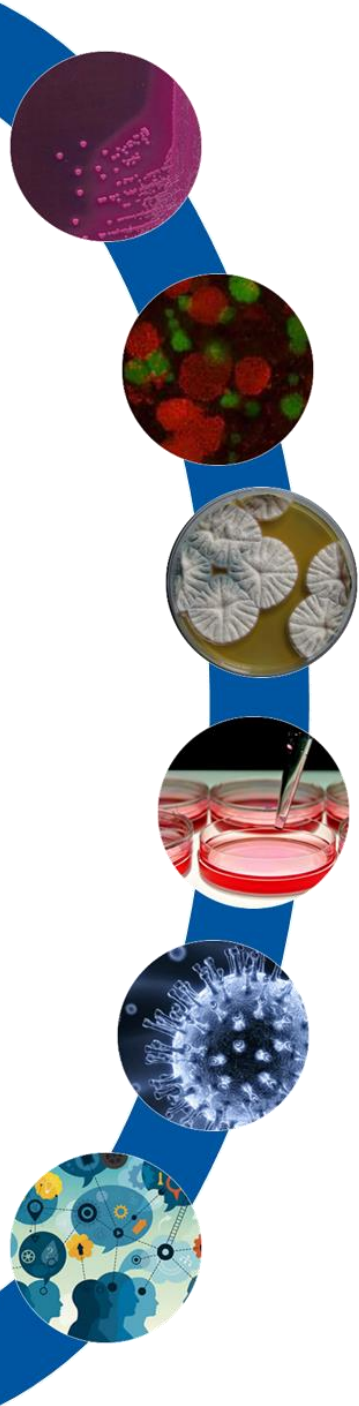
 SSM-SSM	2019
INCOME (I)	43,050.00
Membership fees income	40,000.00
SCNAT Support	
Sponsoring	3,000.00
Interest Incomes	50.00
Annual Meeting Benefit	-
EXPENSES (II)	82,100.00
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	-
Annual Meeting Organisation	
Annual Meeting Deficit	
Satellite Symposium	
SCNAT Contribution	
PERSONNEL EXPENSES	35,000.00
Net Salary	27,000.00
Social Charges	8,000.00
OTHERS EXPENSES	47,100.00
Course, Workshop, Symposium	3,000.00
Travel, Commissions expenses	2,000.00
Committee Member Fees	4,000.00
SSM communication	8,000.00
Support contribution and SSM award	8,500.00
SSM Deficit Guaranty	4,000.00
Travel grants	6,000.00
Subscription Fees to pay	8,000.00
Office Supplies, Computer and IT Equipement	200.00
Web Site Fees	1,000.00
Postal Charges	100.00
Postfinance and Bank Charges	300.00
Others Expenses	1,000.00
Financial Expenses	-
Fiduciary Fees	500.00
Audit Fees	500.00
A - Operating result (I-II)	(39,050.00)
C - Exceptional result (V-VI)	-
Exceptional income (V)	
Exceptional Charge (VI)	
Taxes	
TOTAL REVENUE	43,050.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	82,100.00
PROFIT	-
LOSS	(39,050.00)

6. SSM Budget 2020

	2020
INCOME (I)	44,050.00
Membership fees income	41,000.00
SCNAT Support	
Sponsoring	3,000.00
Interest Incomes	50.00
Annual Meeting Benefit	
EXPENSES (II)	89,250.00
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	-
Annual Meeting Organisation	
Annual Meeting Deficit	
Satellite Symposium	
SCNAT Contribution	
PERSONNEL EXPENSES	35,000.00
Net Salary	27,000.00
Social Charges	8,000.00
OTHERS EXPENSES	54,250.00
Course, Workshop, Symposium	5,000.00
Travel, Commissions expenses	2,000.00
Committee Member Fees	3,500.00
SSM communication	5,000.00
Support contribution and SSM award	12,000.00
SSM Deficit Guaranty	6,000.00
Travel grants	9,000.00
Subscription Fees to pay	8,000.00
Office Supplies, Computer and IT Equipement	250.00
Web Site Fees	1,500.00
Postal Charges	100.00
Postfinance and Bank Charges	150.00
Others Expenses	1,000.00
Financial Expenses	
Fiduciary Fees	600.00
Audit Fees	150.00
A - Operating result (I-II)	(45,200.00)
C - Exceptional result (V-VI)	-
Exceptional income (V)	
Exceptional Charge (VI)	
Taxes	
TOTAL REVENUE	44,050.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	89,250.00
PROFIT	-
LOSS	(45,200.00)

7. SSM Budget 2021

	2021
INCOME (I)	37,000.00
Membership fees income	37,000.00
SCNAT Support	
Sponsoring	
Interest Incomes	
Annual Meeting Benefit	
EXPENSES (II)	88,600.00
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	-
Annual Meeting Organisation	
Annual Meeting Deficit	
Satellite Symposium	
SCNAT Contribution	
PERSONNEL EXPENSES	35,000.00
Net Salary	26,000.00
Social Charges	9,000.00
OTHERS EXPENSES	53,600.00
Course, Workshop, Symposium	
Travel, Commissions expenses	4,000.00
Committee Member Fees	3,800.00
SSM communication	5,000.00
Support contribution and SSM award	11,000.00
SSM Deficit Guaranty	10,000.00
Travel grants	9,000.00
Subscription Fees to pay	7,500.00
Office Supplies, Computer and IT Equipement	300.00
Web Site Fees	1,500.00
Postal Charges	50.00
Postfinance and Bank Charges	100.00
Others Expenses	500.00
Financial Expenses	
Fiduciary Fees	600.00
Audit Fees	250.00
A - Operating result (I-II)	(51,600.00)
C - Exceptional result (V-VI)	-
Exceptional income (V)	
Exceptional Charge (VI)	
Taxes	
TOTAL REVENUE	37,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	88,600.00
PROFIT	-
LOSS	(51,600.00)



SECTIONS REPORTS

Molecular Microbiology Section Report

By Prof. Hubert Hilbi



Commission members:



Hubert Hilbi (Zürich)
Jörg Jores (Bern)
Martin Pilhofer (Zürich)
Patrick Viollier (Geneva)
Jan-Willem Veening (Lausanne)

On occasion of the SSM general assembly on September 3rd 2019, the society members approved to rename the former section "Prokaryotic Biology" in "Molecular Microbiology".

The section Molecular Microbiology organized a session termed "Cell Biology of Infection" at the annual meeting of the society Life Sciences Switzerland (LS2) in Zürich from February 13th to 14th 2020. Hubert Hilbi (University of Zürich) and Melanie Blokesch (EPF Lausanne) chaired the session, which included invited talks by Agathe Subtil (Institute Pasteur Paris, France) and Serge Mostowy (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom), short oral presentations by Leoni Swart (University of Zürich) and Thomas Simonet (EPF Lausanne), as well as 5 poster flash talks and a plenary poster flash talk. The session drew a considerable crowd of scientists interested in Microbiology and Cell Biology alike.

In the long-standing tradition of Molecular Microbiology section meetings termed SWIMM (Swiss Molecular Microbiology), Hubert Hilbi will organize a workshop together with Urs Greber, a board member of the SSM section Virology and currently the "past-president" of the society LS2. The workshop is sponsored by the Swiss Academies of Sciences (SCNAT) and will take place from January 31st to February 2nd 2021 at the Hotel Rigi Kulm, arguably one of the most scenic spots in Switzerland. The interdisciplinary topic of the workshop focusses on "Cell Biology of Infection" and will include poster presentations, short talks and team work projects, as well as keynote lectures from national and international experts in the field. The workshop will accommodate up to 40 participants and hopefully draw attention from PhD students and junior postdocs of all five scientific sections of the SSM, as well as from students affiliated with LS2 and other biological-medical societies in Switzerland. In the light of COVID-19, the topic of the workshop truly reflects the importance to deeply understand the knots and bolts of microbial interactions with the host.

Lastly, the section Molecular Microbiology always seeks to engage (young) microbiologists for exciting activities in the broad field of prokaryotic biology. Applications and expressions of interest for joining the section board are very welcome.

Hubert Hilbi; Zürich, May 2020

Clinical Microbiology Section Report

By Prof. Jacques Schrenzel



Commission members:

André Burnens (Synlab)
Adrian Egli (Universitätsspital Basel)
Hans Fankhauser (Kantonsspital, Aarau)
Meri Gorgievski (Bern)
Eric Grüter (Swissmedic, Bern)
Katia Jatton-Ogay (CHUV, Lausanne)

Nadia Liassine (Dianalabs, Genève)
Gladys Martinetti (EOLAB, Bellinzona)
Martin Risch (Imz Dr Risch, Bern)
Jacques Schrenzel (coordinator; HUG, Genève)
Marie-Lise Tritten (ADMED, La Chaux-de-Fonds)
Reinhard Zbinden (IMM, Zürich)

During the past period, the committee met twice in April and October 2019. The committee is welcoming Katia Jatton-Ogay (CHUV, Lausanne) as a new valuable member: she will represent the CHUV where she works as head of molecular diagnostics. We are very grateful to the remarkable work of our colleague and friend Hans Siegrist (ADMED, La Chaux-de-Fonds) who served our committee for many years and has just retired.

The coordination will be led by Adrian Egli (University Hospital Basel) starting in January 2020, to allow Jacques Schrenzel to step in as president elect of the SSM.

Our white paper on molecular diagnostic panels is now published (Pipette 02/2019); it is also freely available from our website (ref 1) and should help clinical laboratories to implement usage of these new assays.

TransAL II (the second part of the revision of laboratory testing) is now in phase 2, i.e. the review of the current analyses as well as their reimbursement. We have sent a statement of our position to the BAG in early 2020. This phase appears especially sensitive in the field of molecular diagnostics. We are also working on phase 3, to propose new analyses, including molecular panels and generic PCR positions, genomics and metagenomics analyses in microbiology, revised positions in serology as well as rapid phenotypic tests for AST and rapid phenotypic typing. These new tests will need to be supported by rather strong medico-economic elements and the committee is working on new concepts for such reimbursement, e.g. for molecular panels or multiplexed assays.

The Swiss Strategy on Antibio Resistance (StAR program; ref 2) is actively running and involves us as microbiologists in the review process of guidelines, especially for the diagnosis of a series of frequent infections.

QUALAB is currently being reformed, this should enable additional harmonization between MQ and CSCQ. We are actively following this important process. QUALAB increased EQC requirements from 75% to 95% for the serological parameters on HIV and hepatitis; and ii) new parameters such as the molecular panels, e.g. on meningitis, should be included; preparation for these new parameters is ongoing.

A kick-off meeting was organized in December 2019 by METAS for the Septimet project, aiming at developing metrology for nucleic acids testing. Our committee was represented by Meri Gorgievski-Hrisoho and Daniel Goldenberger (as delegate of Adrian Egli).

The Swiss Antibigram Committee met in July 2019. It will provide further guidelines to help laboratories implementing the new EUCAST breakpoints in 2020, and especially the new interpretation of "I" as susceptible with increased dosage (ref 1). We had the opportunity to present the changes of EUCAST 2019 in the Joint Meeting of the "Club de pathologie infectieuse" of the Swiss Society for Infectious Diseases (SSID) and the "réunion informelle" of the SSM on Wednesday, February 6, 2019. The "Club de pathologie infectieuse" is no longer organized by the SSID, and the committee is discussing about possible replacement options.

Several SSM training courses in clinical microbiology were held in 2019. We had also our "8ième journée de formation en microbiologie diagnostique", Tuesday, 1st of October 2019. The annual meeting of the SSM took place in Zürich and was a great success.

As a varia, all members are reminded that they should keep their CE documentation for at least 5 years!

1) <https://www.swissmicrobiology.ch/sections/clinical-microbiology/downloads>

2) <https://www.star.admin.ch/star/en/home.html>

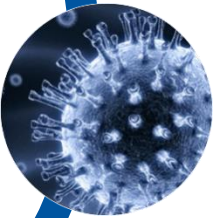
Jacques Schrenzel, Geneva, June 2020

Virology Section Report

By Prof. Volker Thiel



Commission members:



Angela Ciuffi (Lausanne)
Cornel Fraefel (Zürich)
Jerome Gouttenoire (Lausanne)
Urs Greber (Zürich)
Thomas Klimkait (Basel)

Karin Metzner (Zürich)
Matthias Schweizer (Bern)
Caroline Tapparel Vu (Geneva)
Volker Thiel (Bern)

The Virology Section encompasses a broad variety of interests, ranging from basic research to diagnostic virology and from clinical interest to federal regulation.

The commission of the SSM Virology Section aims to provide a platform:

- for the exchange of news in the field
- for Swiss Virologists to facilitate various interaction and collaborations on all levels
- to distribute information concerning fundamental virology, clinical virology and virus diagnostics at Swiss institutions

The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic was the dominant topic in Virology in 2020 and had significant impact for all virologists in Switzerland. Essentially all clinical and research Institutes were involved in the national response to this pandemic. Clinicians were heavily involved in patient care, epidemiologists were developing models to predict SARS-CoV-2 spread in Switzerland, and virologists working on basic aspects of virus replication brought in their expertise to further our understanding on SARS-CoV-2 biology. Many virologists could successfully apply for SNF funding in the context of a special call of the SNF on COVID-19, which shows that the virology in Switzerland is highly competitive.

Just before the measures to combat SARS-CoV-2 infections were announced the 8th Swiss Virology Meeting could take place. This was in February 4-5th, 2020 and the meeting was back at the "Ferienhof Hotel" in Thun, as in many previous years. The goal of this 8th national meeting in virology was to bring together a maximum number of research groups working in fundamental virology to promote interaction, exchange of ideas, and collaborations in an informal and collegial atmosphere. The organizing and scientific committee Angela Ciuffi (University of Lausanne), Cornel Fraefel (University of Zurich), Jérôme Gouttenoire (University of Lausanne), Ben Hale (University of Zurich), Karin Metzner (University Hospital of Zurich), Daniel Pinschewer (University of Basel), Philippe Plattet (University of Bern), Mirco Schmolke (University of Geneva), Matthias Schweizer (University of Bern), Caroline Tapparel Vu (University of Geneva), Volker Thiel (University of Bern), and Stefan Wieland (University of Basel) could assemble an excellent panel of invited speakers and speakers selected from abstracts, and one highlight was again the session "SWISS VIROLOGIST ABROAD" with plenary talks from Amalio Telenti (Vir Biotechnology, USA) and Jason Mercer (University College London, UK).

The members of the SSM Virology Section want to express our deep sorrow for the loss of a great colleague and friend, Stefan Kunz. He had immense impact on virology in Switzerland and we miss him so much.

Volker Thiel, Bern, July 2020

Mycology Section Report

By Dr. Alix Coste



Commission members:

Saskia Bindschedler (Neuchâtel)
Philipp Bosshard (Zürich)
Alix Coste (Lausanne)
Claudio De Virgilio (Fribourg)
Jurg Enkerli (Zürich)

Markus Künzler (Zürich)
Salome Leidbundgut-Landmann (Zürich)
Arnaud Riat (Geneva)
Dominique Sanglard (Lausanne).

During the past period, the committee of the section met once September 3 2019.

As a main objective, the section plan to foster contacts between people active in the field of mycology in Switzerland. In this concern of networking between Swiss mycologists, we created a Swiss mycologist database under the form of an excel file downloadable from the publically available SSM mycology webpage (<https://www.swissmicrobiology.ch/sections/mycology>). The file is organized following the three main area of interest defined by the committee: environmental, medical and basic mycology.

We hope that this database will help a lot of mycologists and other microbiologists in Switzerland to develop interesting collaborations. Please do not hesitate to contact us to make it alive with new people!

The last general meeting took place in Zurich and was a great success, with outstanding presentations in mycology from Swiss and European colleagues.

Our representative to the European Confederation of medical Mycology, Dr Dominique Sanglard, PhD (CHUV, Lausanne) retired from this position and Dr Frederic Lamoth, MD (CHUV, Lausanne) took over this charge. We thank them both for their involvement in the representation of Swiss medical mycology at the European level.

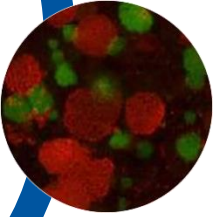
Alix Coste, Lausanne, May 2020

Environmental Microbiology Section Report

By Dr. David Johnson



Commission members:



Helmut Bürgmann (Kastanienbaum)
Leo Eberl (Zürich)
Christof Holliger (Lausanne)
David R. Johnson (Dübendorf)
Pilar Junier (Neuchâtel)
Sara Mitri (Lausanne)
Anita Narwani (Dübendorf)

Mauro Tonolla (Bellinzona)
Jan Roelof van der Meer (Lausanne)
Julia Vorholt (Zürich)
David Weissbrodt (Delft)
Franco Widmer (Zürich)
Jakob Zopfi (Basel)

It has been an extremely exciting time for environmental microbiology in Switzerland. The Federal Council and the Swiss National Science Foundation unveiled two new National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR) that are directly relevant to our discipline. The first is the NCCR "Microbiomes", which will investigate the structure, functioning, ecology and evolution of host-associated microbial communities, including those associated with plants, insects, animals and humans. The second is the NCCR "AntiResist", which will investigate and develop new approaches for combating antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Both NCCRs incorporate aspects of environmental microbiology, and we are incredibly excited to see how these projects develop over time and stimulate new interactions within Switzerland and beyond.

While Coronavirus has impacted all of our activities, Coronavirus is also stimulating new ideas and progress in the field. For example, researchers at Eawag (Tim Julian, Christoph Ort) and EPFL (Tamar Kohn) are developing methods to quantify and track Coronavirus in wastewater. The goal is to develop an early warning system, where the detection of Coronavirus in wastewater may precede clinical diagnoses, thus alerting the public health care system to potential increases in case numbers.

On behalf of the commission of Environmental Microbiology and the SSM, I would like to thank all members of the SSM community and the many individuals that contributed towards our work.

David R. Johnson, Dübendorf, June 2020

Lay Communication Section Report

By Dr. Karl Perron



Commission members:

Massimo Caine (Geneva)
Alix Coste (Lausanne)
Gilbert Greub (Lausanne)
Pilar Junier (Neuchâtel)
Carole Kebbi (Lausanne)
Shawna McCallin (Lausanne)

Karl Perron (Geneva)
Jacques Schrenzel (Geneva)
Florian Tagini (Lausanne)
Volker Thiel (Bern)
Philip V'kovski (Bern)

This section, launched in 2016, is now well-recognized and well-integrated into our SSM, and various activities are organized each year during our annual meeting. For example, in Zürich, eight posters representing a wide variety of activities and projects related to communication in microbiology were presented. Two tables, placed close to the posters, on which different activities were proposed, such as games or books much stimulate exchanges and discussions between researchers. We will organize a similar arrangement for each annual meeting, possibly near an information desk about our society's activities. During the distribution of the best poster prize, an announcement was made to congratulate a poster of the lay communication section (honorable mentioning). It is essential to recognize this type of activity and stimulate researchers to become involved in lay communication. We will, therefore, find the way to establish an official SSM price for this.

Thanks to the discussion during the last SSM meeting, additional members have volunteered to be part of the lay communication commission, namely Alix Coste, Shawna McCalli, Florian Tagini, Philip V'kovski, and Pilar Junier. This section is now happy to have 12 members, representing all sections of our society.

With the growing interest among our members, with the necessity to enable researchers themselves to deliver scientific messages and information to the general public, and with the increasing interest among our members for this mission, we are confident about the future development of this section. People interested in joining the lay communication section or sharing ideas are always welcome, and everybody is free to contact us.

As already mentioned in the last one (INFO), and approved by his election during the annual meeting in Zurich, Gilbert Greub has now taken over the lead. He will continue the further development of this section.

Karl Perron, Geneva, June 2020

“Early Career” Report

By Dr. Florian Tagini



Last year's Annual Assembly of the SSM led to the inclusion of an early career representative among the SSM committee. This great news attests the progressive vision of the society to increase the participation of young members in decision making process, as well as in the planning of the various activities organized by the SSM. I would like to extend my many thanks to the other members of the committee for their warm welcome.

Increasing the SSM presence on social media

One of the first identified goals was to increase the visibility of the society among its members as well as the scientific community. To do so, more posts, mainly concerning the sharing of the latest and most interesting microbiological news, were published through different social media channels. We also post the latest news of the society and we kindly invite the members to follow our accounts @SwissMicrobe on Twitter and #SSM on LinkedIn.

A new session for young members at the SSM annual meeting

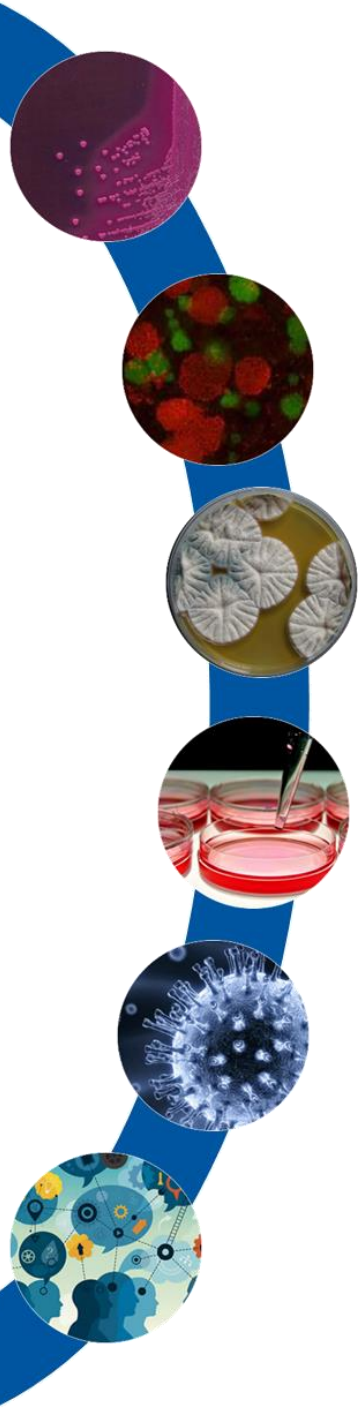
We are glad to announce the creation of a new “early career” session, called “Microbiologists of tomorrow”, which was planned for the 2020 SSM annual meeting. Five inspiring speakers, representing very different fields – academic, clinical, industrial (start-up and large company) and scientific communication – agreed to come to share their career stories, give specific advice and discuss with young society members. As informed to the society members, the 2020 meeting had to be postponed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 crisis and this session will take place next year.

Making the society alive

To increase the participation of members in the SSM network, we created a new page on the SSM website where article summaries and discussions can be published. As this new page was created during the COVID-19 epidemics, it was initially decided to select article discussing latest COVID-19 news. However, this concept can be extended to other topics and if anyone feels like discussing a microbiology paper through a one-page summary, please contact us. This could become a “journal club” of a new kind and would be a nice way for the members to contribute to the website news.

As young members have now a representative, please also feel free to share any thoughts, ideas or projects you may have for the society.

Florian Tagini, Lausanne, June 2020



SSM BENEFITS

The SSM offers a wide range of benefits to its members:



Scientific Information and Networking

- Annual meeting
- Newsletter, Social media
- Advantages of affiliated societies (see list page 41)



Financial Support

- Travel Grants

The SSM provides travel grants for young member scientists.

- Meeting Grants

The SSM supports the organisation of scientific meetings.

To know more about the rules, please go to <https://www.swissmicrobiology.ch/society/grants>



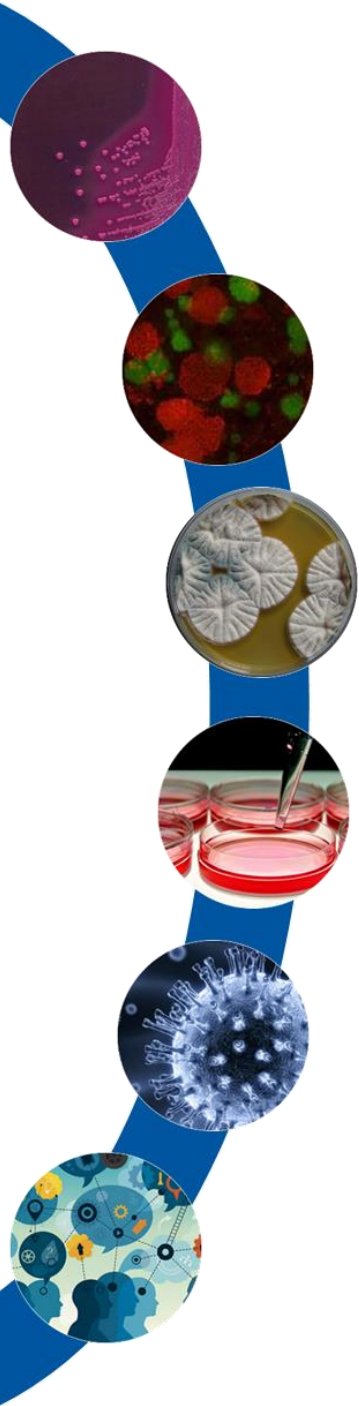
Awards:

- **SSM Encouragement Award** is given to young investigators in the field of microbiology for achievements that are outstanding in terms of their originality and of particular scientific value. Achievements in the field of teaching as well as research and development are taken into consideration as well. The Award is given for a work that has been carried out in Switzerland or that is closely connected with our country.

- **Best Oral Presentation:** 5 Awards (one per section) in the context of the annual meeting presentations.

- **Poster Award:** 3 Awards selected during the annual meeting

To know more about the rules, please go to <https://www.swissmicrobiology.ch/society/awards>



TRAVEL GRANTS REPORTS 2019

The Swiss Society for Microbiology SGM-SSM can provide funding for activities related to the dissemination of scientific results by its members. To know more about the rules, please go to <https://www.swissmicrobiology.ch/society/grants>.

In 2019, the SSM provided 7 travel grants for the below beneficiaries followed by their respective reports:

- **BAYRAMOVA Firuza** to attend the 9th Chlamydia Basic Research Society Meeting in Seattle, USA from 18th to 21st March 2019
- **SCHERLER Aurélie** to attend the 9th Chlamydia Basic Research Society Meeting in Seattle- USA from 18th to 21st March 2019
- **ARUANNO Marion** to attend the 29th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases in Amsterdam- Netherlands from 13th to 16th April 2019
- **ZUMSTEIN Michael Thomas** to attend the TransCon2019 in Ascona- Switzerland from 28th April to 3rd May 2019
- **ETTER Danai** to attend the Workshop on Staphylococcal Genetics and Metabolism in Nebraska- USA from 7th to 13th July 2019
- **VALLET Simon** to attend the Bacterial Morphogenesis, Survival and Virulence Conference in Cape Town- South Africa from 24th to 28th November 2019
- **VITALE Alessandra** to attend the Bacterial Morphogenesis, Survival and Virulence Conference in Cape Town- South Africa from 24th to 28th November 2019

9th Chlamydia Basic Research Society Meeting

Seattle, USA, 18- 21 March 2019

Prokaryotic Biology

Author of report

Firuz Bayramova

Affiliation of author

Institute of
Microbiology, University
of Lausanne

Thanks to the financial support of the SSM I had the opportunity to attend the 9th Chlamydia Basic Research Society Meeting (CBRS 2019) which was held in Seattle, USA and gathered experts in the *Chlamydia* field from over the entire world.

The daily sessions at the meeting were grouped by different topics. In the opening session on *Chlamydia* genetics, the speakers gave an update on chlamydial transformation, which was recently developed and now allows genetic modifications of *Chlamydiae*. The following session was on *Chlamydia*- host interactions and mainly focused on the role of *Chlamydia* inclusion proteins during infection. Pathogenesis of *Chlamydia* infection and role of the microbiome session was showing various *in vivo* models for describing *Chlamydia* infection. Finally, the sessions on persistence and chlamydial cell division took place. The latter was of particular interest to me as it is directly linked to my PhD project. Particularly, Junghoon Lee from the University of Nebraska Medical Center gave an interesting talk on the unique features of MreB, the chlamydial division protein.

At the CBRS 2019 meeting, I had the occasion to present my research through a poster, which supported insightful discussions. Our research is aiming at a better understanding of the role of the septal protein RodZ in chlamydial division, via characterization of its potential interactors SecA, SufD, FtsH and CdaA. The poster consisted of two parts, characterizing the role of SecA, SufD and FtsH proteins in chlamydial division (i) and the link of c-di-AMP synthesis by CdaA protein with division regulation (ii).

Chlamydia Basic Research Society 2019

Seattle, USA, 18th-21th March 2019

Prokaryotic Biology

Author of report

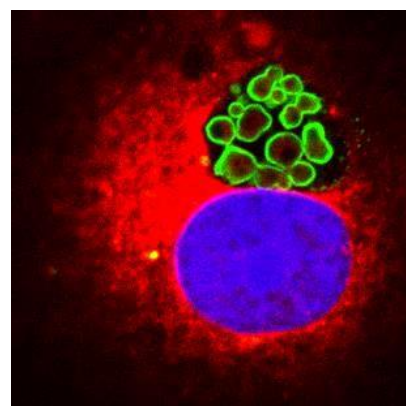
Aurélie Scherler

Affiliation of author

Institute of
Microbiology, University
of Lausanne

Thanks to the financial support of the SSM, I had the opportunity to attend the conference organized by the Chlamydia Basic Research Society, which took place in downtown Seattle from the 18th to the 21th of March 2019.

Each day, the first session started with an overview on the work done in different *Chlamydia* fields including genetics, cell biology, immunology and gene regulation. The conference was then divided into different sessions with various topics such as transformation of *Chlamydia*, chlamydial effectors, *Chlamydia*-host interactions or gene regulations and persistence. In addition, three sessions with presentations of 3 minutes were scheduled before the different poster sessions. Finally, as trainees, we had the opportunity to register for a lunch with established *Chlamydia* researchers, which allowed interesting discussions about *Chlamydia* but also about science in general.



During this meeting, I had the chance to present one poster on ParB, a protein implicated in chromosome segregation, and one poster on aberrant bodies, a persistent stage induced by different stress stimuli. In addition, I was selected for a short presentation in order to present the take-home messages of my poster on ParB. During the poster sessions, I had the unique opportunity to interact with numerous researchers about my work. These discussions and suggestions from the scientific community provided me innovative ideas for both projects.

This conference was also a unique opportunity to establish contacts and interact with researchers from the *Chlamydia* field and to update my knowledge on the biology of these fascinating intracellular bacteria.

29th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases

Amsterdam, Netherlands, from 13 - 16 April 2019

Section Clinical Microbiology

Author of report

Marion Aruanno

Affiliation of author

Institute of
Microbiology, University
of Lausanne

Thanks to the support of the SSM, I had the opportunity to participate to the 29th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases (ECCMID), from the 13th to 16th of April 2019 in Amsterdam, Netherlands. This international congress represents one of the most important congress about infectious disease with an audience of over 13,000 participants from all over the world.



The program of this congress was various, incorporating keynote lectures and oral sessions, as well as interactive workshops, meet-the-expert sessions, and a wide range of symposia.

I had a mini-oral presentation the first day about azole resistance in *Aspergillus fumigatus* and then the following days, I assisted to all the mycology sessions mainly about patients with fungal infections, antifungal therapy and emergent pathogenic fungi (e.g. *Candida auris*). All these topics were related to my thesis project and gave me the opportunity to improve my knowledge. The symposium entitled "Host versus fungi in a rapidly changing landscape?" was really interesting. It started with a review of Katrien Lagrou about changing fungal landscape, which were dependent to host, pathogen and environment. The next presentation of Dimitrios P. Kontoyiannis described the risks of invasive fungal infections associated to new immunotherapeutic and molecular targeted agents. This symposium was closed after a debate between Agostinho Carvalho and Frank van de Veerdonk to know if the host's response to invasive fungal infections should be measured.

I would like to thank the Swiss Society for Microbiology for the financial support and the possibility to attend such a great conference.

TransCon2019

Monte Verità, Ascona, Switzerland; 28.4.-3.5. 2019

Environmental Microbiology (EM)

Author of report

Michael Thomas Zumstein

Affiliation of author

Cornell University

TransCon2019, an international conference on the biotransformation of anthropogenic chemicals in natural and engineered environments, was co-organized by Kathrin Fenner (Eawag/UZH) and Jörg Drewes (TU Munich). The program featured 5 keynote talks, 36 oral presentations, 2 poster sessions, and 2 afternoon workshops. The focus of the presented research was on linking biotransformation reactions of relevant chemical contaminants to key microorganisms and enzymes. Furthermore, advances in analytical methods and prediction tools, effects of environmental factors on biotransformations, and innovative bioprocesses for (waste)water treatment were presented. The conference site located just above beautiful Lago



How are anthropogenic chemicals transformed during biological wastewater treatment and what enzymes and microorganisms play a key role in this process?

Maggiore provided an ideal ambiance for the exchange of research ideas among senior and junior researchers working in the fields of environmental chemistry, environmental microbiology, and environmental engineering.

I had the opportunity to present my postdoctoral research on the activity and the specificity of extracellular and intracellular enzymes extracted from wastewater microbial communities. The main part of my presentation was on assessing the biotransformation of selected antibiotics with respect to kinetics, reaction pathways, and enzyme biogeography. Furthermore, I touched on a currently ongoing project in which we explore the specificity of wastewater peptidases.

Both of these projects are motivated by the selection of antibiotic resistance genes both during and downstream of biological wastewater treatment.

Lastly, I would like to thank the SSM for the financial support that allowed me to participate at and contribute to this fantastic event.

Workshop on Staphylococcal Genetics and Metabolism

University of Nebraska, Staphylococcal Research Center, 7.-13.07.2019

Section Clinical Microbiology

Author of report

Danai, Etter

Affiliation of author

Institute for Food Safety
and Hygiene, UZH
Laboratory of Food
Microbiology, ETHZ

Thanks to the SSM travel grant I was able to attend the annual workshop on staphylococcal genetics and metabolism in Nebraska. The workshop allowed 13 participants and offered a great opportunity to network with other young scientists working in the same field.



Participants and Organizers of the workshop.

Danai Etter: 3rd from the right in the second row

Within the one week course we learned how to apply common genetic manipulation tools to *S. aureus*. In particular, the course covered restriction cloning, Gibson assembly, phage transfection, CRISPR-Cas9 and how *S. aureus* metabolism is influenced by nutrient availability. The workshop consisted of both, lectures and lab courses.

I was able to orally present my current PhD project on staphylococcal enterotoxin C production on a single cell level and received very helpful feedback on the project.

After the workshop I was contacted by the organizers in order to give my opinion on the experience. My quote can be seen [here](https://www.unmc.edu/pathology/csr/news/esg-workshop.html).

<https://www.unmc.edu/pathology/csr/news/esg-workshop.html>

Bacterial Morphogenesis, Survival and Virulence Conference

Cape Town, South Africa, 24-28th November 2019

Molecular Microbiology

Author of report

Simon-Ulysse VALLET

Affiliation of author

Centre Medical
Universitaire, Université
de Genève

Thanks to the financial support of the SSM, I had the opportunity to participate at the second Bacterial Morphogenesis, Survival and Virulence conference, which took place in Cape Town, South Africa from the 24th to the 28th of November 2019.

During the conference I had the chance to listen brilliant talks from big names as *Tom Bernhardt* and *Tracy Palmer* working in the fields of cell wall and toxins, respectively. I was also very interested by the talks from PhD students like *Alessandra Vitale* who works on Gram-negative bacteria and peptidomimetic antibiotic resistance. She used a transposon-sequencing to identify resistant determinants to her compounds and many of which encode enzymes involved in the modification of the lipopolysaccharide.

I had the great pleasure to present my PhD project during the second poster session of the week. Talking about *Caulobacter crescentus* as a model to decipher antimicrobial resistance was challenging and rewarding. After findings targets involved in vancomycin resistance using a saturated transposon mutagenesis strategy (Tn-Seq), my second move was to create proper deletion of those genes and this work not always went the easy way. By dint of discussion on my poster, many solutions come to me: special thanks to Dr. Regis Hallez from the University of Namur for the missing strains and thanks again to *Alessandra Vitale* for this new antibiotic labeling method that will help me to answer many questions on my research project.

I would like to thank the Swiss Society for Microbiology for the financial support for making my first international conference a truly success.



The conference room located in the Monkey Valley Resort. A wonderful place for a wonderful conference.

2nd Bacterial Morphogenesis Survival and Virulence Conference

Cape Town, South Africa; 24th – 28th November 2019

Clinical Microbiology

Author of report

Alessandra Vitale

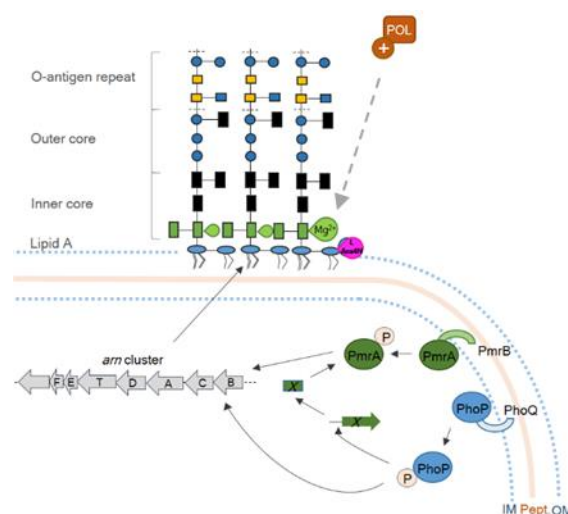
Affiliation of author

Department of Plant and Microbial Biology, University of Zürich (Prof. Dr. Leo Eberl)

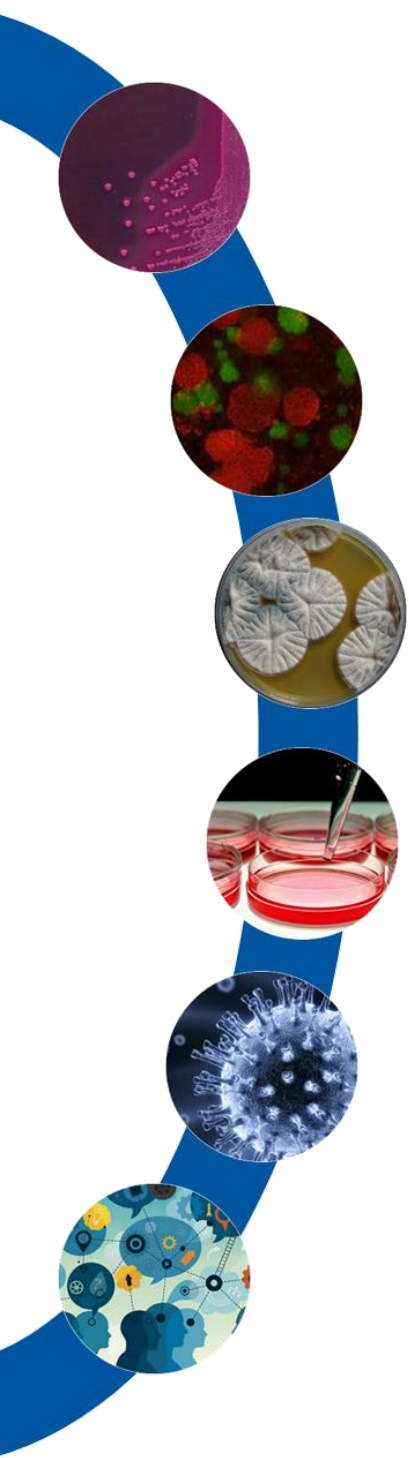
The Bacterial Morphogenesis Survival and Virulence Conference (BMSV) in Cape Town (SA, 2nd edition) was organized by Prof. Dr. Bavesh Kana, Prof. Dr. Sunish Radhakrishnan, Prof. Dr. Patrick Viollier and Prof. Dr. Anjana Badrinarayanan. It was a 5 days' congress that covered various topics about the impact of stress on microbes, inter alia the development of antibiotic resistance, cell composition and virulence. The financial support of the Swiss Society of Microbiology (SSM) allowed me to attend this meeting.

I had the great opportunity to present my current doctoral research on antibiotic resistance in a short talk in the "Envelope Maintenance" session (2nd day). The main focus of my presentation was about the resistance mechanisms (predominantly located in the cell wall) towards the last-resort peptide antibiotics polymyxins and recently described peptidomimetics. The preceding and subsequent days, I attended each session and enhanced my knowledge about cell composition, virulence and regulation. I was particularly interested into the talks of (i) Dr. Man-Wah Tan who spoke about the BamA targeting compound MAB1 (identical target of some peptidomimetics) (ii) Prof. Jean-François Collet who investigates the structure of BamA and finally (iii) Dr. Mandy Mason and Prof. Jan-Willem Veening who both employ the innovative CRISPRi-Seq to identify genetic determinants.

This conference was rewarding in term of feedbacks, networking and exchange between senior and junior scientists. I sincerely thank the SSM for the financial support and the organizers of the congress.



Mechanisms of resistance against the peptide antibiotics polymyxins (POL). Polymyxins displace cations on the outer-membrane (OM) and induce - via diverse two-component systems - the transcription of the *arn* cluster, which changes the charges of the OM.



MEMBERS & AFFILIATIONS

Memoriam of Stefan Kunz -

In the name of the SSM committee, Pilar Junier, Volker Thiel & Gilbert Greub

Professor Stefan Kunz was so brilliant and appreciated that his death has left a huge void. In these moments of mourning, words fail us, sadness invades us, and our thoughts go out to his family and especially his wife.

Below, we have attempted in vain to collect memories of Stephan to pay homage to this great Man, who has had an impressive career, with an impact and charisma widely recognized both in research and in teaching.

His innovative research in the field of agents of hemorrhagic fevers (Lassa virus for example) has had a wide international impact and has enabled all arenavirus specialists to know Lausanne. His team has also had a significant impact in the development of tools useful for the evaluation of Ebola vaccines. Beyond these highly pathogenic viruses, which led him to work in the Spiez laboratory, he also worked on giant viruses and their evolution, brought into his world by his incredible and insatiable curiosity.

An enthralling teacher, an attentive mentor, he has fascinated many students who then joined our discipline and followed in his footsteps in the study of microbes. He was always available to respond to the questions raised in a timely manner and was able to convey complex concepts with ease. Well appreciated by his students, he had also been a driving force to strengthen the teaching of microbiology both locally at the University of Lausanne, and nationally where his role was major at the level of the doctoral school in microbial science of the "conférence universitaire de la Suisse occidentale (CUSO)", which he created and chaired for 3 years.

In addition to his extraordinary research and teaching qualities, Stefan was also a loyal friend, a colleague endowed with extreme kindness, he was unanimously recognized for his human qualities. He illuminated our lives with his warm, dynamic personality and his innovative ideas. Always available to help, he leaves an immense void and an unforgettable memory by his departure.

Current List of Honorary Members

By alphabetical order

- 
- Prof. Dr. Michel ARAGNO
 - Prof. Dr. Werner ARBER
 - Prof. Dr. Reinhard BACHOFEN
 - Prof. Dr. Méd. Jacques BILLE
 - Prof. Dr. Gabriela PFYFFER VON ALTISHOFEN
 - Prof. Dr. Jean-Claude PIFFARETTI
 - Prof. Linda THOENY-MEYER
 - Prof. Dr. Méd. Alexander VON GRAEVENITZ

New ordinary members in 2019

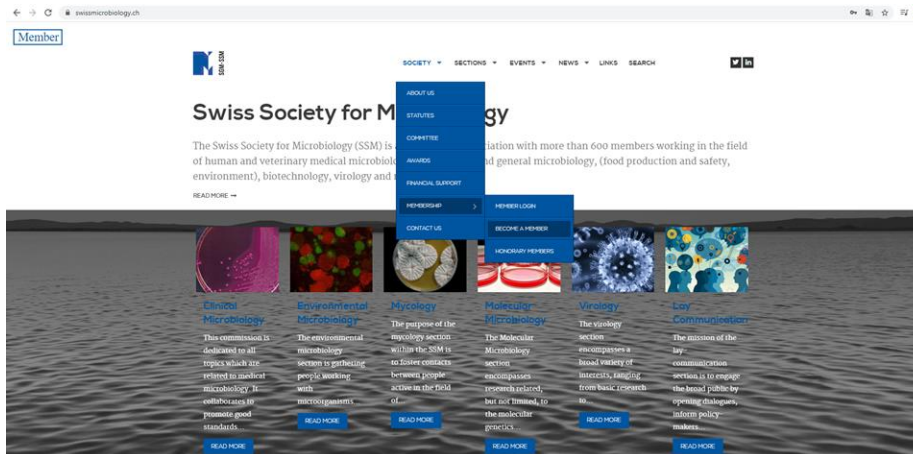
By alphabetical order



- AKADDAR Aziza
- ALTHAUS-STEINER Esther
- ARAGÃO BÖRNER Rosa
- BAUMANN Kathrin
- BODENHAUSEN Natacha
- BREJNDAL Kamilla
- CHERBUIN Gaëtan
- CICCARESE Davide
- DE RESPINIS Sophie
- DIJKMAN Ronald
- EMLER Stefan
- ENKERLI Jürg
- ETTER Danai
- GUTMANN Christine
- HELD Martin
- JUNIER Thomas
- KAUSHAL Manoj
- KINT Nicolas
- KREUZER Markus
- KRONENBERG Andreas
- MAFFEI Enea
- MARLAIRE Simon
- MARTI Hanna
- MATTENBERGER Yves
- MÜLLER Franco
- PARDI-COMENSOLI Lucrezia
- PENNACCHIA Alessia
- PETER Martina
- ROSSELIN Manon
- TRACHSEL Emilie
- VAN LEEUWEN Jolanda
- VITALE Alessandra
- VOLLENWEIDER Véra
- VULIN Clément

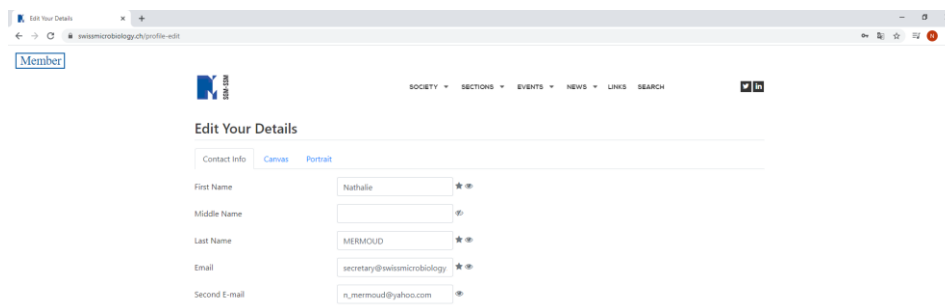
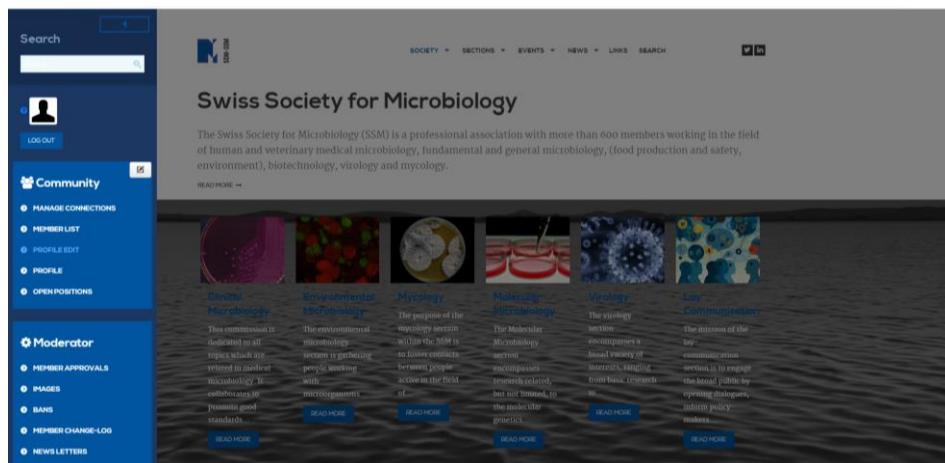
Membership Form

New members: become a member by filling the online form, make sure to fill all fields.

The screenshot shows the 'Join us! Application for membership' form on the SSM website. The form is titled 'Join us! Application for membership' and includes a 'Membership' section with radio buttons for 'Ordinary member CHF 75.00 p.a.' and 'Collective member CHF 300.00 p.a.'. The form fields include: First Name, Middle Name, Last Name, Email, Second E-mail, Username, Password (with a note: 'Your password will be sent to the above e-mail address. Once you have received your new password you can log in and change it.'), Address, City, State/Region, Country, NPA, Department, Institution, Section (with checkboxes for Molecular Microbiology, Environmental microbiology, Clinical microbiology, Mycology, Virology, and Lay Communication), Academic qualifications / title, Obtained from, Mobile, Business phone, Fax, Notes, and a Captcha field. A 'Sign up' button is at the bottom. On the right side of the form, there is an 'Instructions' box with the text: 'According to Art. 6 of the Articles of Association the undersigned wishes to apply for membership to the SGM-SSM as:' followed by a list of membership types and fees: Ordinary member CHF 75.00 p.a., Collective member CHF 300.00 p.a., and Honorary member.

Members Profile page

Current members: update your profile by logging in, select edit profile and update your info. You can also send a mail to secretary@swissmicrobiology.ch



SSM Affiliations

The SSM is currently affiliated to the following societies (*by alphabetical order*). Our members can thus benefit of some advantages offered by these societies.



European Confederation of Medical Mycology

<https://www.ecmm.info>



European Federation of Biotechnology

<http://www.efbiotechnology.org>



European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

<https://www.escmid.org>



European Society for Virology

<http://www.eusv.eu>



Federation of European Microbiological Societies

Federation of European Microbiological Societies

<https://fems-microbiology.org>



International Society for Human and Animal Mycology

<https://www.isham.org>



European Union of Medical Specialists

<https://www.uems.eu>



International Union of Microbiological Societies

<https://www.iums.org>



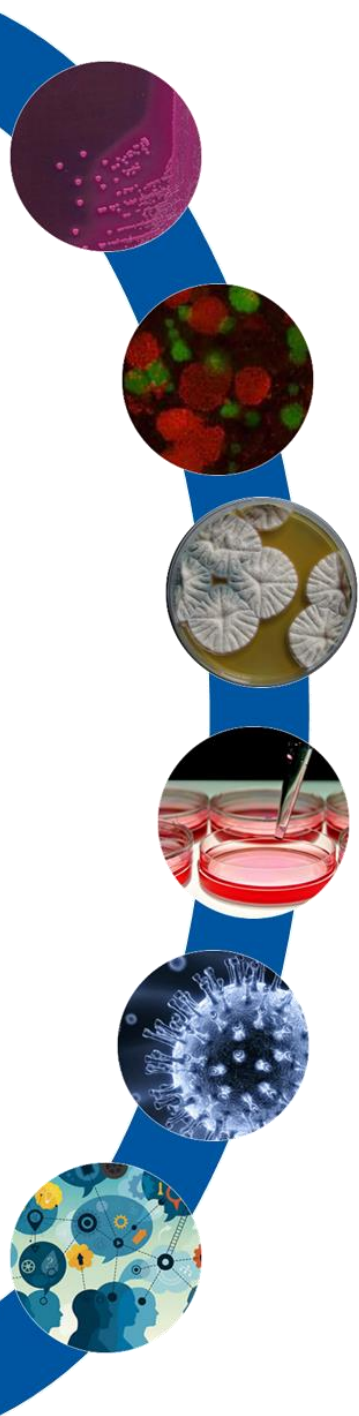
Swiss Academy of Sciences

<https://naturalsciences.ch>



Swiss Union of Laboratory Medicine

<https://www.sulm.ch>



CALENDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Due to the sanitary crisis of the Covid-19, most 2020 events were either converted to virtual events or postponed. The below events can also be subject to change, so please check regularly our website event page and the related event page to view the latest updates.

<https://www.swissmicrobiology.ch/events/year.listevents/2020/06/23/->

PLANNED 2020 EVENTS	
MAR- AUG 2020	
Planned in March 2020 postponed to 15 AUG- 19 AUG 2021	New Approaches to Combat Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria 2021
Planned in April 2020 postponed to 22 APR- 23 APR 2021	2020 Westerdijk Spring Symposium: Rise of the Fungi
Planned in June 2020- postponed to week 24 of 2021	Swiss MedLab
Planned in July 2020- postponed to 2021	Levures, modèles et outils
Planned in August 2020- postponed to August 2021	18th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology
Planned in August 2020- postponed to August 2021	Summer School "Hidden players in the food chain"
Planned in August 2020- postponed to 24 AUG- 27 AUG 2021	International intracellular bacteria meeting 2020
12 AUG -15 AUG	3rd Storytelling & Storyboarding Science
SEPT- DEC 2020	
02 SEPT – 04 SEPT	SSI-SSHH 2020 joint meeting Geneva SSM part postponed to 2021
16 SEPT -19 SEPT Might change	3rd International Symposium of the CRC/Transregio FungiNet Not face-to-face meeting and not yet decided on the format/ dates.
28 SEPT- 01 OCT	biofilms 9 Online conference
08 OCT - 09 OCT postponed to 2021	International Virus Bioinformatics Meeting 2020
15 OCT -16 OCT	ICCMg5 Online conference



“INFO” is the Official Annual Report of the Swiss Society for Microbiology.

It is sent to all SSM members once a year.



The current SSM annual report « INFO 68 » has been prepared by:

Nathalie MERMOUD

General Secretary

Swiss Society for Microbiology

E-mail: secretary@swissmicrobiology.ch

We would like to thank SCNAT for their financial support

