

Monday, August 18, 2008, 8:30-10:30am

Bacterial Speciation and Microbial Ecology

Convenor: Dave Ward

- Nine Models of Bacterial Diversification
Frederick M. Cohan, Department of Biology, Wesleyan University, USA
- Recombination decouples species concepts from ecological niche
R. Thane Papke, Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of Connecticut, USA
- Ecotypes as fundamental species-like units of a hot spring cyanobacterial mat community
Dave Ward, Montana State University, USA
- Fuzzy niches and fuzzy species
William P. Hanage, Division of Epidemiology, Public Health and Primary Care, Imperial College London, UK

Biodegradation: Appetite for the Unusual

Convenors: Victor de Lorenzo and Ian Head

- Themes and variations in the methanogenic degradation of petroleum hydrocarbons
Ian Head, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
- Global control of biodegradation: from the selfish gene to the selfish metabolism
Victor de Lorenzo, National Centre of Biotechnology, Spain
- Title TBC
Ralf Rabus, Institut für Chemie und Biologie des Meeres (ICBM), Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg, Germany

The Biofilm Mode of Life

Convenors: Tom Battin and Staffan Kjelleberg

- The involvement of bacterial biofilms in human health
Bill Costerton, University of Southern California, USA
- Biofilm differentiation and dispersal
Staffan Kjelleberg, University of New South Wales, Australia
- Microbial biofilms: Out of the zoo into nature
Tom Battin, University of Vienna, Austria
- Title TBC
Ulrich Szewzyk, Technical University of Berlin, Germany

Viral Ecology

Convenors: Forest Rohwer and Curtis Suttle

- Virus Tales from the High Seas
Curtis Suttle, University of British Columbia, Canada

- Title TBC
Forest Rohwer, San Diego State University, USA
- Wild and weird haloviruses of Archaea from Australian salt lakes
Mike Dyall-Smith, University of Melbourne, Australia
- Challenges in phytoplankton viral ecology
Corina Brussaard, Royal Netherlands Institute of Sea Research, The Netherlands

The Living Soil

Convenors: **Margaret Roper and Hans van Veen**

- Fungal-bacterial interactions as drivers of microbial community structure in soil
Hans van Veen, NIOO-KNAW, The Netherlands
- Endophytic actinobacteria for disease control and plant growth promotion in cereals
Margaret Roper, CSIRO, Plant Industry, Australia
- Reciprocal interactions between plants and fluorescent pseudomonads in relation with iron in the rhizosphere
Philippe Lemanceau, INRA-CMSE, Laboratoire de Recherches sur la Flore Pathogene du Sol, Dijon, France
- Shedding light on in situ rhizosphere interactions
Ken Killham, Soil Science, University of Aberdeen, UK

The Animal Microbiome

Convenors: **Yasuo Kobayashi and Mark Morrison**

- Structure, function, and coevolution of termite-gut microbial community
Moriya Ohkuma, Environmental Molecular Biology Laboratory, Japan
- Title TBC
Johannes Hackstein, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- Exploration of plant-associated rumen bacteria: their phylogeny, ecology and functions
Yasuo Kobayashi, Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, Japan
- Metagenomics research of the foregut microbiome of Australian native herbivores
Mark Morrison, CSIRO, Tropical Agriculture, Australia