



13th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology ***Microbes – Stewards of a Changing Planet*** **Seattle, WA, USA, 22-27 August 2010**

SUMMARY

The stunning city of Seattle, memorable for its ferries, coffee, fish restaurants and breathtaking views dominated by the Puget Sound, Mount Rainier and the Space Needle, welcomed over 2,000 microbial ecologists into its city centre in August 2010 for the 13th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology. The scientists gathered in the Washington State Convention Center, impressively arching over one of the main streets of downtown Seattle. The long elevator took the keen researchers to their peers and colleagues on level 6, chatting their way towards the opening ceremony, where they were cordially greeted by ISME President Hilary Lappin-Scott and LOC Chair Jim Fredrickson. After Bill Costerton, ISME nobility, kicked off the program, Christa Schleper of the University of Vienna managed to distract the jet-lagged scientists with her lecture. Following this presentation, old and new friends, experienced and early career scientists all the like mixed and mingled during the opening reception, preparing for a week full of innovation, fascination and education.

Based on the theme of 'Stewards of a Changing Planet', an outstanding week of excellent science followed, with new technologies, exciting discoveries and a look into the future of the field. New developments some of which became apparent during the ISME12 meeting in Cairns showed great progress, such as on single cell microbiology and microbiological interactions. The rapid expansion of sequencing rates allowed for an unprecedented insight in the genomic constitution and the genetic variability of microbes as well as in the diversity of microbial communities and their functioning.

When Rita Colwell graced us with her closing thoughts on where the field of microbial ecology was going, it had been a long, but rewarding week filled with science. New ISME President Steven Lindow revealed the venue for ISME15 in 2014, viz. Seoul, South Korea, and ISME14 LOC Chair Jan Sørensen closed the meeting by providing an exciting preview of Copenhagen, the location for ISME14.

Seattle has been an exceptional host, even contributing one of its few bright sunny days on the meeting's day off, so all could really enjoy their city tour, hike, sailing or kayaking trip, Mount Rainier or Olympic Park visit, or many of the other options Seattle and its surrounding area offers. Overall, the International Society for Microbial Ecology was pleased with its first attempt to organise a big symposium on its own, and this learning experience will catalyst confidence for the future of the society and especially the field. ISME is grateful for a successful meeting, and would like to thank all delegates, speakers, sponsors and exhibitors for their contribution.

Abstracts/papers received (incl. late abstracts)	2095
Keynote and VIP Presentations	9
Bird's Eye View Presenters	1
Invited Presentations	120
Round Table Sessions	8
Contributed Papers selected for Oral presentation	272
Contributed Papers selected for Poster presentation	1707
Number of Delegates	2042
Number of Attendees	2076

SCIENTIFIC AWARDS

The Jim Tiedje Award: This is presented by the ISME to a renowned microbial ecologist who is recognized for his/her outstanding lifetime contribution to the field of microbial ecology. Past winners of this award include Norman Pace (2008), Gijs Kuenen (2006) and Farooq Azam (2004). The 2010 awardee is **Bo Barker Jørgensen**, University of Aarhus, Denmark and Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology, Bremen, Germany, who presented his award lecture on the evening of Tuesday, 24 August, 2010.

The ISME Young Investigators Award: This award recognises early career microbial ecologists who have made significant contributions to this field. Past winners of this award include Forest Rohwer (2008), Phil Hugenholtz (2006) and Ian Head (2004). The recipient of the 2010 award is **Marc Strous**, Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology, Bremen, Germany.

ISME Student Poster Award: This is reserved for students, or graduates within two years of graduation as long as they are the first author on a submitted poster presentation. The ISME13 recipients are:

- **Shelley Brown** (University of Rhode Island, USA), "Elucidating Controls on the Active Players that Drive Nitrogen Fixation and Denitrification in Estuarine Sediments"
- **Richard Davis** (Oregon Health & Science University, Beaverton, USA), "Spatial and Temporal Variability of Microbial Communities from Pre- and Post-Eruption Microbial Mats Collected from Loihi Seamount, Hawaii"
- **Scott Gifford** (University of Georgia, Athens, USA), "Metatranscriptomic Analysis of a Summer Bacterioplankton Community in Southeastern U.S. Coastal Waters"
- **Katharine Marshall** (University of Washington, Seattle, USA), "Isolation of a Novel Sulfur Oxidizing Bacterium"
- **Lori Phillips** (University of British Columbia, Okanagan, Kelowna, Canada), "Saprotrophic Potential of Ectomycorrhizal Fungi in Spruce Forest Ecosystems"
- **Noga Qvit-Raz** (Stanford University, Palo Alto, USA), "Genomic Analysis of Single TM7 Cells from Human Oral Samples"
- **Kelly Newton** (Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia), "Differential Mortality of Bacterial Sub-Populations"
- **Jean-Baptiste Raina** (James Cook University / Australia Institute of Marine Science, Townsville, Australia), "The Role of DMSP in the Coral Holobiont"
- **Friedrich Reinhard** (University of Lausanne, Switzerland), "Death by Conjugation"

The D.C. White Award: David C. White's vision was to honour and respect the power of quantitative analytical chemistry to microbial ecology. Thus, this award is presented to the most innovative poster at the ISME Symposia. The inaugural 2010 award was presented to **Friedrich Reinhard** (University of Lausanne, Switzerland).

The MOBIO Award: Gold Sponsor MOBIO Laboratories, Inc. initiated the MO BIO Award for the best poster at the symposium. The new but coveted award was granted to **Noga Qvit-Raz** (Stanford University, USA).

Travel Awards

ISME made funds available for travel awards for a minimum of 30 young scientists. The grants were:

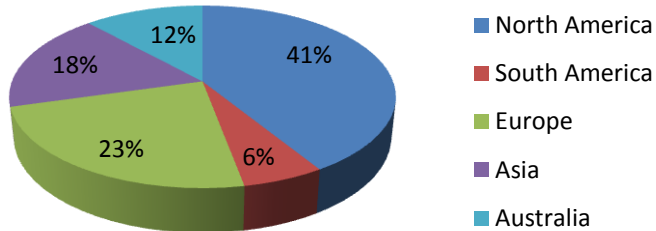
- North America €200 (US\$ 288)
- South America €500 (US\$ 720)
- Rest of the World €650 (US\$ 935)

We received a total of 317 submissions and were able to grant 51 ISME Travel Awards.

ISME Travel Grants:

Karen Adair	USA	Kentaro Inoue	Japan
Andrés Andrade Dominguez	Mexico	Thomas Jeffries	Australia
Runa Antony	India	Sarah Keenan	USA
Adrien Burch	USA	Jessica Labonte	Canada
Brenda Colon-Padilla	Puerto Rico	Bonnie Laverock	UK
Bibiana Coppotelli	Argentina	Zarraz Lee	USA
Adrienne Correa	USA	Yi-Hsuan Lin	Taiwan
Jacob Cram	USA	Yun-Chi Lin	Taiwan
Dongjuan Dai	USA	Kuan-Liang Liu	Taiwan
Kara De Leon	USA	Hadeel Majeed	Israel
Peter S. Depkat-Jakob	Germany	Sonia Martins	UK
Mahesh Desai	Germany	Falko Mathes	UK
Romina Dias	Argentina	Jozef Nissimov	UK
Erika Diaz-Almeyda	USA	Anand Patel	USA
Barbara Drigo	Australia	Sara Paver	USA
Mariam Fawaz	USA	Subramanya Rao	Hong Kong
Neil Fernandes	Australia	Friedrich Reinhard	Switzerland
Janin Frerichs	Germany	Juan Diego Rojas	Brazil
Paola Rocio Gómez-Pereira	Germany	Angelica Ruiz-Font	Mexico
José Garcia-Maldonado	Mexico	Anne-Laure Sauvadet	France
Moshe Harel	Israel	Alecia Septer	USA
Craig Herbold	New Zealand	Martina Stursova	Czech Republic
Lionel Huang	France	Abigail Trejo	Mexico
Sijun Huang	China	Si Yi Wang	USA
Janice Gee Kay Hui	Australia	Rory Welsh	USA
Tran Trieu Huynh	Australia		

Distribution Travel Awards

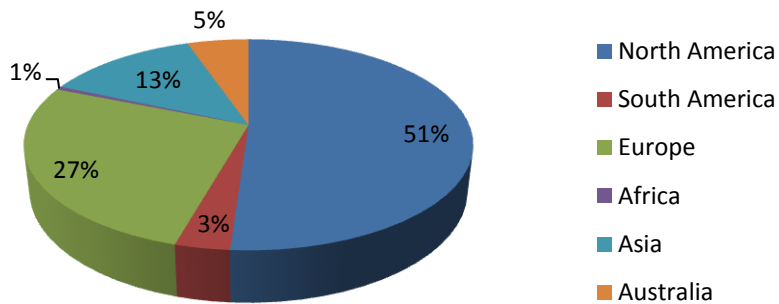


FACTS ON REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE

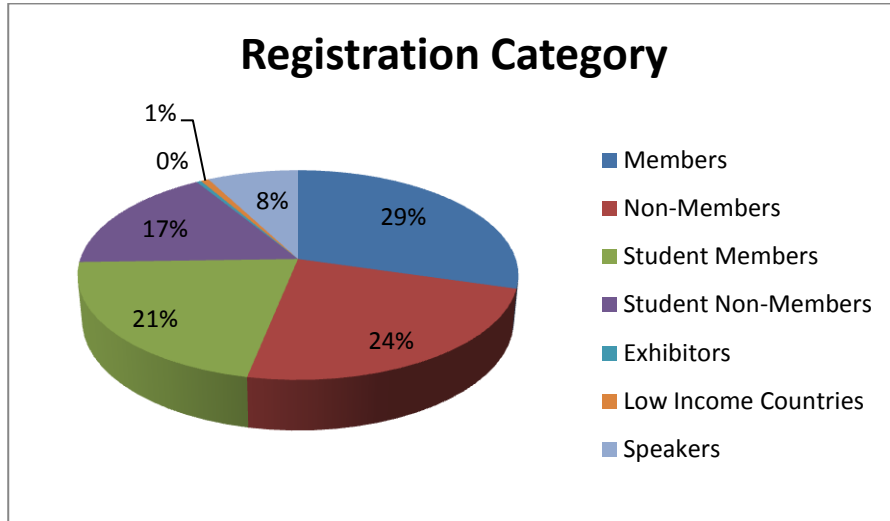
Total Number of Delegates: 2042, from 55 Countries

Breakdown of Delegates per Region:

Delegates ISME13



Breakdown of Registration per Category:



SOCIAL EVENTS

ISME Closing Event – Experience Music Project

Number of Attendees: 795

Tours (all tours were fully booked)

Total Number of Participants: 171

Adult Seattle City Tour: 40

Adult Aviation Tour: 18

Sailing: 36

Kayaking on Lake Union: 8

Rattlesnake Lake: 20

Mt. Rainier Day Trip: 49

POSTERS

Total number of Posters: 1707

Session No.	Title	Number of Posters
PS.01	Biogeochemistry	80
PS.02	Climate Change	35
PS.03	Microbial Conflict and Conversation	9
PS.04	Disease Ecology	57
PS.05	Cold Habitats	43
PS.06	Engineered Environments	125
PS.07	Recalcitrant Compound Degradation	114
PS.08	Horizontal Gene Transfer	26
PS.09	Evolutionary Ecology of Microbial Communities	67
PS.10	Forest Soil Ecology	33
PS.11	Rare Microbes	20
PS.12	Interkingdom Interactions	27
PS.13	Life at the Energetic Edge	8
PS.14	Microbe-Mineral Interactions	45
PS.15	Microbial Ecology and Ecological Theory	34
PS.16	Bacterial Symbioses	70
PS.17	Marine Microbiology	165
PS.18	Paleobiogeochemistry	6
PS.19	Plant-Microbe Interactions	115
PS.20	Microbe Interaction with the Production of Methane and CO ₂	39
PS.21	Genetic and Functional Analyses of Individual Microbial Cells	44
PS.22	Major Biogeochemical Cycles	61
PS.23	Spatial Heterogeneity	26
PS.24	Marine Oxygen Minimum Zones	9
PS.25	The Gut Microbiome	60
PS.26	Metagenome in Action	74
PS.27	Novel Functions and Novel Organisms	61
PS.28	Viral Ecology	36
PS.29	Biofilms and Sociomicrobiology	65
PS.30	Miscellaneous	18
PS.31	Methodological Developments	42
PS.32	Biodiversity and Community Analysis	93

LIST OF SPONSORS

Gold Sponsor:	Department of Energy The Moore Foundation MOBIO Laboratories, Inc. Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
Bronze Sponsor:	Phylotech
Sponsors:	American Society for Microbial Ecology CIFAR CMDE FEMS IUMS IWA
Exhibitors:	The Moore Foundation American Society for Microbial Ecology Cameca Camera C-Debi Chunlab KAUST Microbial Society of Korea MO BIO Laboratories, Inc. Nature Publishing Group ORNL Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Phylotech Unisense Wiley-Blackwell

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Jenny Marsden, Australia
Sabine van Wegen, the Netherlands
Sarash de Wilde, the Netherlands (Society Management)

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