Report

First Annual Symposium of the West Coast Microbiome Network

11th March, 2016 at UniClub UWA, Perth, Australia

www.wcmicrobiome.org

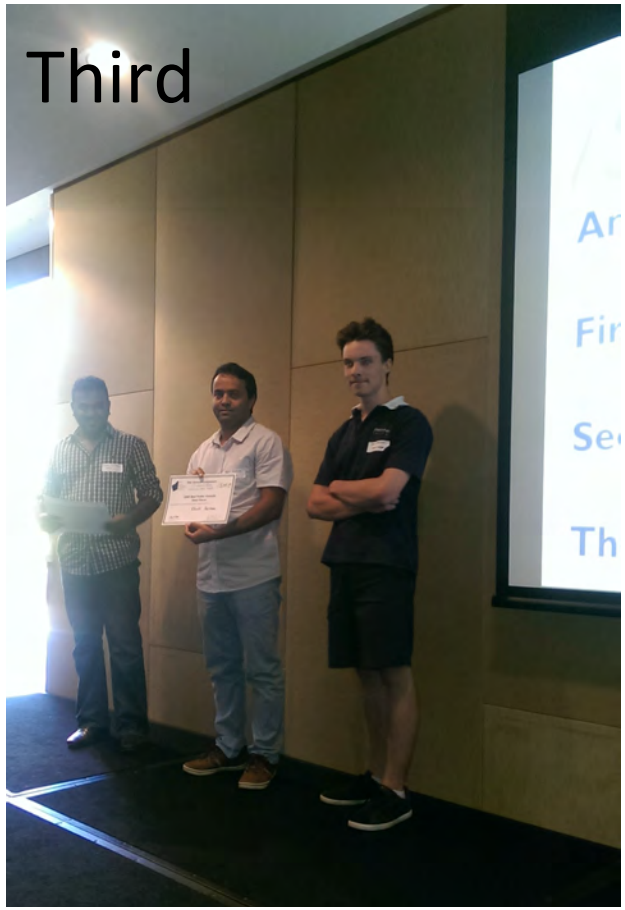
The West Coast Microbiome Network (WCMN) was recently established to build interfaces between researchers from a range of disciplines such as the terrestrial and aquatic environment, the restoration and rehabilitation context as well as the human health field, all where microbes play an important role and where different research areas have joined forces and flourished in recent years. The overarching theme of the First annual symposium of WCMN was “Ecosystem One Health” – microbiome contribution both ecosystem and human health issues. As the first symposium, the organizing committee decided to highlight the microbiome work across different institutions in Perth. The symposium opened with a plenary talk from Prof Lyn Beazley, Former Chief Scientist of Western Australia giving an overview on impact of microbes in our day-to-day life and also highlighting the significance of WA as a biodiversity hot spot. Prof Tom Riley (UWA) highlighting his on-going work on *Clostridium difficle* and faecal transplant delivered the evening plenary.

In the two sessions, we had six invited talks and four offered talks shortlisted from 25 abstracts submitted. The invited speakers covered a range of disciplines; Claus Christophersen (Edith Cowan University), Treena Burgess (Murdoch University), Tim Inglis, Richard Hobbs (both University of Western Australia), Margaret Roper (CSIRO) and Paul Storer (Australian Mineral Fertilisers) (see attached e-booklet).

The contribution of ISME through its ambassador program was used to sponsor three poster prizes (valued at $300, $200 and $100) and also offset the registration costs ($200) for eight year 10 students from the Shenton College. Three students from Shenton College handed out the poster awards. ISME’s logo was featured in all the promotional material for the event, e-program book and in the WCMN website. During the event, the Young Ambassador for Australia highlighted the activities of ISME and also the upcoming ISME 16 symposium at Montreal.

Overall the organisers and the delegates were very pleased with the inaugural symposium and the potential it offers to network with microbiome researchers within the west coast.

ISME Poster awards



First Annual Symposium
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ISME

COMMUNICATE
Communication in the
World of Microbes

High Throughput Sequencing reveals
unexplored Phytophthora diversity in
Australian soils

Discovery of novel
Candidate
PATHOGENS IN
AUSTRALIAN
TICKS.
Murdoch

Diet, the gut microbiota and host response
– Do we know what is best for us?

Streptococcus agalactiae

Soil Health in WA – Meeting the challenges
GRDC

POLICYFORUM
Hurdles and Opportunities
for Landscape-Scale Restoration

Clostridium difficile, the gut microbiome
and "One Health"
Tom Riley
Microbiology & Immunology, The University of Western Australia
&
Department of Microbiology, PathWest Laboratory Medicine
Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre
Nedlands 6009 Western Australia

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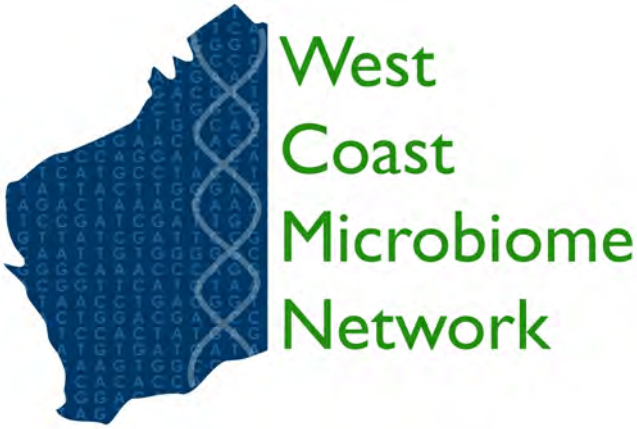

First Annual Symposium

March 11th, 2016
UniClub UWA, Perth

Symposium sponsors

Gold

Silver

Bronze

Poster prizes

Programme

8.30 - 8.45	Welcome/Introduction
8.45 - 9.30	Plenary: **Prof Lyn Beazley, Science Ambassador & Former-Chief Scientist, Western Australia** Chair - Prof Andy Whiteley , University of Western Australia
9.30-10.00	Coffee/Tea break

Session 1: Chair – Dr Andrea Paparini, Murdoch University

10.00 – 10.30	**Assoc. Prof Treena Burgess, Murdoch University**
10.30 - 10.45	Offered talk 1: **Mr Alexander Gofton, Murdoch University**
10.45 - 11.15	**Dr Claus Christophersen, Edith Cowan University**
11.15 - 11.30	Offered talk 2: **Ms Lucy Furfaro, University of Western Australia**
11.30 - 12.00	**Prof Tim Inglis, University of Western Australia**
12.00 - 12.45	Lunch

Session 2: Chair – Dr Megan Huggett, Edith Cowan University

12.45 - 13.15	**Dr Margaret Roper, CSIRO**
13.15 - 13.30	Offered talk 3: **Dr Navdeep Kaur Dhami, Curtin University**
13.30 - 14.00	**Prof Richard Hobbs, University of Western Australia**
14.00 - 14.15	Offered talk 4: **Assoc Prof. Marco Coolen, Curtin University**
14.15 - 14.45	**Dr Paul Storer, Australian Mineral Fertilisers**
14.45 - 16.00	Poster session (Coffee/Tea)
16.00 - 16.45	Plenary: **Prof Tom Riley, University of Western Australia** Chair: Dr Elizabeth Watkin, Curtin University
16.45 -17.00	Poster Prizes and discussion about future seminars
17.00 - 18.00	Sun downer