



Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease

Executive Board: President: *Marika Mikelsaar*; **Past-President:** *Gianfranco Donelli*;

President-Elect: *Andrew B. Onderdonk*; **Secretary:** *Veronica Lazar*; **Treasurer:** *Eugenia Bezirtzoglou*;

Councillors: *Francesca Clementi, Maria Saarela, Boris Shenderov, Paola Mastrantonio, Elisa Bertazzoni-Minelli, Anne Collignon*

SOMED NEWSLETTER

Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease

Spring 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear members, colleagues and friends,

I am pleased to provide you summary of the last events and initiatives of our Society during 2011 and 2012.

1. In **27 June 2011, Stockholm** the re-opening of SOMED official journal by Co-Action Publishing in Open Access mode was achieved. The entire archive of MEHD – dating back to 1988 – is freely accessible for the first time. During the recent months the editor-in-chief professor Tore Midtvedt has tried to do his best to activate authors and sponsors. To successfully continue this initiative, we very much need high-quality submissions for the journal from SOMED members!
2. In **November** the joint meeting of the XXXIVth Congress of the SOMED and the XVIIth International Symposium on Gnotobiology has been held in Yokohama with the participation of about 25-30 SOMED Members. The attendance

was significantly increased by the participation of many Japanese, Chinese and Korean scientists interested in human microbial ecology and stem cells research. The excellent hospitality by organizers (professors Sh. Kato and Sh. Kamiya), valuable scientific presentations and fruitful discussions made the meeting a real success. The materials of the Yokohama meeting will be made available through MEHD soon.

3. In **December 2011** the paper of SOMED board members M. Mikelsaar, V. Lazar, A.B. Onderdonk and G. Donelli “Do probiotic preparations for humans really have efficacy?” was published. The paper compared the mono-vs. multistrain efficacy in different clinical situations according to the principles of human microbial ecology. This review article largely reflected the opinions expressed by authors on

consensus conference held in framework of the international Workshop on Probiotics organized by Professor Claudio De Simone and Dr. Florence Pryen in Rome, February 2010. Citation: *Microbial Ecology in Health & Disease* 2011, **22**: 10128 - DOI: 10.3402/mehd.v22i0.10128. The paper has been widely accessed and will hopefully stimulate our society members to proceed with such consensus reports for the medical and nutrition community.

4. The organization of next congresses is being discussed. I hope to meet you in Valencia from 15-18 May 2012 on XXXVth SOMED meeting organized by Professor Yolanda Sanz. Professor Alojz Bomba has kindly offered Kosice, Slovakia, as our next meeting place for 2013. We still hope to be able to gather in the USA in 2014 under the supervision of our new President. We all wish you, dear esteemed professor Andrew Onderdonk, a successful term as our next President in the name of SOMED!
5. SOMED BALLOT organization, started in late January 2012 with the Nominating Committee (M. Mikelsaar, A. Onderdonk, G. Donelli, V. Lazar, E. Bezirtzoglou) proposing candidates for the positions in the Executive Board for the period April 2012 till 2014 (2016). Among all the regularly paying members of our society, unfortunately, only 15 members responded to the closing date – 27th March 2012. Next, we will give you the names of the elected persons:

President–Elect 2012- 2014

Elisa Bertazzoni Minelli (Italy): 11
 Boris Shenderov (Russia): 4

Councillors 2012-2014

Sandrine Claus (UK): 15
Reet Mändar (Estonia): 14
 Arthur Ouweland (Finland): 7
Leda Quercia Vieira (Brazil): 9

Councillors 2012-2016

Alojz Bomba (Slovakia): 10

Wendy Garrett (USA): 14
 Raina Nakova Fichorova (USA): 8
Yolanda Sanz (Spain): 13

We are sure that the collaboration among all SOMED Board members will be of success. Please visit our web page that will soon give you the overview of the new SOMED BOARD.

We cordially thank the previous councillors Francesca Clementi, Maria Saarela, Boris Shenderov, Paola Mastrantonio, Elisa Bertazzoni Minelli and Anne Collignon for their time and help during the 2008-2012 period.

Thus, considering these results, from April 2012, the Officers of the SOMED Executive Board are the followings:

President: *Andrew B. Onderdonk;*

Past-President: *Marika Mikelsaar;*

President-Elect: *Elisa Bertazzoni Minelli*

Secretary: *Veronica Lazar*

Treasurer: *Eugenia Bezirtzoglou*

Councillors 2012-2014:

Sandrine Claus
Reet Mändar
Leda Quercia Vieira

Councillors 2012-2016:

Alojz Bomba
Wendy Garrett
Yolanda Sanz

6. Last, but not least: all members and friends of SOMED are invited promptly to renew their SOMED membership.

All best wishes, sincerely yours,

Marika Mikelsaar

Announcements of upcoming meetings:



Scientific Programme:

- * Human microbial ecology in health and disease;
- * Microbial ecology and omic-technologies;
- * Biofilms and human infections; * Host-microbe interactions and immunity;
- * Gut microbiota, diet and metabolism; * Roles of gut microbes beyond the gut
- * Probiotics and prebiotics: efficacy and challenges; * Food microbial ecology
- * Microbial food cultures; * Food safety and antibiotic resistance

More information:

Dr. YOLANDA SANZ (from local Organizing Committee); Tel: 34963900022

(Ext. 2128)/34628029924; Fax: 3496363630;
E-mail: yolsanz@iata.csic.es;

Website: www.somed2012valencia.com

International Scientific Conference on Probiotics and Prebiotics, during 12th – 14th June 2012 in the University city of Kosice, Slovakia, in Doubletree Hilton Hotel.

IPC2012 will be the leading scientific forum where academic and industrial scientists involved in research of all aspects of probiotics and prebiotics meet.

- Key themes will be evidence-based benefits of the use of probiotics and prebiotics, health claim substantiation and new product development.
- Sessions on the development and use of probiotics and prebiotics in animals is also planned.
- Registration starts 1st December 2011. Abstract submission starts 15th January 2012.

- You may also candidate or nominate keynote speakers for the consideration of the Organiz. Committee.
- For further information please visit the conference homepage www.probiotic-conference.net <http://ethreemail.com/e3ds/mail_link.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.probiotic-conference.net&i=0&d=91216185-9V72-4U62-81U9-103W34537W43&e=gianfranco.donelli@iss.it>

In case of any question, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Xenia Eliasova - Organising Committee Member of IPC2012

[cid:70CBCA6F-EEBF-4EEC-9927-DF243A3A6D92]

The International Scientific Conference on Probiotics and Prebiotics

Tel.: [+421 917 858 838](tel:+421917858838) ; Fax: [+421 41 4000 123](tel:+421414000123); Web:

www.probiotic-conference.net <http://ethreemail.com/e3ds/mail_link.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.probiotic-conference.net&i=0&d=91216185-9V72-4U62-81U9-103W34537W43&e=gianfranco.donelli@iss.it>

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ESPID 2012, **30th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ESPID)**, Thessaloniki, Greece, **May 8-12, 2012**



1-3 Rue de Chantepoulet, PO Box 1726, CH-1211, Geneva 1, Switzerland, Tel: + 41 22 908 0488, Fax: + 41 22 906 9140

E-mail: espid@kenes.com

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Abstract topics for ESPID 2012 include:

Antibiotic resistance, Diagnostic methods, HIV/AIDS, Sexually-transmitted infections, Vaccines and prevention, Bacterial infections, Epidemiology and evidence-based medicine, Infections in the immunocompromised host, Toxin mediated infectious diseases, Viral pathogenesis and infections, Central nervous system infections, Gastrointestinal tract infections, Pathogenesis of infections, Tropical and neglected infectious diseases, Zoonoses.

[View the complete list of abstract topics](#)

See the ESPID 2012 Preliminary Timetable Online



The unparalleled ESPID 2012 scientific programme features internationally recognized opinion makers who will be discussing the latest developments in the field of paediatric infectious diseases. To learn more about the Oral Communication sessions, Meet the Expert sessions, Poster Symposia, Industry Satellite Symposia, and much more, [click here](#).

Access the ESPID 2011 Webcast!



Following the success of webcasted scientific sessions of the 2010 ESPID Annual Meeting in Nice, we are delighted to announce that you may now continue to webcast selected sessions of the 29th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ESPID 2011) held in The Hague, The Netherlands, June 7-11, 2011 as well as electronic access to 101 ePosters kindly released by ESPID Poster Presenters.

[Click here for full details](#)

Timeless Thessaloniki



ESPID 2012 is being held in the timeless city of Thessaloniki, the second largest city in Greece. Thessaloniki is one of the country's main industrial and commercial hubs. This ancient city is known for its Byzantine monuments, including the Paleochristian and Byzantine monuments. Thessaloniki also contains as Ottoman and Sephardic Jewish structures. The city is home to the largest university in Greece, Aristotle University.

[Click here](#) for ideas about travelling in Thessaloniki!

Joint International Congress of the American Society for Reproductive Immunology (ASRI) and the European Society for Reproductive Immunology (ESRI) 2012

Chamber of Commerce (Hamburg/ Germany) • 31 May - 02 June 2012

Relevant topics will include:

- Immune regulation during gestation
- Epigenetic regulation of genomic imprinting and

fetal development

- Macro- and micro-environmental challenges in reproduction
- Immune aspects of male reproduction and contraception
- Sexually transmitted diseases and intrauterine infections
- Checkpoints during trophoblast invasion: from normalcy to pathology
- Cell incognito: Do we underestimate the Function of Fetal and maternal microchimerism?
- Cutting edge topics in reproductive medicine
- It Takes 2 to tango: endocrine-immune cross talk in reproduction

Please find more details in the first [announcement](#) which can be downloaded by using this [link](#). Constantly updated information are available on the conference website www.asri-esri-2012.de.

For further information:

E-mail: asriesri2012@conventus.de.

Conference Chairs : Prof. Dr. Petra Clara Arck, Dr. Nazeeh Hanna, Prof. Dr. Udo Markert

Imprint Responsible for this newsletter is: Conventus Congressmanagement & Marketing GmbH
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Telephone +49 (0)3641 31 16 358; Facsimile +49 (0)3641 31 16 243

marlen.fleischer@conventus.de • www.conventus.de

Vth International Conference on molecular mechanisms of fungal cell wall biogenesis – Primosten, Croatia, June 6th-9th 2012

Organized by [Croatian Microbiological Society](#).

Supported by [FEMS](#).

<http://www.hmd-cms.hr/fcwb2012/>



Coinfections 2012, June 7-8, 2012 | Leopoldina Institute, Halle, Germany;

More information: <http://t.co/rN016m46>;
Registration is now open: <http://t.co/0hZzvLLI>

The 18th Congress of the International Society for Human and Animal Mycology 2012 (ISHAM 2012) to be held in Berlin, Germany, June 11-15, 2012.

Congress website: <http://www.isham2012.org/>

This will be the largest meeting dealing with human and animal pathogenic fungi ever organised in Germany and the first time that an ISHAM conference will be in Germany.

Prof. Bernhard Hube (member of the local organizing committee)

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Hans Knoell Institute Jena (HKI) Beutenbergstraße 11a, D-07745 Jena, Germany
Phone [+ 49\(0\)3641 532 1401](tel:+49(0)36415321401) or 00 Fax [+ 49\(0\)3641 532 0810](tel:+49(0)36415320810)
e-mail: bernhard.hube@hki-jena.de webpage: www.hki-jena.de

The 3rd CESC (Central European Summer Course) on Mycology at University of Szeged, Szeged Hungary July 9 – 13, 2012 (www.cesc.hu)

The course addresses both the fundamental principles and techniques of molecular biology, genetics, genomics and diagnostics of pathogenic fungal species. Students gain an in-depth knowledge of pathogenic mechanisms, molecular genetics, and the biochemistry of important virulence factors. Applicants should send their application, a CV, and an abstract about their work via our online registration system (www.cesc.hu) by 1st May 2012. FEMS fellowships are available for financial support (more details: www.cesc.hu)

Attila Gacser PhD (Head of the Org. Committee)
University of Szeged, Dept. of Microbiology, H-6726 Szeged, Középfásor 52, Hungary

Tel: [+36/62/544849](tel:+36(62)544849); Fax: [+36/62/544823](tel:+36(62)544823)

International Conference and Exhibition on Probiotics, 24 –26 Sept.2012, Chicago, USA

The conference is organized by OMICS Group and will be focused on "Future of Probiotics-Visions and Opportunities". The conference is designed to bring together scientific researchers, business entrepreneurs & professionals to discuss the development and progress of research in the areas of biomedical and pre-clinical research, diagnostics, personalized medicine and economic considerations.

For detailed information on Probiotics-2012, you are invited to visit the event website at :

<<http://www.benchmarkemail.com/c/?u=437C94&e=107429&c=188E5&t=0&l=9997A7&email=LMNalxdXtPle6xiOg81pmmbrblHo0ct0vHK1SYNRifo%3D>>
<http://www.omicsonline.org/probiotics2012/><<http://www.benchmarkemail.com/c/?u=437C9F&e=107429&c=188E5&t=0&l=9997A7&email=LMNalxdXtPle6xiOg81pmmbrblHo0ct0vHK1SYNRifo%3D>>

Probiotics-2012 Emphasizes on:

- Molecular Nutrition
- Food Technology & Dairy Technology
- Enzyme Engineering
- Microbial Pathogenesis
- Microbial Fermentation
- Types of Probiotics
- Applications of Probiotics
- Current Research & Future Perspectives on Probiotics
- Health Benefits of Probiotics
- Regulatory issues & Safety Challenges

Contact: Jithender. D (from local Organizing Committee)

OMICS Group Conferences

5716 Corsa Ave., Suite110, Westlake, Los Angeles, CA91362-7354, USA

Phone:[+1-650-268-9744](tel:+1-650-268-9744); Fax:[+1-650-618-1414](tel:+1-650-618-1414); Toll free: [+1-800-216-6499](tel:+1-800-216-6499)

E-mail: probiotics2012@omicsonline.org

<<mailto:probiotics2012@omicsonline.org>>

OMICS Publishing Group is the member of/publishing partner of/source content provider to

CrossRef<<http://www.benchmarkemail.com/c/?u=437C95&e=107429&c=188E5&t=0&l=9997A7&email=LMNalxdXtPle6xiOg81pmmbrblHo0ct0vHK1SYNRifo%3D>>

PubMed<<http://www.benchmarkemail.com/c/?u=437C96&e=107429&c=188E5&t=0&l=9997A7&email=LMNalxdXtPle6xiOg81pmmbrblHo0ct0vHK1SYNRifo%3D>>

DOAJ<<http://www.benchmarkemail.com/c/?u=437C97&e=107429&c=188E5&t=0&l=9997A7&email=LMNalxdXtPle6xiOg81pmmbrblHo0ct0vHK1SYNRifo%3D>> Index

Copernicus<<http://www.benchmarkemail.com/c/?u=437C98&e=107429>

&c=188E5&t=0&l=9997A7&email=LMNalxdXtPle6xiOg81pmmbrblHo0ct0vHK1SYNRifo%3D> Scientific Commons<<http://www.benchmarkemail.com/c/?u=437C99&e=107429&c=188E5&t=0&l=9997A7&email=LMNalxdXtPle6xiOg81pmmbrblHo0ct0vHK1SYNRifo%3D>> EBSCO<<http://www.benchmarkemail.com/c/?u=437C9A&e=107429&c=188E5&t=0&l=9997A7&email=LMNalxdXtPle6xiOg81pmmbrblHo0ct0vHK1SYNRifo%3D>>



www.eci-glasgow2012.com

Email: eci2012@kenes.com

Abstract Topics include: Immunodeficiency; Transplantation; Cancer ; Asthma/Allergy; HIV

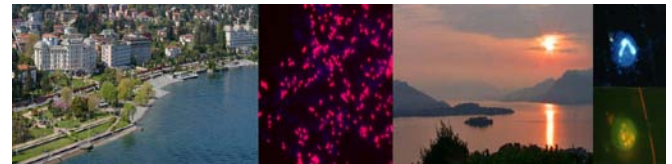


Scientific Conferences are hosted by the Wellcome Trust Conference Centre, Hinxton near Cambridge – part of the world-famous Wellcome Trust Genome Campus. Above all, the Programme aims to reflect the Trust's global commitment to world-class biomedical research by fostering discussion, debate and collaboration across a wide range of scientific disciplines. Should you wish to discuss a potential topic for a Scientific Conference, please contact Dr Rebecca Twells, Programme Manager (rebecca.twells@hinxton.wellcome.ac.uk); Email: scientificconferences@hinxton.wellcome.ac.uk

Exploring Human Host-Microbiome Interactions in Health and Disease 8-10 May 2012



that will be held in Stresa, on the shore of Lake Maggiore (Italy).



Eurobiofilms 2013 will take place in September 2013 in Gent, Belgium, organized by Tom Coenye, Johan van Eldere and Patrick van Dijck

Eurobiofilms 2015 will take place in Brno, Czech Republic, organized by Veronika Holá.

SOMED MEMBERSHIP 2012 APPLICATION FORM

First name:

Surname:

Dept/Laboratory/Center:

Institution/Company: Street/P.O.Box:

Postal code:

City:

State:

Country:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

I authorize the inclusion of my data in the SOMED Membership Directory as above detailed.

Date

Signature

**Regular membership: EUR 40
(or USD 55)**

**Corporate membership: EUR 400
(or USD 550)**

**Student membership: EUR 20
(or USD 25) (Please add student status
certification)**

**Supporting membership: EUR 1000
(or USD 1350)**

Please send your payment to the **SOMED Treasurer, Professor Eugenia Bezirtzoglou**, by:

Bank transfer to: **EUGENIA BEZIRTZOGLOU
PIRAEUS BANK, Athens, Greece
IBAN: GR04 0172 3510 0053 5103 0344 567 - BIC: PIRBGRAA**

By Cheque to: **EUGENIA BEZIRTZOGLOU**

Please send the cheque by registered mail to:

Prof. Eugenia Bezirtzoglou
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Dept. Food Science and Technology
Democritus University of Thrace
2 Fleming Street, 163 45
Ano Ilioupolis, Athens, Greece

Please fax (+30 25 52041191) or send by e-mail (empezirt@yahoo.gr) this form to Prof. Bezirtzoglou