



KAUST Research Workshop: The Metaorganism Frontier

King Abdullah University of
Science and Technology (KAUST)
www.kaust.edu.sa



AGENDA

February 18 – 22, 2018

This event is organized by the KAUST Red Sea Research Center (RSRC)
with financial support from the KAUST Office of Sponsored Research (OSR)

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Agenda (details)

Monday 19 February – Research conference (open)

Level 0 Auditorium between buildings 2 and 3

- 08:00 Breakfast for workshop participants / uploading of presentations
- 08:30 – 08:50 Housekeeping notes and review of workshop goals
Christian R. Voolstra, Workshop chair, RSRC, KAUST
- 08:50 – 10:30 Morning Session 1**
Terrestrial metaorganisms
Chair: Heribert Hirt
- 08:50 – 09:20 **Keynote lecture:** Malaria versus *Symbiodinium*: similarities, differences & opportunities
Geoffrey McFadden, University of Melbourne, Australia
- 09:20 – 09:40 Assessing *Drosophila melanogaster* - associated communities on a continental scale
Fabian Staubach, University of Freiburg, Germany
- 09:40 – 10:00 The microbial continuity (and discontinuity) within and around a mangrove crab
Daniele Daffonchio, KAUST
- 10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break
- 10:30 – 12:00 Morning Session 2**
Terrestrial metaorganisms
Chair: Christian R. Voolstra
- 10:30 – 11:00 **Keynote lecture:** Root-colonizing endophytic fungi - why are they beneficial?
Ralf Oelmueller, University of Jena, Germany
- 11:00 – 11:20 Making the microbiome of desert plants ready for smart agriculture
Maged Saad, KAUST
- 11:20 – 11:40 Modular traits of the plant microbiota
Ruben Garrido Oter, MPI Köln, Germany
- 11:40 – 12:00 Deciphering the molecular linguistics in the communication of beneficial bacteria and plants
Heribert Hirt, KAUST
- 12:15 – 12:30 Group Photo, Stairs Level 0 Auditorium between buildings 2 and 3
- 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch (campus diner, building 13)

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- 13:30 – 15:30** **Afternoon Session 1**
Marine metaorganisms
Chair: Carlos M. Duarte
- 13:30 – 14:00 **Keynote lecture:** Microbiome Structure and Function of Coral holobionts
Christian R. Voolstra, KAUST
- 14:00 – 14:20 Red Sea Seagrass Microbiome
Neus Garcias Bonet, KAUST
- 14:20 – 14:40 Deciphering complex hologenomes in simple animals
Michael Eitel, LMU Munich, Germany
- 14:40 – 15:00 Can we use nature to filter pathogens? Seagrass ecosystems moderate
pathogens of marine animals
Jeroen van de Water, CSM, Monaco
- 15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break
- 15:30 – 16:40** **Afternoon Session 2**
Marine metaorganisms
Chair: Daniele Daffonchio
- 15:30 – 15:50 Cnidarian holobionts: a deep crosstalk between host epithelium and bacteria
Sebastian Fraune, CAU Kiel, Germany
- 15:50 – 16:10 Adoption of a microbial transmembrane function links cnidarians to oceanic
betaine biogeochemistry
David Ngugi, KAUST
- 16:10 – 16:40 **Keynote lecture + Closing:** Microbial composition and some functions
of the anemone holobiont
Linda Blackall, University of Melbourne, Australia
- 17:30 – 19:30** **Poster Session (KAUST students and postdocs)**
Campus library Level 2 (Building 12)
Finger food will be served

