

NEWSLETTER

Understanding and Exploiting the Impacts of Low pH on Micro-organisms

Acidic Friday

Open discussion platform of the COST action EuroMicroph. This discussion series is intended to stimulate an exchange on the different aspects of how microorganisms react to low pH conditions and why people are interested to investigate this subject. This month's Acidic Friday takes place on the 21st of May. For more information, visit:

<https://euromicroph.eu/events/6th-acidic-friday/>

Recent Publications

From our COST Action, a review paper entitled "Bio-Based Processes for Material and Energy Production from Waste Streams under Acidic Conditions" focusing on microbial processes that are biotechnologically explored at low pH has been published. <https://doi.org/10.3390/fermentation8030115>

A review paper, output of a STSM, entitled "Landscape of stress response and virulence genes among *Listeria monocytogenes* strains" focusing on genes and genomic islands responsible for virulence and resistance to environmental stresses, including low pH, explains the complex adaptation and the clonal and serotype-specific differences among *L. monocytogenes* strains, has been published. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2021.738470>

Please let Matthias Steiger (Leader of Working Group 6) and Merve Atasoy (Science Communication Co-ordinator) know of any publications from your lab that are linked to the topic of the Action, and we can publicise them through the website and Twitter account.



Welcome

As chair and vice-chair we'd like to welcome everyone to this, the first edition of a newsletter about activities supported by our COST Action on "Understanding and Exploiting the Impacts of Low pH on Micro-organisms". In this newsletter we want to let you know about what we are doing as an Action, including future events that you may be interested in, and also about funding that we can potentially provide in order to help networking activities in our area of interest. We're now in our third year of activity, and despite the huge disruption caused by the global covid pandemic, we've made a lot of progress towards achieving the objectives of the Action that we set out when it was first launched back in 2019. Our key targets for the current grant period are to increase our outputs and our outreach, so we hope you find this newsletter interesting and useful, and we encourage you to pass it on to other people who work or have an interest in this field. Send us your comments



STSM and ITC Grants

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) are how we fund Action members to spend time as visitors working in labs in other COST countries. They can be for a few days or weeks, and provide a chance to build new networks, learn new methods, or establish new collaborations, which are of relevance to the Action's objectives. You can find more details about the application process here <https://euromicroph.eu/stsm/>

Call is open for ITC grants!

EuromicroPH is funding participation at the conferences for young researchers from inclusiveness target countries and near neighbor countries! read stories of previous ITC grantees and find out more on link: <https://euromicroph.eu/itc-grants/>

MC Meeting in July

The next Management Committee meeting is planned for 12th - 13th July and will be hosted in Łódź, Poland by Karolina Rudnicka and members of her group.



Meet with our last ITC grantee Styliani Roufou



Styliani Roufou attended FoodSim'2022 in Belgium with an ITC grant from COST. In her own words about the ITC grant: "I am very grateful as a PhD student for the opportunity to participate in this conference given to me by this COST action. I have met people from different fields, and it helped me to expand my network/ideas. My presentation helped other students in their research, which justifies the importance of pH in microbiology society (and beyond)."

and ideas, follow us on **Twitter @euromicroph**, and come along to the "Acid Friday" events that we organise online every month.

With the shocking outbreak of war in Ukraine very much on our minds, we're glad to see COST issuing a strong statement condemning war and violence, and we believe that scientific collaboration is a powerful tool to build mutual trust, respect, and friendship between all nations. Our COST Action can help to achieve that crucial goal.

We still have funds available for any members of the Action who wish to spend time learning new methods or developing links with other labs, so please do consider applying for these, and draw them to the attention of anyone who you think may be interested (see the STSM link on the right for details). Face to face conferences are beginning to happen again, so if you are from one of the eligible countries, remember you can apply for funds from us to attend these meetings. Details again are on the right under ITC grants. Also, plans are now advanced for a Training School in September on aspects of applied bioprocesses including fermentation; these places will be fully funded but limited in number so keep your eyes open for the announcement on our web site and by email.



Action Chair

Peter LUND

lundpa@gmail.com

University of Birmingham –
School of Biosciences
Birmingham – United
Kingdom



Action Vice-Chair

Daniela DE BIASE

daniela.debiase@uniroma1.it

Sapienza University of Rome –
Corso della Repubblica 79
Latina – Italy