

# NEWSLETTER

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

### Acidic Friday

Acidic Friday is back! The 13th Acidic Friday was on the 23rd of September 2022. *Bram Van den Bergh* (VIB-KU Leuven), presented his work on mutations in respiratory complex I that promote antibiotic persistence through alterations in intracellular acidity and protein synthesis. *Daniela De Biase* (Sapienza, Rome) and *Fabio Giovannercole* (University of Namur) presented their ongoing work on biochemical and omic studies to unveil the antibacterial effect of phosphinic compounds on *E. coli*

Don't forget to register for the next Acidic Friday!

<https://euromicroph.eu/events/14th-acidic-friday/>

### Recent Publications

- The E-Book "[Microbial Stress: From Model Organisms to Applications in Food, Microbiotechnology and Medicine](#)" edited by some EuroMicroPh members is published in *Frontiers in Microbiology*.
- The article entitled "[A COST Action on microbial responses to low pH: developing links and sharing resources across the academic-industrial divide](#)" co-authored by several Action members, including Virtual Mobility Grantees. is published in *New Biotechnology*

## Welcome

We are thrilled to release the second Newsletter of our Action and proud to announce that many Action Goals have been reached! Great activities are ongoing and many have been planned until October 2023. Enjoy the reading and stay tuned with us!

*Daniela De Biase* (chair) - *Peter Lund* (vice-chair)



## Meeting of the management committee and MC members

After so many zoom meetings over the last two years, it was a pleasure for a group of us to meet up face to face on July 12th and 13th for several Action activities, although some people were only able to join us online. The two days of meetings were held in Łódź in Poland, and we're very grateful to the members of Karolina Rudnicka's research group, and to our new administrative assistant Andrea Grippo, who worked very hard to make the two days run smoothly.

Meetings were held of the Core Group, of Working Groups 1, 2, and 6, and also of the Action Management Committee. There was plenty to talk about during the various formal meetings and informally in the evenings while sampling the food and drink culture of Łódź.

Some key points arising from the MC are given below.

- The Action has been extended to *October 2023*, following the



## Save the dates

### Upcoming Acidic Fridays

21.10.2022 16:00 CEST, Zoom

18.11.2022 16:00 CEST, Zoom

16.12.2022 16:00 CEST, Zoom

### 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 anywhere in the world 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/>

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

### STSM funded by the Action

Since the release of our first newsletter (May 2022) our Action has approved many STSM of applicants that visited Austria from Portugal (1), Germany from Turkey (1), Italy from Belgium (2), Greece from France (1), New Zealand from Spain (1), UK from Portugal (1).

We are looking forward to the official start of the next Grant Period (November 2022) to provide new opportunities to ITC young researchers to attend conferences and to young and established scientists to perform STSM!!

Please check updates in the above links!

restrictions caused by the global COVID pandemic, and the budget for the final grant period will reflect this.

- A draft work plan for the remainder of the Action has been agreed, including two *Training Schools*.

- We plan to hold a *final conference* to be held in Vienna in September 2023, associated to the European Federation of Biotechnology meeting on Microbial Stress.

- We will work during the rest of the Action at *reaching out beyond the academic community* to increase our impact, making people more aware of the expertise we have and the resources we have developed, and all members of the Action are invited to help us in this process.

- It was also agreed that Pete Lund (chair) and Daniela De Biase (deputy chair) would swap their roles for the remainder of the Action, and this has now formally been done.

## The literature database and the network are now online!

Life just became easier for scientists interested in searching and consulting *scientific literature on the impacts of low pH on microorganisms!* The user-friendly database of manually curated articles on microbial responses to low pH developed by *Working Group 1* is now publicly available online via the link: <https://cost-euromicroph.web.app/>. Currently, there are 550+ entries, which range from results of empirical observations to molecular descriptions of processes triggered by the exposure of microorganisms to low pH. Users can explore the entries by defining a search term or filtering using related fields, such as microbial genus, acid type and pH range. We invite users to expand the contents of the database with new data, so it will cover as much information as possible.

Furthermore – now it is very easy to explore our network, searching for needed expertise and/or potential collaborations in the field of microbial response to low pH and its exploitation for industrial processes. This can be achieved through an online dynamic and interactive interface that presents data like methods and technologies used in research or industry, which are relevant to the members of our COST action network. This resource was developed by *Working Group 2* and is available for all on "Network" tab on EuroMicroPH website <https://euromicroph.eu/network/>  
Spread the news!

EuroMicroPH Network

