

The Microbiology Letters

Issue 10 | September 2016

2016 Fall Semester in Session

Welcome back! We hope you have had a relaxing and productive summer. Classes kicked off on August 23rd with courses in general microbiology, public health, applied food microbiology, environmental toxicology, virology, and genetics, among many others. This semester, several new faculty are joining our community, including **Dr. Tobias Doerr** (stress pathways, antibiotic resistance/tolerance), **Dr. Ilana Brito** (human microbiome), **Dr. Joshua Chappie** (bacterial defense systems). The department also welcomes five new graduate students. Happy researching, studying, and teaching in the new semester!

Best Wishes Dr. Ghiorse!

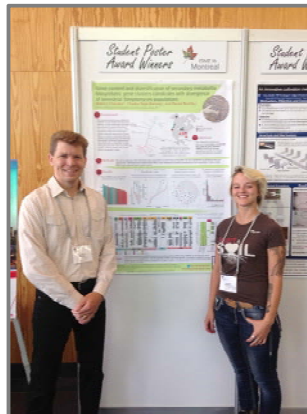
FOMS sends our best wishes to Bill Ghiorse in his retirement. In his 37 years at Cornell, Bill was an outstanding contributor in research, focusing on biogeochemistry of Mn-oxidizing bacteria and the characterization of subsurface bacteria. A long time instructor for the general microbiology course, Bill developed an infamous reputation as an engaging and enthusiastic lecturer. Bill served twice as department chair, where he solidified the departments' distinguished position as a member of the Division of Biological Sciences. His lifelong commitment to microbiology is evident even in his retirement, as we often see him in Wing Hall. Best of luck in your new endeavors, Dr. Ghiorse!



News Highlights

1 Congratulations!

Mallory Choudoir (Buckley lab) won the Student Poster Award this month at the International Society for Microbial Ecology (ISME16) conference held in Montreal. Her beautiful poster described the evolutionary dynamics of biosynthetic gene clusters in *Streptomyces*. Mallory was one of 8 students selected for this distinction out of more than 800 posters presented at the meeting. Mallory received her Ph.D. this summer and is off to the University of Colorado, Boulder as a Postdoc in Noah Fierer's lab.



2 Welcome New Graduate Students!

Anna Weaver - *St. Mary's College of Maryland*
 Shannon Murphy - *SUNY Geneseo*
 Peter Diebold - *University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*
 Monique Theriault - *University of Maine*
 Elliot Jackson - *Cornell University*
 Rachael Fieweger - *University of Wisconsin, Madison*

Summer News:

Javier Jaimes - Passed his A-Exam

Chantal Koechli - Passed her B-Exam

Joe Peters - Became a Full Professor

**Biological and Biomedical Sciences
15th Annual Symposium at Cornell**

**14th Annual Ecology and Evolution
of Infections and Disease at Cornell**

Meet the New FoMS Officers!

Lory Henderson - President

Michael Petassi - Vice President

Kalia Bistolas - Treasurer

Hualiang Pi - Secretary

Javier Jaimes - Public Relations

Congrats to Heng Zhao and Dr. Sue Merkel for publishing papers (see below)!

Publications!

Merkel, S. M. (2016). American Society for Microbiology resources in support of an evidence-based approach to teaching microbiology. *FEMS Microbiology Letters*, 363 (16),fnw172.

Zhao H, Sun Y, Peters JM, Gross CA, Garner EC, Helmann JD. 2016. Depletion of undecaprenyl pyrophosphate phosphatases (UPP-Pases) disrupts cell envelope biogenesis in *Bacillus subtilis*. *Journal of Bacteriology*. 10.1128/JB.00507-16



**More pics & updates
on Facebook**

Field of Microbiology Students

Upcoming Events



Aug. 29th
Welcome BBQ



Sept 9th
Last day to register for classes



Oct. 10th
Microbiology Symposium