

Committee Elections

Two of the committee will be stepping down after this year's Gregynog meeting. They have outlined their activities below, in case you are considering joining! NB: The roles are not necessarily specifically replaced - they may be reassigned within the committee.

Andrew McBain, Chief Book Editor. The main job of the editor is to coordinate and edit the book that accompanies the general meeting. The book is essentially conference proceedings that are published before the conference and is therefore produced to very tight deadlines. Manuscripts are initially edited by members of the committee and then sent to the Biofilm Club editor who has overall editorial responsibility. I have also helped to organise the meeting itself, produced workshop and conference reports for the newsletter, acted as returning officer in elections and generally helped out. It is a fun role that can get quite hectic during the months leading up to the meeting. I have really enjoyed my four years, but feel it is time to give someone else the opportunity of a committee position.

Jo Verran, Newsletter Editor. I will have been on the committee for 3 Gregynogs, so I think my time has been served! As newsletter editor, I have produced 3/4 publications per year (more frequent than previous newsletters I think). I redesigned the format, and collect information to supplement Biofilm Club news so that there is something to read! Of course, I also attend committee meetings, and am involved with planning of workshops and Gregynogs along with the rest of the committee. I have really enjoyed being involved with the running of the Club - and of course attending the events!

Congratulations!

Andrew McBain has been awarded the prestigious W.H. Pierce Memorial Prize of the Society for Applied Microbiology. Only one such prize is awarded each year. The award is for outstanding contributions to microbiology by a scientist under the age of 40 and attracts a cash prize of £2000. Andrew will deliver the 2005 Memorial Lecture at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Society this July. His lecture will be entitled, 'Mammalian Microbiomics: the need for molecular ecological approaches'.

Jo Verran has been awarded the 2005 Peter Wildy Prize of the Society for General Microbiology. The award is for an outstanding contribution to microbiology education, and attracts a cash prize of £1000. Jo will deliver the lecture at the autumn meeting of the SGM (Keele). Her lecture will outline some of the innovative approaches she has used in her work, focusing on the relationship between microbiology, art and public understanding of science (!) Congratulations to you both.

Spring Workshop: 'Modification and evaluation of antimicrobial surfaces for biofilm control'

Unilever R&D Port Sunlight, April 15th

There was an excellent turnout for this workshop, where a range of strategies for surface modification was outlined. There was a strong multidisciplinary flavour to the presentations, and a focus on initial attachment and its control as well as on biofilms. We were also made aware of the 'well it worked in the lab' aspect, when consumer needs, marketing strategies and valid testing methods come to the fore. Abstracts for presentations will be published in the journal 'Biofilms'. The Biofilm Club would particularly like to thank Unilever for hosting the event, and Melanie Brading for being our contact 'on the ground'.



Some of the delegates at the Spring Workshop Meeting

thebiofilmclub NEWSLETTER

www.biofilmclub.co.uk

June 2005

**Gregynog 2005 7 - 9 September:
BIOFILMS: PERSISTENCE AND UBIQUITY
Book Now to Avoid Disappointment
Closing date August 15th!**

Gregynog 2005

Within this edition of newsletter are the (hopefully) final details of the forthcoming residential meeting at Gregynog Hall, Wales, 7-9th September. The meeting, and associated BBC 7 publication, will be entitled Biofilms: Persistence and Ubiquity

We are pleased to announce that virtually all titles submitted for inclusion were accepted onto the programme. As such, the meeting will comprise some thirty-six-discussion papers along with a few ad-hoc presentations of 1-2 overheads. A keynote speaker delivering a 20-30 min plenary talk will front many of the sessions. This year we are pleased to announce that, amongst others, Dave Davies and Dietrich Mack have kindly agreed to deliver keynote addresses. As with previous meetings the proceedings will be published in advance of the meeting as a book. Those of you attending the meeting will receive their complimentary copies then. Other members will have their copies posted out to them by November.

Registration for the meeting will take place 13.00-14.00 on the 7th September. Lunch will not be provided on the 7th, but afternoon tea / coffee (and cakes!) and an evening meal are part of the package. Breakfast, coffee, lunch, afternoon tea (and

more cakes) and a sumptuous Club Dinner will be provided on the Thursday. Breakfast, coffee and lunch will be provided on Friday the 9th before departure by 2pm. Should anyone wish to stay beyond the 9th September please could they let David Allison know well in advance in order to secure additional room reservations.

BOOKING FOR GREGYNOG

We have 100 beds reserved at Gregynog Hall. Consequently, we have fewer places available at the meeting than we have members. In the last newsletter we announced the procedures that would be adopted in order to prioritise applications to attend this meeting. Those individuals who completed and returned the pre-registration form included within the last newsletter will have first priority. The remaining places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

The closing date for applications is August 15th 2005. Please note: you must be a fully paid-up member of the Biofilm Club to attend.

With the exception of those members who are resident outside of the UK, payment (**£165.00**) should be made at the time of application. Non-UK residents can make arrangements if they so wish to pay at the meeting. However, it is important to note that we cannot accept credit card payments.

First priority applications will be processed immediately they are received and the applicants notified. Unless otherwise requested, an Email receipt will be sent. The organising committee will consider all other applications during the week ending 26th August. Cheques will only be cashed after acceptance into the meeting.

The cost of the meeting will be £165 for those wishing to sleep and dine at Gregynog Hall. Many of the rooms at Gregynog are shared so it is important to indicate on the reservation form your preferred roommates! Every attempt will be made to cater for individual requests. Details of off-site Bed and Breakfast accommodation can be provided if required.

Cheques, made payable to The Biofilm Club, and completed registration forms should be sent to David Allison, School of Pharmacy, University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PL, UK, to arrive no later than 15th August. Applications beyond this date will be subject to a £15.00 late booking fee.

David

Club Committee:

David Allison, Treasurer and Membership Secretary.

David.allison@man.ac.uk

Jon Pratten, General Secretary, jpratten@eastman.ucl.ac.uk

Dave Spratt, workshop co-ordinator, d.spratt@eastman.ucl.ac.uk

Joanna Verran, Newsletter Editor
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Mat Upton, Webmaster. Mat.Upton@man.ac.uk

Andrew McBain, Gregynog 2005, and reports
andrew.mc Bain@man.ac.uk

BBC7 - Biofilms: Persistence and Ubiquity -Preliminary Programme

Wednesday 7th September: 1.00 – 2.00 Arrival and Registration

Please note: There will be NO lunch facilities on the first day

2.00 – 2.30 Coffee
2.30-2.45 Welcome and Introduction

2.45pm Session 1: Physiology and sensing.

Chairperson: D. Spratt

Regulatory events in biofilm development - the *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* model.

DG. Davies. - **Key note**

The structure and function of the accumulation associated protein and its role in biofilm formation of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.
M. Banner, M. Upton and P. Handley.

Genomic and proteomic investigations into *Streptococcus uberis* biofilms.
R. Crowley, HM. Lappin-Scott, T. Field, JA. Leigh and LD. Bowler.

Single copy GFP fusions allow analysis of differential gene expression in single cells during *Salmonella* biofilm development.
M. Pogson, R. Bongaerts, J. Porter, J. Hinton and H. Lappin-Scott.

4.15-4.45 Coffee

Molecular analyses of genomic expression in *E. coli* biofilms at uniform growth rate
A. Omar and P. Gilbert.

Membrane vesicles and the matrices of biofilms.
SR. Schooling, D. Moyles and TJ. Beveridge.

The matrix reloaded: an interactive milieu.
H-C. Flemming, M. Strathmann, F. Leon and J. Wingender

Quorum sensing and cross-talk in microbial communities
K. Tait and HC. Williamson.

Mammalian Microbiomics - Are we failing to see the woods because of the trees?
P. Gilbert, D. Allison, M. Friswell, M. Barton and A.J. McBain.

6.00 Session end
7.30 Dinner followed by a pub quiz

Thursday 8th September

8.00-8.30 Breakfast

9.00 Session 2: Implanted materials: The problems they cause and their control

Chairperson: M. Upton

Biofilm formation in coagulase-negative staphylococci: molecular mechanisms and relevance for virulence.

D. Mack, H. Rohde, MA. Horstkotte, AP. Davies and J K-M. Knobloch. - **Key note**

Percutaneous endoscopic gastroscopy tube biofilms – in vitro and in vivo.
G. O'May et al.
Effect of salicylic acid and related non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

(nsaids) on staphylococcal adhesion and biofilm production in vitro.
E. Edis, R. Bayston and W. Sedley.

Encrustation of ureteric stents.
K. Heaton, R. Bayston, K. French and M. Bishop.

10.30-11.00 Coffee

The efficacy of antibiotics against *Propionibacterium acnes* biofilms on spinal implant material
W. Ashraf, R. Bayston, R. Clement, RB. Davies, E. Tucker and B. Freeman.

The significance and role of biofilms in chronic wounds
SL. Percival and AA. Rogers.

Assessing the effectiveness of edta formulations for use as a novel catheter lock solution for the eradication of biofilms
P. Kite, KA. Eastwood and SL. Percival.

Occult ventriculo - atrial shunt infection: a forgotten condition
R. Bayston, J. Clayton and F. Donald.

12.30 – 1.30 Lunch

1.30pm Session 3: Biofilms in the environment

Chairperson: J. Verran

Organic soil and hygienic surfaces: significance, consequences and measurement.
KA. Whitehead, P. Airey and J. Verran.

Development of an optimized technique for the recovery of *H. pylori* from water and drinking water biofilms.
NF. Azevedo, MJ. Vieira and CW. Keevil.

Detection of *H. pylori* in biofilms formed in a real drinking water distribution system using peptide nucleic acid fluorescence in situ hybridization.
SM. Braganca, NF. Azevedo, L. Chaves, MJ. Vieira and CW. Keevil.

Ralstonia pickettii, an organism with attitude.
C. Adley et al.

Genetic and environmental drivers of cell attachment in model soil biofilms.
J. Andrews, S. Rolfe, J. Scholes, R. Pickup, P. Morgan and S. Banwart.

New bugs for old jobs? The role of uncultured Crenarchaeota in anaerobic wastewater treatment biofilms.
G. Collins, T. Mahony and V. O'Flaherty.

3.30-4.00 Coffee

4.00pm Session 4: Oral biofilms and their role in disease

Chairperson: J. Pratten

The architecture and microbial composition of natural plaque biofilms
P. Watson and C. Robinson.

Oral microcosms: through the looking glass
RG. Ledder, P. Gilbert, C. Sissons and AJ. McBain.
Modeling population shifts associated with gingivitis using an in vitro

model of supragingival plaque.
F. Dalwai, DA. Spratt and J. Pratten.

Denture plaque: a neglected biofilm.
L. Couthwaite and J.Verran.

The limitations of DGGE in polymicrobial community analysis.
G. Gafan, D. Elliott, M. Wilson and DA. Spratt.

Microbiological aspects of methods for testing novel dental materials.
G. Rodger, RL. Taylor, S. Parker, GJ. Pearson and J. Verran.

Penetration of therapeutic agents through natural plaque biofilms.
C. Robinson and P. Watson

5.45 Session end
7.00 Annual AGM
8.00 Biofilm Club Dinner

Friday 9th September

8.00-8.30 Breakfast.

9.00am Session 5: Resistance, Persistence and Control.

Chairperson: D. Allison

The enigma of persistence in biofilm communities.
S. Lindsay, M. Kertesz, RL. Cowen, AH. Rickard, AJ. McBain and P. Gilbert.

Control of biofilms using surfactants - persistence and re-growth.
M. Simoes, MO. Pereira and MJ. Vieira.

The susceptibility of chemostat grown *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* PA01 to the biocide polyhexamethylene biguanide (PHMB).
GL. Vanstone, PL. McGeechan, K. Lanthaler, MA. Kertesz, PS. Handley and GD. Robson.

10.15– 10.45 Coffee

Recalcitrance of complex biofilm communities towards chronic exposure to cationic antimicrobials.
LE. Moore, AJ. McBain, P. McGeechan and P. Gilbert.

The influence of sub-inhibitory concentrations of fluconazole and amphotericin B on biofilm formation of *Candida albicans* and *Candida dubliniensis*.
M. Henriques, J. Azeredo and R. Oliveira.

Microbially generated inorganic scales and relevance to home hygiene.
A. Jamieson, C. Philpotts, J. O'Keefe and K. Thompson.

A study of metabolic interactions within artificial biofilms of consortia of *Acinetobacter* sp. C6 and *Pseudomonas putida*.
CA. Gonzalez-Ramirez, JS. Andrews, I. Kookos, GM. Stephens, IP. Thompson and GH. Marx.

12.30-2.00 Closing remarks. Lunch and Depart

The organisers gratefully acknowledge Unilever R&D (Bioscience) for financial support of the Scientific sessions.

BBC7 Cover Competition

After the overwhelming response to the request for images for the cover of the conference proceedings, we thought we'd do it again! If you have any images, designs, diagrams etc. which you would like to be considered for the cover, please send to Andrew McBain by the end of June. For example, you may have submitted colour images in your manuscript. These will be printed in black and white, so may benefit from display on the cover.

BBC7
Biofilms:
Persistence and
Ubiquity

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ESCMID Biofilm Study Group

At the recent meeting of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) in Copenhagen, the ESCMID Biofilm Study Group was formed. The group has been set up as a focus point for researchers with interests in biofilms of medical importance. More information can be obtained from Niels Hoiby (hoiby@inet.uni1.dk), or by keeping an eye on our website for updates as they appear.
Mat Upton