

Swiss Society for Microbiology Annual Congress 2026

From 26 to 28 August 2026

2m2c Montreux Music & Convention Center

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

SSM_SCNAT Sponsored Satellite Symposia



PROGRAM





Congress office Management

Meeting.com Congress Organisation
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Registration on meeting-com.ch / Conferences & Meetings

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Organization

Congress organization – Scientific committee

Prof Philipp Engel, Department of Fundamental Microbiology (DMF), UNIL, Lausanne

Prof Tom Ian Battin, School of Architecture, Civil and Environmental Engineering, EPFL, Lausanne

Clinical Microbiology

Adrian Egli, Zurich; Linda Müller, Bellinzona; Oliver Nolte, Zurich

Early career

Marion Aruanno, Lausanne

Microbial Ecology

Philipp Engel, Lausanne; Tom Ian Battin, Lausanne

Lay Communication

Pilar Junier, Neuchâtel; Mandy Müller, Lausanne

Molecular Microbiology

Alexander Harms, Zurich, Camille Goemans, Lausanne

Mycology

Alix Coste, Lausanne; Markus Kunzler, Zurich

Virology

Silke Stertz, Zurich; Mirco Schmolke, Geneva

Welcome word

Dear Colleagues,

Please save the date for the Annual Congress of the Swiss Society of Microbiology, which will take place from 26-28 August 2026 at the 2m2c Music and Convention Centre, on the shores of Lake Geneva in Montreux, Switzerland.

The congress will bring together experts from across the full spectrum of microbiology, including clinical microbiology, virology, mycology, microbial ecology, and molecular microbiology.

The Scientific Committee, chaired by Prof. Philipp Engel and Prof. Tom Ian Battin, aims to create an interdisciplinary and supportive environment with strong opportunities for presentation, discussion, and networking, especially for early-career researchers.

The scientific program will include:

- 5 keynote lectures
- 25 parallel sessions covering current and broad topics in microbiology
- 2 dedicated poster sessions:
Odd numbers : 27.08.26 – 16.15-17.15
Even numbers : 28.08.26 – 11.00-12.00
- “My Thesis in 180 Seconds” : 28.08.26 – 09.20-10.25
- Lay communication activity
- Posterflash session : 27.08.26 – 13.30-14.05
- An afternoon dedicated to Early Career Researchers – 26.08.26

We look forward to welcoming you to Montreux on this occasion.

Kind regards,
The Organizing Committee of the 2026
Annual Congress of the SGM-SSM

Venue

2m2c Montreux Music Convention Center
Avenue Claude-Nobs 6, 1820 Montreux
<https://2m2c.ch/fr>

Registration

online on www.meeting-com.ch / Conferences & Meetings

Registration fee

MEMBER*
NON-Member
Student Member*
Student NON-Member**

Early fee 1-day (26.08)

(until August 16, 2026)

CHF 200.00
CHF 350.00
CHF 100.00
CHF 200.00

Late fee & onsite 1-day (26.08)

(as of August 17, 2026)

CHF 300.00
CHF 450.00
CHF 175.00
CHF 275.00

Early fee 2-days (27-28.08)

(until August 16, 2026)

MEMBER*
NON-Member
Student Member*
Student NON-Member**

CHF 350.00
CHF 500.00
CHF 170.00
CHF 270.00

Late fee & onsite 2-days (27-28.08)

(as of August 17, 2026)

CHF 450.00
CHF 600.00
CHF 220.00
CHF 320.00

Early fee 3-days (26-28.08)

(until August 16, 2026)

MEMBER*
NON-Member
Student Member*
Student NON-Member**

CHF 450.00
CHF 600.00
CHF 220.00
CHF 320.00

Late fee & onsite 3-days (26-28.08)

(as of August 17, 2026)

CHF 550.00
CHF 700.00
CHF 330.00
CHF 430.00

Networking Dinner on Thursday, August 27, 2026

CHF 120.00 (limited places)

at 2m2c Montreux Music Convention Center

Being a Microbiologist today - organized by the Early Career Section – Wednesday, August 26, 2026

I participate Wed August 26, 2026 at 15.00

☐ yes (included in the registration fees)

I participate in the early career evening on Wed August 26, 2026 at 18.30

☐ yes (included in the registration fees)

Daily participation at 50% of the indicated late rate. Please contact the congress management.

* In order to benefit from the Member fee, the annual membership 2026 has to be duly paid to the SSM.

** In order to benefit from the reduced fee, PhD students are required to send a document confirming their status to the Congress Management info@meetingcom.ch

Networking Dinner

On Thursday August 27, 2026 at 2m2c Montreux Music Convention Center

18.45-19.45 Aperitive

As of 19.45 Networking Dinner

Congress office management

Meeting.com Sàrl Congress Organisation

Rue des Pâquis 1 · CH-1033 Cheseaux-sur-Lausanne

Mrs Nicole Giacomini

T +41 (0)21 312 92 62 · nicole@meetingcom.ch



Credits

- FAMH in Microbiology
- Swiss Society for Infectious Diseases
- Animal Experimentation

Book of abstracts & Online program

<https://ssm.event-mo.ch>



BE A GAME CHANGER
You can make a global impact

On Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 13.30

Plenary Room Miles Davis Hall

Posterflash is a session where posters are highlighted in 3-minute time slot, in addition to a poster in paper format.

- The allocated speaking time is 3 minutes and no time for discussion
- The moderators will ensure that the time limit is not exceeded.

Be prepared for an exciting session!

On Friday August 28, 2026 at 09.20

Plenary room Miles Davis Hall

Selected abstracts from the submission process from PhD and MD PhD students will present their thesis in 180 seconds using lay words.

There will be a price for the best presentation. But it is not the quality of the science that is considered at all here. The jury will consider the following criteria:

- Timing
- Story telling
- Humor
- Illustrations
- Keep it simple
- Art of speaking
- The talks will be exactly 180 seconds (3 mn) each
- No question/discussion since it is based on a talk of 180 seconds exactly
- The moderators will ensure that the time limit is not exceeded.

Be prepared for a dynamic session!

Awards

On Friday August 28, 2026 at 15.50

Plenary room Miles Davis Hall

During the meeting, you may be lucky and win one of the following awards:

- Best Oral Presentation: 5 Awards (one per section) in the context of the annual meeting presentations.
- Poster Award: 3 Awards selected during the annual meeting by an ad-hoc award committee
- My thesis in 180 seconds award: 1 award will be given to the best presentation

All the above-mentioned awards will be presented at the end of the meeting during the very last session.

Global view

	MILES DAVIS HALL	AGORA 1-2	MILES DAVIS 3-4	AGORA 5	AGORA 3-4
09.25-09.40	Welcome & introduction				
09.40-10.15	KEYNOTES Expansion Microscopy Atlas of Microbial Eukaryotes				
10.15-11.45	SESSION 1 CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY Swiss Dialogue on Diagnostic Harmonization: Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing	SESSION 2 MOLECULAR MICROBIOLOGY Microbes in food	SESSION 3 MYCOLOGY Swiss Mycology Symposium	SESSION 4 MICROBIAL ECOLOGY	SESSION 5 VIROLOGY Virus-host interactions
11.45-13.15	LUNCH BREAK / POSTER VIEWING / EXHIBITION				
13.15-14.45	CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY Swiss Dialogue on Diagnostic Harmonization: Next Generation Sequencing	SESSION 7 MOLECULAR MICROBIOLOGY my career in molecular microbiology	SESSION 8 MYCOLOGY Swiss Mycology Symposium	SESSION 9 MICROBIAL ECOLOGY	SESSION 10 VIROLOGY
15.00-16.30	Early Career Session Microbiology and social media: Communicating clearly in the age of misinformation				
16.30-17.00	COFFEE BREAK / EXHIBITION				
17.00-18.30	Early Career Session Science without burnout: Well- being and career balance				
18.30-20.00	APERITIVE / EXHIBITION				

Keynote	Molecular Microbiology	Early career	NCCR
Clinical Microbiology	Microbial Ecology	Lay communication sessions	Poster walk
Virology	Mycology		

SSM_SCNAT Sponsored Satellite Symposia



08.30 Registration

FOYER

09.25-09.40 Welcome & Introduction

MILES DAVIS HALL

Philipp Engel, Lausanne; Tom Battin, Lausanne

09.40-10.15 KEYNOTE 1

MILES DAVIS HALL

Chair: Philipp Engel, Lausanne

09.40-10.05 Expansion Microscopy Atlas of Microbial Eukaryotes

K01 Omayya Dudin, Geneva

10.05-10.15 Discussion

10.15-11.45 SESSION 1 CM

MILES DAVIS HALL

Swiss Dialogue on Diagnostic Harmonization: Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing

Chair: Linda Müller, Bellinzona

10.15-10.45 Current AST Practices in Swiss Clinical Microbiology

M01 **Laboratories: A Nationwide Survey**

Stefano Mancini, Zurich

10.45-11.45 Round table

Stefano Mancini, Zurich; Damien Jacot, Lausanne; Salomé Seiffert, St. Gallen; Abdessalam Cherkaoui, Geneva

11.00-11.45 SESSION 2 MM

AGORA 1-2

Microbes in food

Chair: Alexander Harms, Zurich

11.00-11.45 Taste the Microbiome: The Ecology of Microbial

M02 **Terroir in Fermented Foods**

Lena Flörl, Zurich

* Student presentation



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10.15-11.45

SESSION 3 MY

MILES DAVIS 3-4

Swiss Mycology Symposium

Chair: Markus Kuenzler, Zurich

10.15-10.30

S01*

Malassezia at the Host Interface in Health and Disease

Fiona Fischer, Zurich

10.30-10.45

S02

Four cases of persistent dermatophytosis caused by terbinafine-resistant Trichophyton indotineae diagnosed in a private laboratory

Géraldine Jost, Geneva

10.45-11.00

S03*/MT04*/

P008*

Exploration of novel mechanisms of manogepix resistance in Candidozyma auris

Anaïs Hautefeuille, Lausanne

11.00-11.15

S04*

A conditional TE-driven hypermutator state in a major wheat fungal pathogen

Ivona Glavincheska, Zurich

11.15-11.45

M03

Jumping Genes and Pathogenic Schemes: The diverse role that transposons play in plant pathogen evolution

Megan McDonald, Zurich

10.15-11.45

SESSION 4 ME

AGORA 5

Microbial Ecology

Chairs: Lucas Paoli, Lausanne; Shiro Otaki, Lausanne

10.15-10.45

M04

Early-Life Human Microbiome Trajectories in the Context of Maternal Malnutrition

Pascale Vonaesch, Lausanne

10.45-11.00

S05

Plasmids and prophages drive horizontal gene transfer in the developing infant gut microbiome

Karim Uddin, Helsinki (FI)

11.00-11.15

S06*

Antagonistic bacterial interactions in the human gut microbiome

Eva Rigendinger, Zurich

11.15-11.30

S07

Antibiotic stress promotes competitive interactions in gut-derived bacterial communities

Maxime Batsch, Lausanne

11.30-11.45

S08*/P096*

Combined cryo-electron tomography imaging and identification of microbes as a novel tool for environmental microbiology

Nikolai Petrosian, Zurich

* Student presentation

10.15-11.45	SESSION 5 VI	AGORA 3-4
	Virus-host interactions	
	Chair: Silke Stertz, Zurich	
10.15-10.45 M05	A wild-type mouse-adapted SARS-CoV-2 model captures multi-organ long COVID and enables host-focused mechanistic and interventional studies	
	Stefanie Bader, Heidelberg (DE)	
10.45-11.15 M06	RNA decay and KSHV infection: Deciphering the viral-host arms race to control RNA stability	
	Mandy Müller, Lausanne	
11.15-11.30 S09	A primate specific transcription regulator facilitates transcriptase activity of influenza A virus polymerase	
	Mehdi Chabert, Geneva	
11.30-11.45 S10*	Mechanistically Distinct Therapeutic Strategies Restore Antiviral Immunity in the Presence of Neutralizing Anti-IFNβ Autoantibodies	
	Chau Tran, Zurich	

11.45-13.15	Lunch Break / Poster viewing / Exhibition	EXHIBITION
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13.15-14.45	SESSION 6 CM	MILES DAVIS HALL
	Swiss Dialogue on Diagnostic Harmonization: Next Generation Sequencing	
	Chair: Lara Urban, Zurich	
13.15-13.45 M07	One Genome – One Interpretation? Lessons from the Swiss Journey Towards Harmonized NGS Diagnostics	
	Tim Roloff Handschin, Zurich	
13.45-14.45	Round table	
	Alban Ramette, Bern; Claudio Neidhöfer, Basel, Claire Bertelli, Lausanne	

* Student presentation



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13.15-14.45

SESSION 7 MM

AGORA 1-2

My career in molecular microbiology

Chair: Alexander Harms, Zurich

13.15-13.45

M08

Alternative careers in Biotech: Lessons from Entrepreneurship

Giorgia Greter, Zurich

13.45-14.05

M09

From bench to blackboard

Thomas Fiedler, Muttentz

14.05-14.25

M10

Leading with Science: Forging a Career as a Molecular Microbiologist in Big Pharma

Rusudan Okujava, Basel

14.25-14.45

M11

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of an Academic Career

Andrea Vettiger, Lausanne

13.15-14.45

SESSION 8 MY

MILES DAVIS 3-4

Swiss Mycology Symposium

Chair: Saskia Bindschedler, Neuchâtel

13.15-13.30

S11

Diversity and distribution of tree-associated fungi in the Caucasus region and their potential risk to European forests

Luis Ever Vega Cabrera, Birmensdorf

13.30-13.45

S12*

Disentangling between soil properties and fungal plant pathogens to understand tree dieback in urban areas

Linda Phillipona, Neuchâtel

13.45-14.00

S13*

Morels co-cultivation with apple trees: a potential for mycosylviculture?

Alix Jornot, Neuchâtel

14.00-14.15

S14

From apple-skin waste to fungal rodlets: discovering class I hydrophobins in *Ganoderma adspersum*

Carolina Reyes, Dübendorf

14.15-14.30

S15*

Speckle spectroscopy as a non-invasive tool for mycelium network characterization

Judith Gómez Cuyàs, Zurich

14.30-14.45

S16

Frequency-Dependent Growth Responses of *Pleurotus* spp. to Audible Sound Exposure

Raymond Place, Bern

* Student presentation



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13.15-14.45

SESSION 9 ME

AGORA 5

Microbial Ecology

Chairs: Wenyu Gu, Lausanne; David Johnson, Dübendorf

13.15-13.45

M12

Engineering the plant microbiome: large scale application of microbial biostimulants for sustainable agriculture

Raphaël Bousageon, Zurich

13.45-14.00

S17

Soil microbial functions and carbon utilization across a large environmental gradient

Aline Frossard, Brimensdorf

14.00-14.15

S18

Laboratory evolution enhances resilience of a symbiont yeast and its honeybee host against agrochemical exposure

Simone Mozzachiodi, Cambridge (UK)

14.15-14.30

S19

Spatial organization of biomass controls intrinsic permeability of porous systems

Pietro De Anna, Lausanne

14.30-14.45

S20

Historical nutrient regimes select distinct methane-cycling communities in lake sediments

Alice Bosco Santos, Lausanne

13.15-14.30

SESSION 10 VI

AGORA 3-4

Virology

Chair: Mirco Schmolke, Geneva

13.15-13.45

M13

Genomic and functional diversification of the bat antiviral innate immunity

Lucie Etienne, Lyon (FR)

13.45-14.00

S21*

Development of two classes of non-toxic broad-spectrum antivirals

Nolwenn Steffen, Lausanne

14.00-14.15

S22

Rethinking Feline Coronavirus Research: Alternative in vitro systems to study a complex virus

Kimberly Schmied, Bern

14.15-14.30

S23*/MT10*/P020*

Targeting Rhinovirus IRES as new approach for antivirals

Stefano Giunta, Lausanne

* Student presentation



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15.00-16.30 **Being a Microbiologist today organized by the Early Career Section** **MILES DAVIS HALL**

Chairs: Marion Aruanno, Lausanne; Alessandra Vitale, Lausanne

15.00-16.30 **Microbiology and social media: Communicating clearly in the age of misinformation**
Noémie Matthey, Bern; Samuel Van Gele, Stuttgart (DE)

16.30-17.00 **Coffee break / Poster viewing / Exhibition** **EXHIBITION**

17.00-18.30 **Being a Microbiologist today organized by the Early Career Section** **MILES DAVIS HALL**

Chairs: Marion Aruanno Lausanne; Thomas Simonet, Lausanne

17.00-18.30 **Science without burnout: Well-being and career balance**
Sophie Martin, Geneva; Kevin Nils Baumann, Basel;
Maryame Bina, Basel

18.30-20.00 **Networking aperitive (early career)** **EXHIBITION**

* Student presentation



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Global view

	MILES DAVIS HALL	AGORA 1-2	MILES DAVIS 3-4	AGORA 5	AGORA 3-4
10.00-10.15	Welcome & introduction				
10.15-10.50	KEYNOTE Carnivorous Fungi: From Molecules to Ecosystems				
10.50-12.20	SESSION 11 Lung infections	SESSION 12 Mechanisms of microbial interactions	SESSION 13 Fungi in nature and biotechnology	SESSION 14 Microbes and environmental change	SESSION 15 Zoonoses & vector-borne viral diseases
12.20-13.30	LUNCH BREAK / POSTER VIEWING / EXHIBITION				
13.30-14.05	Posterflash session				
14.15-15.45	SESSION 16 NCCR AntiResist: Modelling Human Infectious Disease	SESSION 17 Bacterial cell biology and signal transduction	SESSION 18 Current topics in clinical mycology	SESSION 19 Ecology and evolution of microbial communities	SESSION 20 When microbes unite - co-infections (with viruses, bacteria, fungi)
15.45-16.15	COFFEE BREAK / POSTER VIEWING / EXHIBITION				
16.15-17.15	Poster walk odd numbers				
17.15-17.50	KEYNOTE Deltaviruses spread through a viral Trojan Horse				
18.00-19.00	SSM GENERAL ASSEMBLY (open to members only)				
18.45	APERITIVE & POSTER VIEWING				
19.45	CONFERENCE DINNER				

Keynote	Molecular Microbiology	Early career	NCCR
Clinical Microbiology	Microbial Ecology	Lay communication sessions	Poster walk
Virology	Mycology		

09.00	Registration	FOYER
10.00-10.15	Welcome and Introduction Philipp Engel, Lausanne; Tom Battin, Lausanne; Hubert Hilbi, Zurich	MILES DAVIS HALL

09.00-10.00	KEYNOTE 2 Chairs: Alix Coste, Lausanne; Markus Kuenzler, Zurich	MILES DAVIS HALL
10.15-10.40 K02	Carnivorous Fungi: From Molecules to Ecosystems Yen-Ping Hsueh, Tübingen (DE)	
10.40-10.50	Discussion	

10.50-12.20	SESSION 11 CM Lung infections Chair: Salome Seiffert, St. Gallen	MILES DAVIS HALL
10.50-11.20 M14	Beyond microbiology: Pragmatic tools for optimizing antibiotic use in lung infections Noémie Boillat Blanco, Lausanne	
11.20-11.35 S24	CRISPRi-seq reveals human body-site-specific pressures on pneumococci Amelieke Cremers, Lausanne	
11.35-11.50 S25	Hidden genome dynamics: structural variation in chronic Burkholderia cepacia complex infections Aline Cuénod, Zurich	
11.50-12.05 S26*	Tailored phage selection for the treatment of chronic airway infections due to MDR Pseudomonas aeruginosa Klara-Isabell Garbe, Zurich	
12.05-12.20 S27	Performance evaluation of AI-assisted auramine microscopy in routine mycobacterial diagnostics Bettina Schulthess, Zurich	

* Student presentation



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10.50-12.20	SESSION 12 MM	AGORA 1-2
	Mechanisms of microbial interactions	
	Chair: Camille Goemans, Lausanne	
10.50-11.20 M15	Discovery and modulation of metabolic interactions among plant-associated bacteria	
	Alan Pacheco, Lausanne	
11.20-11.35 S28	Glucosinolate transport shapes spatial microbiome assembly along the root axis in two Brassicaceae species	
	Andra-Octavia Roman, Zurich	
11.35-11.50 S29	Microbial community complexity modulates emergent metabolism	
	Simran Aulakh, Cambridge (UK)	
11.50-12.05 S30	Yellow protein co-opted to sustain obligate symbiosis in leaf beetles	
	Marleny Garcia-Lozano, Lausanne	
12.05-12.20 S31*	Modulation of intercellular tunnelling nanotubes of Dictyostelium discoideum by Legionella pneumophila	
	Luca Langlois, Zurich	

10.50-12.20	SESSION 13 MY	MILES DAVIS 3-4
	Fungi in nature and biotechnology	
	Chairs: Tiffany Abitbol, Lausanne; Mathias Steinacher, Zurich	
10.50-11.20 M16	Fungi as a Platform for Sustainable Bio-Based Living Materials	
	Gustav Nyström, Dübendorf	
11.20-11.35 S32	Fungal-based biosorption: An eco-friendly strategy for heavy metal removal from contaminated water	
	Anjali Prajapati, Gujarat (IND)	
11.35-11.50 S33	Synthetic lichen for the conversion of lignocellulosic biomass into fuels and chemicals	
	Derek Troiano, Bern	
11.50-12.05 S34	Effect of Bacillus velezensis K-165 volatiles on Botrytis cinerea and Arabidopsis protection	
	Floriane L'Haridon, Fribourg	
12.05-12.20 S35	Population control by the T3SS sustains a bacterial–fungal endosymbiosis	
	Olivia Bossert, Zurich	

* Student presentation

10.50-12.20

SESSION 14 ME

AGORA 5

Microbes and environmental change

Chair: Marie Schölmerich, Zurich

10.50-11.20

M17

From dividing to dormant: the microbial activity spectrum and its ecological consequences

Ashley Shade, Lyon (FR)

11.20-11.35

S36*/P155*

Sublethal pesticide exposure and the honey bee gut microbiota: interactions and impacts on bee health

Jamille Viray, Lausanne

11.35-11.50

S37*

Understanding soil microbiomes' drivers using function-based global ecosystems classifications

Eurgenio Perez Molphe Montoya, Zurich

11.50-12.05

S38

Stickland metabolism operates as a distributed community property governed by hierarchical thermodynamic constraints

Wenyu Gu, Lausanne

12.05-12.20

S39

Rethinking chain-length distribution dynamics in diatom populations through cell size and cellular organization

Elliott Flaum, Grenoble (FR)

10.50-12.20

SESSION 15 VI

AGORA 3-4

Zoonoses & vector-borne viral diseases

Chair: Kimberly Schmied, Bern

10.50-11.20

M18

Dissecting Zoonotic Virus Infection Through Advanced Cellular Imaging

Christian Sieben, Braunschweig (DE)

11.20-11.35

S40*

Viral inhibition through structure targeting the frameshifting element of SARS-CoV-2

Fatima Zahra Lissane Eddine, Lausanne

11.35-11.50

S41*/P151*

Hemagglutinin-associated stability of H5N1 influenza A virus in exhaled respiratory droplets

Elysa Blanvalet, Zurich

11.50-12.05

S42

Tracking West Nile Virus in Southern Switzerland

Giulia Zezza, Mendrisio

* Student presentation

13.30-14.05 POSTER FLASH SESSION

MILES DAVIS HALL

Chairs: Philipp Engel, Lausanne; Tom Battin, Lausanne

13.30-13.33 Development and implementation of an evolutionary algorithm
PF01*/P001* for engineering microbiomes via environmental modulation
Rose Evard, Lausanne

13.35-13.38 Impact of OprF porin deletion on the efficacy of imipenem
PF02/P003 therapy in a murine sepsis model caused by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* producing NDM-1 carbapenemase
Soraya Herrera-Espejo, Fribourg; Patrice Nordmann, Fribourg

13.40-13.43 Host specificity depends on spatial scale: insights from
PF03*/P005* micromammal gut microbiota
Giorgia Wennubst Pedrini, Lausanne

13.45-13.48 Establishing genetic modification in primary-like human airway
PF04*/P007* epithelial cultures
Marc Ledergerber, Zurich

13.50-13.53 Chimerophore antibiotics: combining host defense peptides for
PF05*/P009* multimodal antimicrobial activity
Liz Armas Egas, Zurich

13.55-13.58 Decoding Type IV Pilus Recognition of *Pseudomonas*
PF06*/P011* *aeruginosa* Phages
Sophia Zimmermann, Zurich

14.00-14.03 Integrated metagenomic and metabolomic features Predict
PF07/P013 opportunistic pathogen expansion in allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplant recipients
Margot Delavy, New York (USA)

* Student presentation

14.15-15.45

SESSION 16 CM – NCCR

MILES DAVIS HALL

AntiResist: Modelling Human Infectious Disease

Chair: Christoph Dehio, Basel

14.15-14.45

M19

Modeling host-microbe interactions in immunocompetent engineered human gut tissues

Gray Camp, Basel

14.45-15.00

S43

Staphylococcus aureus localization in infected human bones

Florian Marro, Basel

15.00-15.15

S44

Distinct Pseudomonas aeruginosa subpopulations inflict tissue damage during infection

Alejandro Tejada-Arranz, Basel

15.15-15.30

S45*/P153

A genome editing pipeline in human lung cells enables functional dissection of epithelial barrier protection against P. aeruginosa

Nicole Thürkaut, Basel

15.30-15.45

S46

A novel human in vitro bladder model to study patient-specific responses to uropathogenic E. coli

Lisette Van Os, Basel

14.15-15.45

SESSION 17 MM

AGORA 1-2

Bacterial cell biology and signal transduction

Chair: Jan-Willem Veening, Lausanne

14.15-14.45

M20

Being Lazy is not always bad: Cyclic di-AMP signaling in cyanobacteria

Khaled Selim, Düsseldorf (DE)

14.45-15.00

S47*

Mycomembrane proteins are inserted at zones of polar growth and linked to the cell wall

Dieuwertje De Bruin, Lausanne

15.00-15.15

S48

One does not simply kill Brucella: Intracellular antibiotic tolerance, population heterogeneity, and an RND Efflux Pump

Maren Ketterer, Basel

15.15-15.30

S49*

Bacterial L-form cellular fusion creates interspecies mosaic genomes

Xiao-Hua Yan, Zurich

15.30-15.45

S50

MtvS1 and MtvS2 Interact With RNA Polymerase to Regulate the Francisella Type V-A CRISPR-Cas System

Maj Brodmann, New York (USA)

* Student presentation



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14.15-15.45

SESSION 18 MY

MILES DAVIS 3-4

Current topics in clinical mycology

Chair: Salome Leibundgut-Landmann, Zurich

14.15-14.45

Fungal Infections in times of Climate Change

M21

Martin Hönlgl, Graz (AT)

14.45-15.00

Candidalysin orchestrates homeostatic Th17 immunity in response to *C. albicans* oral colonization

S51

Salomé Leibund Gut-Landmann, Zurich

15.00-15.15

Sticky situation: uncovering the molecular and mechanical basis of *Candida* adhesion

S52

Pratik Vyas, Basel

15.15-15.30

Exploring Mitogen-Activated Protein Kinases (MAPK) pathways in *Candida auris*

S53*

Marine Louvet, Lausanne

15.30-15.45

Deciphering the *Tac1a* / *Tac1b* network of azole resistance in *Candidozyma auris*

S54

Jizhou Li, Lausanne

14.15-15.45

SESSION 19 ME

AGORA 5

Ecology and evolution of microbial communities

Chair: Pascale Vonaesch, Lausanne

14.15-14.45

Ecological diversity of microbial immunity

M22

Lucas Paoli, Lausanne

14.45-15.00

Social isolation accelerates divergent evolution in the gut microbiota

S55

Madalena Real, Lausanne

15.00-15.15

A minimal bacterial community provides insights into the microbial ecology of marine chitin degradation

S56*

Vilhelmiina Haavisto, Zurich

15.15-15.30

Full-length 16S sequencing reveals strong effects of host phylogeny on gut microbes in wild micromammals

S57*

Rahel Niggli, Lausanne

15.30-15.45

Resource-dependent interactions drive community assembly in a defined gut bacterial community

S58

David Scheidweiler, Cambridge (UK)

* Student presentation

14.15-15.30	SESSION 20 VI	AGORA 3-4
	When microbes unite – co-infections (with viruses, bacteria, fungi)	
	Chair: Valeria Cagno, Lausanne	
14.15-14.45	Molecular mechanisms of viral-bacterial co-infections	
M23	Philipp Walch, Lausanne	
14.45-15.00	A respiratory tract commensal bacterium with direct antiviral action against Influenza A virus	
S59	Helena Choltus, Geneva	
15.00-15.30	Early metabolic reprogramming licenses Streptococcus pneumoniae for Influenza-driven superinfection	
M24	Mirco Schmolke, Geneva	

15.45-16.45	Coffee break / Poster viewing / Exhibition	EXHIBITION
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16.15-17.15	Poster walk ODD NUMBERS	POSTER AREA
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17.15-17.50	KEYNOTE 3	MILES DAVIS HALL
	Chair: Silke Stertz, Zurich	
17.15-17.40	Deltaviruses spread through a viral Trojan Horse	
K03	Karim Majzoub, Montpellier (FR)	
17.40-17.50	Discussion	

18.00-19.00	GENERAL ASSEMBLY open to members only	MILES DAVIS HALL
	Chair: SSM Board Committee	

18.45	Aperitive	2M2C - HENRI NESTLÉ B3
As of 19.45	Networking dinner	2M2C - HENRI NESTLÉ B3

* Student presentation



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Global view

	MILES DAVIS HALL	AGORA 1-2	MILES DAVIS 3-4	AGORA 5	AGORA 3-4
08.45-09.20	KEYNOTE Molecular mechanisms of bacterial cell division in filamentous bacteria				
09.20-10.25	MY THESIS IN 180 SECONDS				
10.25-11.00	COFFEE BREAK / POSTER VIEWING / EXHIBITION				
11.00-12.00	POSTER WALK EVEN NUMBERS				
12.00-13.15	LUNCH BREAK / POSTER VIEWING / EXHIBITION				
13.15-14.45	SESSION 21 Deep Wound Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance	SESSION 22 Bacterial genetics and Mobile Genetic Elements	SESSION 23 Viruses of fungi and bacteria	SESSION 24 NCCR Microbiomes: Towards controlling microbiomes	SESSION 25 Lay communication: Comic Strip workshop
14.45-15.15	COFFEE BREAK / POSTER VIEWING / EXHIBITION				
15.15-15.50	KEYNOTE Innovating Against AMR: The Role of Diagnostics				
15.50-16.30	AWARDS & CLOSING REMARKS				

Keynote	Molecular Microbiology	Early career	NCCR
Clinical Microbiology	Microbial Ecology	Lay communication sessions	Poster walk
Virology	Mycology		

7.45

Registration

FOYER

08.45-09.20 KEYNOTE 4

MILES DAVIS HALL

Chair: Camille Goemans, Lausanne

08.45-09.10 Molecular mechanisms of bacterial cell division in filamentous bacteria

K04

Susan Schlimpert, Norwich (UK)

09.10-09.20 Discussion

09.20-10.25 MY THESIS IN 180 SECONDS

MILES DAVIS HALL

Chairs: Pilar Junier, Neuchâtel; Mandy Müller, Lausanne

09.20-09.25 Introduction & rules

09.25-09.30 Spatiotemporal interactions between biocontrol bacteria and pathogenic oomycete

MT01*/P002*

Xiaoqing Zhang, Bern

09.30-09.35 Exploring the ecological and evolutionary roles of persisting bacteriophages in traditional food fermentation

MT02*/P004

Jessica Ransome, Zurich

09.35-09.40 Pyoverdines as antimicrobial agents against human opportunistic pathogens

MT03*/S63*/

P006*

Jens Scheidegger, Zurich

09.40-09.45 Exploration of novel mechanisms of manogepix resistance in *Candidozyma auris*

MT04*/S03*/

P008*

Anaïs Hautefeuille, Lausanne

09.45-09.50 Whole-genome enrichment of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* from clinical samples: a sensitivity assessment

MT05*/P010*

Nina Liuta, Zurich

09.50-09.55 Lineage and microenvironment effects drive heterogeneous quorum sensing activation in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* microcolonies

MT06*/P012*

Xiaohe Liu, Zurich

* Student presentation



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09.55-10.00 MT07/S68/ P014	Mapping the temperate phage landscape and integration hotspots across Staphylococcaceae Davide de Rosa, Bern
10.00-10.05 MT08*/P016*	In situ characterisation of corynebacterium infection in mycomembrane-bearing minicells Maina Arnau Alemany, Lausanne
10.05-10.10 MT09*/P018*	Effects of combinations of antibiotics on antibiotic resistance selection in aquatic environments Ramona Blattner, Bern
10.10-10.15 MT10*/S23*/P020*	Targeting Rhinovirus IRES as new approach for antivirals Stefano Giunta, Lausanne
10.15-10.20 MT11*/P022*	Development and validation of a LAMP assay for rapid detection of Escherichia coli associated UTIs with increased risk of urosepsis Janis Roggenmoser, Zurich
10.20-10.25 MT12*/P024	Spontaneous recapitulation of endogenous colonization resistance following antibiotic therapy and the mechanisms underlying microbiota-mediated community resistance to Clostridioides difficile Andy Rashid, Bern; Luca Beldi, Bern

10.25-11.00	Coffee break / Poster viewing / Exhibition	EXHIBITION
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11.00-12.00	Poster walk EVEN NUMBERS	POSTER AREA
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12.00-13.15	Lunch Break / Poster viewing / Exhibition	EXHIBITION
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13.15-14.45	SESSION 21 CM Deep Wound Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance Chair: Abdessalam Cherkaoui, Geneva	MILES DAVIS HALL
13.15-13.45 M25	Wartime Wound Infections in Ukraine: Evolution of Antimicrobial Resistance among ESKAPE Viktorii Holubnych, Sumy Oblast (UA)	

* Student presentation



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13.45-14.00 S60	Rising spread of Carbapenemase producing enterobacterales in Switzerland over the last five years report from the NARA reference center Laurent Poirer, Fribourg
14.00-14.15 S61	Hidden plasmid transmission by temperate phages drives antimicrobial resistance spread in phage-resistant staphylococci Jingxian Yang, Bern
14.15-14.30 S62	Development of the Rapid ESBL-Carba Combo PN test, a combined biochemical assay for detection of ESBL and carbapenemase in Enterobacterales Soraya Herrera-Espejo, Fribourg; Patrice Nordmann, Fribourg
14.30-14.45 S63*/MT03*/ P006*	Pyoverdines as antimicrobial agents against human opportunistic pathogens Jens Scheidegger, Zurich

13.15-14.45	SESSION 22 MM	AGORA 1-2
	Bacterial genetics and Mobile Genetic Elements Chair: Lars Fieseler, Zurich	
13.15-13.45 M26	Role of mobile genetic elements in spreading phage resistance in bacterial populations Anne Chevallereau, Lyon (FR)	
13.45-14.00 S64	The Integrase encoded in a widespread ICE colocalizes with the type IV secretion system to mediate efficient DNA transfer Andea Daveri, Geneva	
14.00-14.15 S65*	Synergy or antagonism? Decoding the rules behind 2,000 phage-antibiotic combinations Valentin Rodriguez, Lausanne	
14.15-14.30 S66*	Unraveling the functional dark matter in phage genomes with HIDDEN-SEQ Dorentina Humolli, Zurich	
14.30-14.45 S67	Functional Characterization of Borg Proteins via Heterologous Expression in Methanosarcina acetivorans C2A Akshay Joshi, Zurich	

* Student presentation

13.15-14.45

SESSION 23 MY

MILES DAVIS 3-4

Viruses of fungi and bacteria

Chair: Mirco Schmolke, Geneva

13.15-13.45

M27

Circular viroid-like RNA infectious elements infect fungi altering their biological properties

Massimo Turina, Torino (IT)

13.45-14.00

S68/MT07/

P014

Mapping the temperate phage landscape and integration hotspots across taphylococcaceae

Davide de Rosa, Bern

14.00-14.15

S69*

Monitoring of single-cell bacterial lysis by phages within integrated optical traps

Hugues de Villier de la Noue, Lausanne

14.15-14.30

S70

Novel Mycobacteriophages as a Promising Adjunct in the Fight Against Drug-Resistant TB and NTM Infections

Anthony Vocat, Lausanne

14.30-14.45

S71*

Diverse wastewater staphylococcal phages reveal a novel family, intron-spliced terminase genes, and phylogeny-taxonomy associated infection patterns

Sandra Perez-Jimenez, Bern

13.15-14.45

SESSION 24 NCCR

AGORA 5

Microbiomes: Towards controlling microbiomes

Chair: Philipp Engel, Lausanne

13.15-13.45

M28

Gut microbiota drug biotransformation as a tool to unravel the mechanisms of metabolic microbiota-host interactions

Michael Zimmermann, Heidelberg (DE)

13.45-14.00

S72

From correlations to interactions: predicting and engineering butyrate production in microbial communities

Julian Garneau, Lausanne

14.00-14.15

S73

Hitchin' a ride: Studying how bacteriophage-mediated transduction shapes bacterial evolution in complex intestinal communities

Susanne Meile, Aurora (USA)

* Student presentation



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14.15-14.30 **Exploring Phyllosphere Bacterial Community Dynamics in a Continuous Culture System**
S74*
Alex Cessna, Zurich

14.30-14.45 **Individual bacterial taxa drive colonisation resistance to methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in human nasal microbiome samples**
S75*/P156*
Laura Brülisauer, Zurich

13.15-14.45 SESSION 25 **AGORA 3-4**
Lay communication: Comic Strip workshop
Chair: Pilar Junier, Neuchâtel

13.15-14.45 Workshop

14.45-15.15 **Coffee break / Poster viewing / Exhibition** **EXHIBITION**

15.15-15.50 **KEYNOTE 5** **MILES DAVIS HALL**
Chair: Oliver Nolte, Zurich

15.15-15.40 **Innovating Against AMR: The Role of Diagnostics**
K05 Robin Patel, Rochester (USA)

15.40-15.50 Discussion

15.50-16.30 **Awards & Closing remarks** **MILES DAVIS HALL**
Chairs: Philipp Engel, Lausanne; Tom Battin, Lausanne; Hubert Hilbi, Zurich

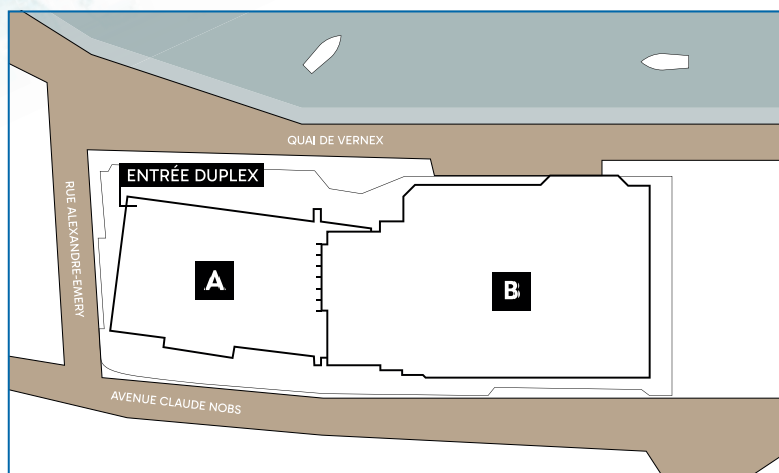
15.50-16.00 SSM PhD Award

16.00-16.10 SSM Encouragement Award

16.10-16.30 Poster and short talk Awards
Closing remarks

16.30 **Farewell**

* Student presentation



Arrival

- By car: take the motorway exit “Montreux” and follow the signs towards the lake and Montreux city center. Continue in the direction of the 2m2c Montreux Music & Convention Centre. Several public parking facilities are available nearby.
- By train: travel to Montreux railway station. From there, the 2m2c Montreux Music & Convention Centre can be reached in approximately 7 minutes on foot along the lakeside promenade.

Venue

2m2c Montreux Music Convention Center
Avenue Claude-Nobs 6, 1820 Montreux
<https://2m2c.ch/fr>

Entrance of the 2m2c: Duplex (not via the main entrance)

Meeting rooms:

Miles Davis Hall, Agora 1-3, Agora 5, Miles Davis 1-2, Miles Davis 3-4

Networking Dinner

On Thursday August 27, 2026 at the 2m2c Montreux Music Convention Center
18.45-19.45 Aperitive
As of 19.45 Networking Dinner

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