

META 'OMICS SYMPOSIUM ON SEPTEMBER 12

Would you like to learn more about specialized analysis of shotgun metagenomics and metabolomics data and how to integrate these datasets?

Our bioinformatics research groups will present their work on innovative computational analysis approaches and we have invited companies to present the latest possibilities in data generation. Join Editor-in-chief of Nature Metabolism, Christoph Schmitt, who will share his insights on what it takes to produce a high impact story. This 1-day hybrid workshop will be followed by an evening get-together at the Jena Botanical Garden.

Register by August 25 via E-mail to contact@microverse-cluster.de

We also invite your poster presentations on microbiome analysis. Send us a title and <200 word abstract by August 15.

MICROVERSE CENTER JENA

The ceremonial groundbreaking for the new Microverse Center Jena office and laboratory building will be taking place on August 26. The 4,900 m² research building south of the Beutenberg Campus will be home to the new Microverse professorships and junior research groups. Existing research groups and the Microverse Imaging Center will also be located there, thus strengthening interdisciplinary networking in the Cluster.

The building will provide an excellent research infrastructure for the newly established research groups of the Microverse cluster and is scheduled to be ready for occupancy in 2024.

STRONGER TOGETHER

In July the first Microverse Teambuilding Event took place in Jena! A group of PostDocs and PhDs got together to follow a scavenger hunt through the partner institutes of the Microverse Cluster. Those normally working in the city centre explored the Beutenberg Campus and vice versa.

All small groups were able to successfully complete the scavenger hunt then shared their experiences over lunch.

You were not able to participate in the teambuilding activity? Don't worry, there will be other opportunities! Stay tuned!

MICROVERSE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Within the Flexible Funds scheme of our Cluster, Cluster PIs may now submit their proposals for new or follow-up doctoral and postdoctoral research projects until August 10. Use the application template sent via Email and return to [Angela Köhler](mailto:Angela.Koehler@microverse-cluster.de).

In addition, we have the opportunity to support your Microverse projects with extra sequencing funds or funding for small equipment. To apply, you may send your motivation letters until August 8, 2022.

DFG FUNDING POSSIBILITIES

The DFG is offering regular online information events on its various funding lines. On September 14, the topic will be the Emmy Noether Program (event in English), and on October 12, the info presentation "DFG Funding Opportunities for Scientific Careers" will follow (event in German). For more information visit the [DFG website](#).

ZEDIF: ADVICE AND TRAINING FOR DIGITAL NEEDS

Need advice about data management, looking for open source software, or want to learn or improve your coding skills? The Competence Center for Digital Research (Kompetenzzentrum Digitale Forschung, zedif) located in the JenTower offers advice, resources and training to address a wide range of digital needs. Read more [here](#).

NEW PUBLICATIONS

A Specialized Polythioamide-Binding Protein Confers Antibiotic Self-Resistance in Anaerobic Bacteria Christian Hertweck and colleagues | *Angewandte Chemie* | July 19, 2022

The scientists were able to characterize a new role of a Gyrl-like domain in self-resistance and unprecedented thioamide binding. This work also aids uncovering related drug-resistance mechanisms. By genome editing and functional assays they also found that CtaZ confers self-resistance against the copper chelator and gyrase inhibitor clostioamide (CTA) in *Ruminiclostridium cellulolyticum*. [Read more](#)

A hypometabolic defense strategy against malaria

Elisa Jentho, Sebastian Weis, Miguel Soares and colleagues | *Cell Metabolism* | July 15, 2022

The researchers show that the hyperglycemia often associated with severe malaria infections is triggered by a resistance mechanism. When infected with *Plasmodium falciparum*, the host reduces glycemia to starve the parasite. [Read more](#)

Carbon fixation rates in groundwater similar to those in oligotrophic marine systems

Susan Trumbore, Martin Taubert, Manja Marz, Kirsten Küsel and colleagues | *Nature Geoscience* | June 30, 2022

Using an ultralow ¹⁴C labeling technique, the researchers were able to estimate the *in situ* carbon fixation data in a carbonate aquifer and found that these rates are similar to those found in oligotrophic marine surface waters and up to six times higher than those in the lower euphotic zone. [Read more](#)

Cross-feeding niches among commensal leaf bacteria are shaped by the interaction of strain-level diversity and resource availability

Matthew T. Agler and colleagues | *ISME J* | June 29, 2022

Nutrients such as amino acids are important regulators of the growth and activity of microorganisms in leaves. This study shows that different species of the plant genus *Flaveria* differ significantly in their concentration of high-cost amino acids using metabolomics of leaf apoplast fluid. [Read more](#)