



Koninklijke
Nederlandse
Vereniging voor
Microbiologie

KNVM

MicroNews (no 2013-6)

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1. Login to your 'My KNVM' section on knvm.org

As many of you already know, the brand-new society website of the KNVM (www.knvm.org) was recently launched (2013-09-28). In a fresh, new and modern lay-out you can find information on the society and its divisions, board members, information on awards and publications, a well-maintained events calendar and information on the annual congresses (scientific spring meetings), news, membership information, partners, and vacancies.

The **membership database** has also become fully integrated with the website. Through the '**My KNVM**' section you will now be able to view and modify/update your own personal details and some membership information, and also tailor permission for other members to access your data.

You will also be able to search the membership database to view contact details of other members (in as far as they have given permission to do so).

Through this email each member is now given access to her/his own 'My KNVM' section. In a few simple steps you can create your own login details.

Step 1: Navigate to www.knvm.org/my_knvm/terms_of_service.

Step 2: Enter your unique code **<unique code>**

Step 3: Accept the Terms of Service

Step 4: Check (modify) and accept your membership / personal data

Step 5: Create your own password.

You are now already immediately logged in to 'My KNVM' and you may view (see menu on the left hand side) the following pages:

- **Profile:** for your own membership information. There are a number of tabs available for the different classes of information. Please go to the tab '**Preferences**' to modify the information that will be available to other members.
- **Almanac:** to search the database for other members
- **Notulen:** for files that are available for members only

After having browsed through 'My KNVM, please log-off.

Next times, when you want to login again you need to enter:

User Name=Email: <email address>

Password: Enter the password you have created under step 5

2. Congresses, symposia and meetings

2.a. KNVM/NVVM Scientific Spring Meeting 2014

The KNVM/NVVM Scientific Spring Meeting 2014 will be held as usual at Papendal (Arnhem) on 2014 April 15-16.

Information on the programme, registration, abstract submission, and hotel arrangements are now available [KNVM website > Events > Annual Meetings > Spring Meeting 2014](#).

To go immediately to the registration page [click here](#) (this link may also be approached via the [KNVM website](#))

Further information may be obtained from the congress bureau www.congresscompany.com.

The following plenary sessions are preliminary scheduled for Tuesday morning 2014 April 15:

- Interaction of viruses with the host cell by Dr. Thijs Brummelkamp.
- Metagenomic mapping of the global dissemination of antibiotic resistance genes by Prof. Morten Sommer
- A full quantitative understanding of a living system: Is this possible? by Prof. Louis Serrano.

2.b. ALTANT Conference: Innate Host Defense Mechanisms in Infections

The 1st ALTANT conference 'Innate host defence mechanisms in infections' will be held from 2014 May 14-16 in Utrecht.

For conference details, lodging, registration and abstract submission, please visit the website: <http://events.immunovalley.nl/altant-conference-2014>. Registration is now open!

Scientists from academia and industry will discuss recent scientific advances in innate immunity on both molecular and cellular level. The programme will promote discussions on fundamental aspects of innate immunity as well as applied research based on the activity of innate immune components. The conference will encourage junior scientists and graduate students to present their work and exchange ideas with leaders in the field.

Topics will include host defence molecules at the mucosal surface, NK-cells, macrophages, neutrophils (and NETs), host defence peptides, complement, lectin-based immunity and new anti-infective strategies.

Confirmed keynote speakers are:

- Charles Bevins, UC Davis, School of Medicine, US

- Henk Haagsman, Utrecht University, NL
- Robert Hancock, University of British Columbia, CA
- Victor Nizet, University of California, US
- Michael Otto, National Institute of Health, US
- Andreas Peschel, University of Tübingen, DE
- Jos van Strijp, University Medical Center Utrecht, NL
- Jan Wehkamp, Dr. Margarete Fischer-Bosch-Institute for Clinical Pharmacology, DE
- Arturo Zychlinsky, Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology, DE



2.c. IUMS 2014

The International Union of Microbiological Societies (IUMS) will hold its three International Congresses (XIVth International Congress of Bacteriology and Applied Microbiology, XIVth International Congress of Mycology and XVIth International Congress of Virology) concurrently so as to favour cross-fertilisation among disciplines and hence foster a modern outlook on microbiology in the 21st century.

The Congress will be held on 2014 July 27 – August 01 in Montréal, Canada. The on-line abstract submission, registration and accommodation sites are

now open: www.montrealiums2014.org.

Authors are invited to submit an abstract (in English) to be considered for an oral or poster presentation at the Congresses.

Deadlines:

Submission of abstracts: 2014 January 30.

Application for travel support: **2013 Dec 09 (next week Monday!)**

2.d. Symposium “Typeren met Beleid”

The KNVM division Microbial Typing will organise the symposium “Typeren met Beleid”.

This symposium focuses on the use of up-to-date typing methods in relation to policy issues for important pathogens as MRSA, Vancomycin Resistent Enterococci, *Mycobacterium*, *Clostridium difficile* and ESBL-carrying *Enterobacteriaceae*.

What have we learned from the Q-fever incidents? How can we benefit from the International GSPR regulations developed for handling plant quarantine disease like those caused by *Clavibacter*? The symposium (in Dutch) will be held on Thursday 2014 January 30 in the Boothzaal of the Utrecht University (Heidelberglaan 1). Costs will amount to € 50 and this symposium will be accredited by the NVMM.

More information will become available on the KNVM website soon.

3. Awards

2nd ERC Advanced Grant for Mike Jetten

Mike Jetten, professor in Microbiology at the Radboud University and Spinoza Prize 2012 laureate, will receive a second ERC Advanced Grant. To the best of our knowledge, no other scientist has achieved this before.

Jetten will use the € 2.5M to elucidate the secrets of anaerobic methane-munching microbes such as the bacterium *Methyloirabilis oxyfera*. The idea that methane could be oxidised without oxygen was long controversial, till *M. oxyfera* was discovered by Jetten and his co-workers. The bacterium was found in the Twentekanaal in 2006 and is able to convert methane – CH₄, a strong greenhouse gas – without oxygen. With the help of molecular markers, *M.*

oxyfera has been observed in many other places worldwide in follow-up studies. 'We found that this bacterium has several highly unusual properties. It can make oxygen from nitric oxide, which is subsequently used to oxidise methane. Also the polygonal cell shape is very unusual. With this grant we hope to investigate all molecular properties of this group of bacteria, and find other hitherto unknown methane-munching microbes'. 'When the European Research Council provided the opportunity to submit a second proposal 18 months before the end of the first one, I immediately started to write the second proposal. It is splendid, absolutely splendid, that my world class team will be able to continue our search for novel microbes, and to elucidate their molecular and biogeochemical secrets'. For more information: www.ru.nl/english/@911932/microbiologist-mike.

4. IUMS Board: call for nominations

The IUMS is looking for nominees for the offices of:

- President-Elect
- two Vice-Presidents
- Secretary-General (unopposed change in constitution)
- Treasurer (unopposed)
- two Members-at-Large

The deadline for submitting a nomination (sought from National Committees and from Divisions) is 2014 April 15. Nominations should contain a biography and a statement that indicates a willingness to serve.

The voting and election of the new members will take place at the General Assembly in Montreal prior to the start of the IUMS congresses 2014. The nomination forms can be downloaded from www.iums.org/index.php/general-assembly/80-general-assembly/118-nominations-forms.

5. Membership fee payment by direct debit

Starting this year (2013), annual payment of the KNVM membership fees will be done by direct debit (automatische incasso) for those members who have authorised the society to do so.

We encourage **those members who did not yet authorise** the society – and who hold a **regular or student** membership* - to complete and submit the [authorisation form](#), so that you will become included in direct debit runs in the years to come. That will save you **€ 5.00** (see www.knvm.org/membership), and will save us work!

The date of next year's direct debit run will be around 2014 April 29. So if you submit your authorisation form before **2014 April 01** you will be included in that run; otherwise you'll have to pay by bank transfer, including the additional € 5.

** Please note that for institutional members and KNVM-NVMM dual members nothing will change and they will not need to submit an authorisation form.*

6. Selected microbiology events

2014 Mar 07

Dutch Annual Virology Symposium (DAVS)

Het Trippenhuis, KNAW, Tinbergenzaal, Kloveniersburgwal 29, Amsterdam, NL

2014 Apr 15-16

KNVM/NVMM Scientific Spring Meeting 2014

Papendal, Arnhem, NL

2014 May 14-16

Innate host defence mechanisms in infections

Utrecht, NL

2014 May 15-19

9th International Conference on Cryptococcus and cryptococosis (ICCC9)

Royal Institute of the Tropics (KIT), Amsterdam, NL

2014 Jul 27 – Aug 01

IUMS 2014

Montréal's Convention Centre (Palais des Congrès de Montréal), Montreal, CA

Colophon

MicroNews is prepared by **Joop van Doorn** and **Diman van Rossum**, based on input received via the KNVM secretariat, the KNVM board and from other, external sources.

It is distributed in a personalised modus to all KNVM members who registered an email address.

MicroNews issues are also available in PDF format via the [KNVM website](#).

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