

# Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology & Institute of Genomics

## Annual Conference 2023

### PROGRAMME

Thursday January 11th, 2024

09:10 – 09:30      **Opening of the conference:** Director of the IMCB Prof. **Maia Kivisaar**, Deputy Director of the EGC Prof. **Lili Milani**

#### **Morning Session**

09:30 – 10:00      **Invited speaker 1:** Prof. **Leho Tedersoo** (Institute of Ecology and Earth Sciences, University of Tartu)  
“**Molecular methods in global fungal research**”

10:00 – 10:20      4th-yr PhD student **Hanna Maria Kariis** (IG)  
“**Investigating the genetic liability of side effects leading to the discontinuation of antidepressants**”

10:20 – 10:40      2nd-yr PhD student **Kateryna Pantiukh** (IG)  
“**EstMB MAGs Database: Unveiling the Metagenomic Landscape of the Estonian Population through Metagenome-Assembled Genomes**”

**10:40 – 11:00      Coffee Break**

11:00 – 11:30      Research Fellow **Nele Taba** (IG)  
“**A novel framework for assessing causal effect of microbiome on health: long-term antibiotic usage as an instrument**”

11:30 – 12:00      **2-min Flash Talks (odd numbers)**

12:00 – 12:40      **Poster Session (odd numbers)**

**12:40 – 14:00      Lunch Break**

### Afternoon Session

- 14:00 – 14:30      **Invited speaker 2:** Associate Prof. **Arvi Jõers** (Institute of Technology, University of Tartu)  
“**Taming the wt *E. coli* for protein production**”
- 14:30 – 14:50      2nd-yr PhD student **Kai Tättle** (IG)  
“**From the Aborigenes of Taiwan to the Populations in the Marquesas Archipelago in the Context of the Austronesian Expansion**”
- 14:50 – 15:10      2nd-yr PhD student **Surabhi Mahajan** (IMCB)  
“**Influence of pH on the Catalytic Efficiency of LPMO**”
- 15:10 – 15:30      Coffee Break**
- 15:30 – 15:50      2nd-yr PhD student **Miriam Nurm** (IG)  
“**Wilson’s disease in the Estonian Biobank cohort**”
- 15:50 – 16:10      4th-yr PhD student **Baris Yasar** (IMCB)  
“**Evidence for the transcription of PRD-like homeobox genes and the ability of TPRX3 in activating noncoding-RNA in bovine preimplantation development**”
- 16:10 – 16:40      Research Fellow **Margus Leppik** (IMCB)  
“**Impact of rRNA modifications in the ribosomal peptidyl transferase center region on the functionality of budding yeast ribosome**”

Friday January 12th, 2024

### Morning Session

- 09:30 – 10:00      **Invited speaker 3:** Prof. **Tuul Sepp** (Institute of Ecology and Earth Sciences, University of Tartu)  
“**Wild animals as a treasure trove for a better understanding of cancer**”
- 10:00 – 10:20      2nd-yr PhD student **Lea Ets** (IMCB)  
“**Mechanisms affecting fluoride tolerance in soil bacteria *Pseudomonas putida***”

10:20 – 10:40	2nd-yr PhD student <b>Harleen Kaur</b> (IMCB) <b>“Unveiling the true efficacy of antimicrobial surfaces in application-relevant and real-life use”</b>
10:40 – 11:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Invited speaker 4:</b> Dr <b>Sille Remm</b> (Institute of Medical Microbiology, University of Zurich) <b>“Structural basis for triacylglyceride extraction from mycobacterial inner membrane by MFS transporter Rv1410”</b>
11:30 – 12:00	<b>2-min Flash Talks (even numbers)</b>
12:00 – 12:40	<b>Poster Session (even numbers)</b>
12:40 – 14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>
<b><u>Afternoon Session</u></b>	
14:00 – 14:30	<b>Invited speaker 5:</b> Research Fellow <b>Kairi Raime</b> (Competence Centre on Health Technologies) <b>“Honey DNA metagenomic analysis: to identify composition, authenticity and origin”</b>
14:30 – 14:50	2nd-yr PhD student <b>Triinu Ojalo</b> (IG) <b>“Predictive role of Alzheimer’s Disease Polygenic Risk Score in Identifying Depression as a Prodromal Marker for Dementia: Insights from the Estonian Biobank Cohort”</b>
14:50 – 15:10	2nd-yr PhD student <b>Jéssica Figuerêdo Campos De Jesus</b> (IG) <b>“A map of genetic and phenotypic associations across male reproductive phenotypes”</b>
15:10 – 15:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>
15:30 – 15:50	2nd-yr PhD student <b>Jaan Vihalemm</b> (IMCB) <b>“Bioleaching of high-value metals and critical raw materials from waste materials and low-grade ores”</b>
15:50 – 16:10	2nd-yr PhD student <b>Johanna Hendrikson</b> (IMCB) <b>“Transcriptional regulation of gacS-gene”</b>

16:10 – 16:40	Associate Prof. <b>Uku Vainik</b> (IG) <b>“Mapping brain-personality associations with genetic correlation reveals high degree of polylocalisation”</b>
16:40 – 17:00	Ending of the conference, closing remarks and <b><u>the award ceremony</u></b>

## **Flash Talks & Poster numbers**

### **Session 1 (odd numbers) – Thursday 11th – 11:30–12:40**

- 1 – Rita Kreevan (4th-yr PhD student, IG)
- 3 – Stefania Sasso (4th-yr PhD student, IG)
- 5 – Arun Kuman Devarajan (4th-yr PhD student, IMCB)
- 7 – Robin Sarv (Undergraduate, IMCB)
- 9 – Siim Kurvits (3rd-yr PhD student, IG)
- 11 – Piret Hirv (3rd-yr PhD student, IG)
- 13 – Ermo Leuska (3rd-yr PhD student, IMCB)
- 15 – Ivan Kuznetsov (2nd-yr PhD student, IG)
- 17 – Jose Rodrigo Flores Espinosa (1st-yr PhD student, IG)
- 19 – Galadriel Lucia Velazquez Silva (1st-yr PhD student, IG)
- 21 – Triinu Varvas (1st-yr PhD student, IG)
- 23 – Jelisaveta Džigurski (1st-yr PhD student, IG)
- 25 – Darja Vastšjonok (1st-yr PhD student, IMCB)

### **Session 2 (even numbers) – Friday 12th – 11:30–12:40**

- 2 – Danat Yermakovich (4th-yr PhD student, IG)
- 4 – Anette Kalnapenkis (4th-yr PhD student, IG)
- 6 – Karl Jürgenstein (4th-yr PhD student, IMCB)
- 8 – Biancamaria Bonucci (3rd-yr PhD student, IG)
- 10 – Kadri Irdt (3rd-yr PhD student, IG)
- 12 – Tarmo Puurand (3rd-yr PhD student, IMCB)
- 14 – Kerli Ilves (2nd-yr PhD student, IG)
- 16 – Hanna Antson (3rd-yr PhD student, IMCB)
- 18 – Annabel Klemets (1st-yr PhD student, IG)
- 20 – Kanwal Batool (1st-yr PhD student, IG)
- 22 – Erkin Alacamli (1st-yr PhD student, IG)
- 24 – Valentina Rukins (1st-yr PhD student, IG)