

# IBBS World



Newsletter of the International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation Society  
Issue 15, January 2009. [www.biodeterioration.org](http://www.biodeterioration.org)

## IBBS/BMS Joint Meeting 2009

Stopford Building,  
University of Manchester, UK  
6-7 April 2009

### Economic and Social Impact of Fungal Deteriogens

[www.biodeterioration.org](http://www.biodeterioration.org), [www.britmycolsoc.org.uk](http://www.britmycolsoc.org.uk)

#### Editor's Notes

2009 already. Happy New Year to you all. IBBS continues to be busy. Barely was IBBS-14 over, when we began to plan our next meeting. This will take place in Manchester, focusing on economic and social impact of fungal deteriogens.

IBBS-14 was a major success. Over 160 delegates, wonderful science, dynamic and interactive poster sessions, record-breaking attendance at the AGM - and a beautiful venue, all under sunny blue skies in Sicily. Clara Urzi and her team worked so hard, and I would like to thank them on behalf of the Society for their achievements. I really enjoyed meeting Clara, as well as the other delegates, and learnt so much new stuff! We are also pleased that there will be a special journal issue dedicated to the meeting. At the AGM, we even identified the venue for IBBS-15 (Vienna), with three suggested locations to choose from!

This newsletter also contains information about bursaries, our plan to produce educational resources, other meetings, free books, and the development of Society chapters.

Finally, back to our 2009 meeting. Held jointly by IBBS and the British Mycological Society, it follows our successful short meeting format, encompassing one afternoon, and the entire following day. Invited speakers will address the fungal deterioration of a wide range of substrates, ranging across rock, wood and plastic, paint, paper, food and water. One session will focus on health. There are opportunities for offered papers. Delegate rates are, as usual, extremely reasonable. Further information is available on the society websites, and from the conference organisers, as indicated on the next panel!

I am delighted to be able to give you so much exciting information this year. Best wishes for the New Year,  
Jo ([j.verran@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:j.verran@mmu.ac.uk))

International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation Society

**bms**  
British Mycological Society promoting fungal science

### Economic and Social Impact of Fungal Deteriogens

6th - 7th April 2009  
Manchester University

An important conference, organised by the British Mycological Society and the International Biodeterioration and Biodegradation Society, on the topic of "Economic and Social Impact of Fungal Deteriogens" is taking place over two days beginning at 1.00pm on 6th April and finishing at 4.00pm on 7th April 2009 at The University of Manchester, Manchester, UK.

**Session Titles Include**

- Fungal Deteriogen of Materials and their Conservation
- Fungal Deteriogens and Food Spoilage
- Impact of Fungal Deteriogens on Health
- Economic Impact of Fungal Deteriogens

**Posters**

There will be space in the conference venue for a number of posters. If you would like to offer one, please contact either Geoff Robson ([geoff.robson@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:geoff.robson@manchester.ac.uk)) or Malcolm Greenhalgh ([malcolm.greenhalgh@btopenworld.com](mailto:malcolm.greenhalgh@btopenworld.com)).

**Commercial Sponsorship**

Sponsors will be able to promote their products, distribute information to delegates and have their names prominently displayed on all the conference literature.

**Contact Details**

If you would like to register your interest in attending this conference or are interested in sponsoring the event, please contact Geoff Robson ([geoff.robson@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:geoff.robson@manchester.ac.uk)) or Malcolm Greenhalgh ([malcolm.greenhalgh@btopenworld.com](mailto:malcolm.greenhalgh@btopenworld.com)).

<http://www.biodeterioration.org/> <http://www.britmycolsoc.org.uk/>

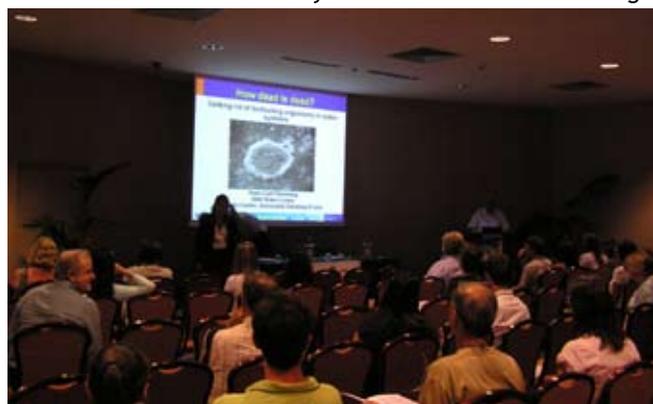
# IBBS-14: S.Alessio Siculo, Sicily. October 6 - 11 2008. Meeting Review

Around 160 delegates attended IBBS-14. The meeting was truly international, with 23 different countries represented in the 55 oral presentations. Clara Urzi, the organiser, also noted that 56% of the delegates were women: a significant achievement in a scientific conference.

We were all resident at the hotel which hosted the conference, the Capo dei Greci, on the coast road to Messina. Not only were the conference facilities excellent, but also the hotel location was idyllic, right on the coast with the Italian mainland on the horizon. The weather was gorgeous as well!

There were no parallel sessions, so delegates could enjoy listening to state of the art developments across a range of topics, focusing essentially on different substrates: metals, works of art and cultural heritage, hydrocarbons, lignocellulosics, persistent organic pollutants, medical devices and slagheaps (the latter two being the focus of fascinating presentations in the final session) Other sessions on biofilms and biofouling, bioremediation, nanotechnology and biodiversity provided excellent updating opportunities. HansCurt Flemming gave the concluding keynote lecture, entitled 'How dead is dead?' - but it was a very lively, wide-ranging and provocative presentation that brought the conference to a close perfectly.

Poster sessions related to each of the topics took place during timed slots at the end of each day. The posters were arranged so as to lead us to the lecture theatre, framing the route, so that we had chance to take a look in advance of the poster sessions and prepare our questions for discussion. The poster sessions were really successful, busy and dynamic. Discussions continued throughout the meeting, because we ate all our meals together in (or outside) the restaurant. I have rarely been to such an interesting and enjoyable meeting. I made many friends, and had lots of useful



discussions arising from oral and poster presentations.

I must also say that the attendance at the AGM reflected the enthusiasm of the delegates, with a record-breaking attendance. We followed the AGM with a members' forum, which enabled plenty of discussion, and suggestions for future activities of IBBS, including more focus on our student members, the progression of Chapters and the production of learning resources. The number of offers made to host future meetings was overwhelming. We were also delighted that IBBJ offered to publish a special issue celebrating the meeting, with a fairly rapid turnaround in publication promised.

I should not single out any one presentation or topic for description: there was something for everyone. But I do enjoy hearing about cultural heritage, which is such a fascinating and important aspect of applied microbiology - often neglected in the undergraduate curriculum.

There were two sessions on the topic at IBBS-14, reflecting the interest of Clara and her group. This theme, and others will be taken up by Katja Steflinger, who will be hosting IBBS-15 in Vienna. Her wide ranging interest in mycology promises another valuable meeting, and she will also attend the 2009 Manchester meeting, to give a presentation and to start planning for 2012! Many thanks to Katja, and to the other members who offered to host meetings - your names are on my list!



But above all, thanks to Clara and her team (and the sponsors, Thor, and FEMS). It is a huge responsibility to host any meeting, and the triennial meetings are particularly important to the subject and to the Society. The symposium dinner was typical of the whole conference: friendly, fun and educational. We were driven up into the hills to a wonderful rustic restaurant where we were given a banquet of typical Sicilian food and wine. It was lovely. Jo.

# Society News

## IBBS Learning Resource Development

There was considerable interest at the AGM in the production of learning materials outlining aspects of biodeterioration, biodegradation and bioremediation. I am planning to work initially with the Society for General Microbiology on a template for the materials, and Council will then seek (or will nominate!) volunteers to produce information on a particular topic - or to suggest topics. We felt that a fruitful route would be to focus on substrates, for example metals, rubber, paints, paper. Other broader topics would encompass biofilms, cultural heritage, bioremediation etc. We intend to allow the resource to grow as new topics are converted to the appropriate format. There were some volunteers at the AGM - so we will be in touch. There will be editors to ensure that a particular 'brand' is conveyed.

Jo Verran

j.verran@mmu.ac.uk

## Book - Marine and Industrial Biofouling

We are delighted to announce the publication of a new book that arose from the IBBS meeting in Chennai on Marine and Industrial Biofouling. It is the 4th volume of the Springer Series on Biofilms, with Bill Costerton as the Series Editor, and it is a real tribute for an IBBS meeting to be feeding in to this prestigious series. HansCurt Flemming and his editorial team worked extremely hard to produce the book, which describes the state of the art in antifouling measures, using both conventional biocides and some advanced approaches. The book is divided into two parts: Microbial Biofouling and Microbially Influenced Corrosion, and Macrofouling. A review will be included in the next newsletter.

Marine and Industrial Biofouling. 2008HC Flemming, PS Murthy, R Venkatesan and K Cooksey (Eds). Springer. Berlin.  
ISBN 978-3-540-69794-7

## Book - Introduction to Biodeterioration, 2nd Edition

The book has now been published in Spanish, translated by our own Diego Moreno.

Introduccion al Biodeterioro, 2008. Dennis Allsopp, Kenneth Seal, Christine Gaylarde, Editorlal Acribia. S.A.

## Bursaries

Bursaries offer 250 or Euro equivalent towards undergraduate student projects. The bursaries may be applied for by any IBBS member, nominating a particular student. The successful student is also expected to join IBBS. There is no restriction on the country of origin, or the age of the student. Application forms are available on the website, and from the Treasurer (Kath Whitehead). Successful recipients are expected to provide a brief report for the newsletter or website with images on completion of the project. The next deadline is April 4th k.a.whitehead@mmu.ac.uk

## Chapters Update

Council will discuss a paper tabled by Chris Gaylarde outlining proposed rules for 'Chapters'. The aim of these Chapters would be to enable researchers and students with interests aligned to IBBS, to gather under an IBBS banner, without all members of the chapter having to pay the full membership cost. The focus would be on overseas members who might normally find it difficult to attend IBBS meetings, but where there is a significant interest in biodegradation and biodeterioration. There will probably be an organiser/president (IBBS member), who will act as liaison with IBBS. Council will be discussion what support we can give the Chapters. Information will be provided in the next newsletter. Interest in forming Chapters has been expressed from India and South America to date. Other interested parties are welcome to contact IBBS President Jo Verran if they wish to discuss further.

## Free Books!

The Biofilm Club was an extremely successful society operating out of the UK for several years. Its aims were to raise the profile of biofilm research, with a conference held every two years, and workshops held regularly between the conferences. Conference proceedings were published as full books, and were provided to all conference delegate and Biofilm Club members as part of their registration fee. IBBS Council and the Biofilm Club Committee had several members in common, and our meetings were obviously of interest to both societies. The Biofilm Club ceased formal operations in 2007, having achieved its aims most admirably. The website [www.biofilmclub.co.uk](http://www.biofilmclub.co.uk) remains active.

There are some remaining copies of the conference proceedings, which the Club is now offering to deserving individuals, Universities and organisations at no cost. Multiple copies of BBC books 4-8 are available, with a few of Books 1 and 3.

Interested parties should contact Dr David Allison ([david.allison@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:david.allison@manchester.ac.uk)) to arrange dispatch.

Hurry! While stocks last!

Dr David G. ALLISON, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Manchester, Oxford Road  
Manchester M13 9PT, England

## Peter Gilbert

Members of IBBS will probably already have heard of the death of Professor Peter Gilbert, University of Manchester. Peter was very well known for his research in biofilms and microbial resistance, and was always a popular, energetic and provocative speaker, one of the first on any list for invited speakers on his pet subjects. Not only was he one of the founder members of the very successful Biofilm Club, he was also a member of IBBS Council in recent years, providing valuable contributions at both Council meetings, and at conferences. He will be missed by his colleagues, for his contributions to both academic and social activities!

## Other Meetings

### FEMS Congress 2009, June 28 - July 2 Goteborg ([www.kenes.com/fems](http://www.kenes.com/fems))

The 3rd Congress of European Microbiologists will be held in Goteborg, Sweden on June 28 - July 2, 2009. In continuation with the previous FEMS Congresses of European Microbiologists the theme "Microbes and Man - interdependence and future challenges" is designed to provide a forum for interdisciplinary dialogue between the various microbiological specialities as well as providing topical coverage of key disciplines.

This Congress will provide a forum for European and other international colleagues to appreciate the current state of the art of microbiology and to discuss how our science can contribute to finding solutions to the challenges we face in the future. To this end, we are inviting the most prominent scientists in their field to join us at the Congress.

### 7LABS - the Seventh American Biodeterioration and Biodegradation Symposium. May 7 - May 10, Quito

The Latin American Biodegradation and Biodeterioration Symposia, LABS, have been organised every 3 years since 1992. Its objective is to bring together specialists from Latin America and other countries to discuss the scientific and technological advances that contribute to understanding the mechanisms of microbial degradation of materials. 6 LABS, in Bogota, Colombia, was attended by over 500 delegates from Latin America, Europe, India and North America.

The next symposium, 7 LABS, will take place in the city of Quito, capital of Ecuador, from May 5 - May 10, 2009. It is hosted by the International University, SEK. Quito is a lovely city located 2,800m above sea level in the Andes, surrounded by volcanoes. Temperatures vary between 10 and 25C, with large climatic changes occurring within a single day. It was declared a UNESCO Cultural Heritage Site in 1978.

Particular topics that have been selected by the 7 LABS scientific committee are:  
Biodeterioration of cultural heritage  
Biological and Chemical Corrosion  
Biological Control and Agriculture  
Biotechnology  
Environmental Remediation

The list is not exhaustive. Anyone wishing to offer a paper or poster in another relevant area is encouraged to send in an abstract.

Abstracts should be sent in Word (Times New Roman, 12, line space 1.5), not exceeding 500 words, to [7labs@sekmail.com](mailto:7labs@sekmail.com), and [ambiente@uisek.edu.ec](mailto:ambiente@uisek.edu.ec). The Scientific Committee will meet on 10th March to select papers for presentation at the Symposium.

Abstracts should include: title, topic area, names of authors with institutions and countries, email, telephone and stage of the investigation (initial, in progress, or finalised).

### International Symposium on Applied Microbiology and Molecular Biology in Oil Systems (ISMOS-2)

ISMOS-2 will be held in Aarhus, Denmark June 17-19th 2009. This will be the largest event on molecular biology in the oil and gas industry.

Selected topics for the symposium are:  
Molecular microbiological methods  
Reservoir microbiology - possible solutions to prevent or control souring  
Monitoring and diagnosing Microbiologically Influenced Corrosion  
Practical application of molecular techniques in oilfield systems  
Downstream petroleum microbiology - new challenges from biofuels  
Biotechnology approached for bacterial control and/or enhanced oil recovery

<http://www.dti.dk/ismos2>

On January 20, 2009 the website will contain information on registration procedures, venue details, practical and Technical/Scientific Workshops and the Social programme.

Abstract deadline is February 20, 2009

### FEMS and NoE EPG Bacterial Pathogenomics Conference Kibbutz Ein Gedi (Dead Sea Area), Israel February 22-25, 2009

The aim of this meeting is to discuss newly discovered aspects of bacterial pathogenesis and host bacterial interactions at the molecular and genomic level. The meeting will consist of invited lectures and poster sessions and bring up-to-date information on bacterial-host interactions and to include a variety of bacterial pathogens and diseases. A significant part of the meeting will be dedicated to data emerging from genomic and functional genomic studies of bacterial pathogens and to analysis of the complex interactions of pathogenic bacteria with their mammalian hosts.

The meeting will start in the afternoon of February 22 and will end in the evening of February 25. There is a pre-meeting tour (optional) to the north of Israel (Galil) to see the wintering birds and a post-meeting tour (optional) to Jerusalem to see a few of the holy places.

<https://events.d-u.co.il/duin/bacterial/>

## Manchester, world's third best conference destination

Behind London and Barcelona, Manchester beat Las Vegas (4th), and Berlin and Dubai (joint 6th). So there's another reason why IBBS are here so often!!

