



International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation Symposium

6-9 September 2021 | Online conference

[ibbs18.org](http://ibbs18.org)



The International  
Biodeterioration & Biodegradation  
Society presents the IBBS triennial symposium:  
IBBS 18

*"Microbes, Man and the Environment: Societal Challenges and the  
Role of Microorganisms in the Anthropocene"*



More details on page 2 of this Newsletter  
And on IBBS website: <http://ibbsonline.org/meetings/>

## Send your contribution to the next Newsletter!

You might like to write a short piece about yourself and your research (with photo), you might wish to try your hand at a poem, tell us about your most beautiful degrading organism, or you might be interested in submitting 50 words about your favourite microorganism. Maybe you'd like to tell us how you have kept going with your job or research during the COVID era. Contributions are not restricted to these suggestions, of course.

In this number the new Impact Factor of IBB Journal is released! Read the article by Ji-Dong on page 5

### The IBBS Newsletter

This newsletter is usually sent out every 4 months. If you have any news, meetings you would like us to publicise on the IBBS Newsletter, or a crossword on an appropriate topic, please contact us via our IBBS Hon. Secretary:

[secretary@ibbsonline.org](mailto:secretary@ibbsonline.org)

We need texts written in .doc, .rtf or .txt formats. The pictures should be of good quality (but not too big) in any of the usual formats (.jpg, .tif, .bmp). Each image should be accompanied by a short caption. In case you add a link to websites, please check that the link and the website work.

Thank you!

Flavia Pinzari

Interested in Hosting  
IBBS19 in 2024  
?

We opened the qualifications  
for IBBS19 Host,  
check on page 6



## **IBBS18 and What's Next**

*By Joseph Suflita (Chair of the IBBS18 Organizing Committee) and Brenda Little (IBBS President)*

***Should we change the format of future IBBS symposia?  
Consider the advantages and disadvantages.***

***Send your suggestions for discussion at the AGM in September this year.***

As virtual IBBS18 approaches, it is time to submit abstracts and block your calendars to ensure a vigorous scientific meeting over September 6 – 9, 2021. Meeting organizers were cautiously optimistic that an in-person event could happen in 2021 and postponed IBBS18 by one year. However, given the persistent and evolving nature of the global pandemic, prudence dictated a shift to a virtual platform.

Virtual IBBS18 will be a different experience compared to previous in-person triennial meetings. Organizers have attempted to provide an experience that approximates the best features that attendees value most, including the opportunity to hear from leading authorities, share cutting edge science, showcase early career scholars, participate in robust poster sessions with time for discussion, and global participation.

While the IBBS18 decisions are now made, it is important to reflect on what the pandemic has taught us about planning for future IBBS meetings. Do we wish to return to the pre-pandemic practice of in-person meetings? This model served our Society well for 50 years. However, the pandemic-forced adaptation to on-line life suggests that we should also consider a virtual or perhaps hybrid format? How do we best serve the needs of existing IBBS members and yet strategically expand to include underserved parts of the world? What do we want our meetings to be and how do we measure the outcomes? How can we reach the next generation of IBBS members? What is the best format for further internationalization of IBBS? How do we best share our science, forge collaborations and make long-lasting personal connections?

No matter what format is decided, all have pros and cons. Think of how many of your own collaborations started by sketching a few equations on the back of a cocktail napkin or over a morning cup of coffee. The opportunity to delve into insightful discussions that help form the basis of a collaborative endeavor is hard to reproduce in anything but a live format. In-person meetings, particularly for an international society, also affords the opportunity to fully engage professionally, to see the world, to experience different cultures and to help make the world a little smaller.

*....continued on page 3*

**Details of all meeting logistics can be obtained at <https://www.ibbs18.org>. Please bookmark this site and check it often for updated information.**

**Elsevier, publisher of International Biodeterioration and Biodegradation (IBB) journal, the official IBBS journal (<https://ibbsonline.org>), has approved a virtual special issue (VSI) to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> year of the Society.**



*....continued from page 2*

Nevertheless, a virtual platform allows the IBBS to reach nontraditional members, a potential long-term boon to increasing the diversity and the internationalization of the Society, combining such advantages with the decreased cost of virtual gatherings and the attendant reduction in individual carbon footprints. Clearly there is much to recommend virtual meetings.

The technical sessions of IBBS18 will be followed by an Annual General Meeting (AGM) and one of the agenda items will be IBBS19 with a discussion of date, location and specific format. Please be prepared to contribute your thoughts to the AGM discussions.

**Better yet, volunteer to spearhead IBBS19 by sending your suggestions for IBBS19 to the Honorary Secretary, Dr. Christine Gaylarde at [secretary@ibbsonline.org](mailto:secretary@ibbsonline.org).**

Sincerely,

**Joseph Suflita**

*Chair of the IBBS18 Organizing Committee*

**Brenda Little**

*IBBS President*



Joe Suflita, Chair of the IBBS18 Meeting Organizing Committee and Brenda Little, IBBS President

International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation Symposium

6-9 September 2021 | Online conference

[ibbs18.org](http://ibbs18.org)



## Submit abstracts for IBBS18 now

Abstracts should be **250 words of text**. They should include a title, all authors, their affiliations, and the name of the presenting author underlined (not included in the 250 word limit). The abstract should include key results and overall conclusions and impacts of the research. Please submit by **31<sup>st</sup> July 2021**. If you have a topic related to biodeterioration or biodegradation that is not represented by the general topic areas, please submit. Sessions will undergo change before the September meeting and we expect to generate “Special Topics” sessions based on abstract submissions.



# International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation Symposium

# IBBS 18

**CALL FOR  
ABSTRACTS**

**Microbes, Man and the Environment: Societal Challenges and the Role of Microorganisms in the Anthropocene**

**6-9 September 2021 | Online conference**

Sessions at the 18th Triennial Symposium of the IBBS will reflect the latest advances in biodeterioration and biodegradation sciences.

Abstracts should be submitted which deal with any of the following topics, or any other related topic:

### Biodeterioration

- Impact of global warming on biodeterioration
- Biodeterioration and preservation in art, archaeology and architecture
- Biodeterioration and multi-kingdom biofilms
- Biodeterioration of fuels and fuel system components
- Microbially influenced corrosion
- Biodeterioration by eukaryotes
- Biodeterioration in extra-terrestrial environments
- Biodeterioration and biodegradation by extremophiles
- Metabolomic profiling of biodeterioration and biodegradation processes
- Biodeterioration of natural elemental cycles

### Control/Prevention Biodeterioration Strategies

- Next generation of smart materials
- Novel analytical procedures for biocontrol assessments
- Surface Protective Coatings/Nanomaterials
- Nanotechnology and biodeterioration

### Biodegradation

- Environmental fate of perfluorinated compounds
- Plastic biotransformations
- Biodegradation of anthropogenic compounds
- Biodegradation of naturally-occurring organic matter
- Microbial ecotoxicology: assessing environmental stressors on biodegradation
- Microbiomes of mining and mineral extraction efforts
- Fate of spilled oil and refined products

**Preparing your abstract**  
**Maximum 250 words • Deadline extended to 31 July 2021**  
**• Submit online at [ibbs18.org](http://ibbs18.org)**



**[ibbs18.org](http://ibbs18.org)**  
**[sally@ibbs18.org](mailto:sally@ibbs18.org)**



Save the date....

<https://www.ibbs18.org/programme>

**Monday 6th September**

Career workshop and roundtable, followed by poster session

Parallel sessions - 90 minutes + 90 minutes for poster session

<b>San Francisco</b> 08:00 - 11:30	<b>Oklahoma</b> 10:00 - 13:30	<b>London</b> 16:00 - 19:30	<b>Beijing</b> 23:00 - 02:30	<b>Sydney</b> 01:00 - 04:30
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**IBBS18 - the 18th International Biodeterioration and Biodegradation Symposium, 7 - 10 September, 2020,**

Pre-Symposium Workshop for Early Career Scholars, entitled, **“Preparing for Your First Job in a Science Department— from Application to Interview to Negotiation”**.

This workshop will be led by Dr. Gordon E. Uno

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way academic departments search for and choose their new faculty members and many departments have placed a temporary pause on future hires. We don't know if online seminars and interviews will continue to be used in screening faculty candidates, however, there are some universal practices that can increase your chances of being competitive in any job market. The topic of this informal and interactive workshop is “How to Apply to and Interview for a Faculty Position”— and is intended for post-docs and graduate students. Topics include: elevator speeches; common application, seminar, and interview mistakes; how to develop effective teaching and research statements and a useful teaching philosophy; the importance of your application cover letter; and what to expect during an interview, including questions you might be asked.



**Dr. Gordon Uno**

For questions about the workshop, please contact **Dr. Gordon Uno** at [guno@ou.edu](mailto:guno@ou.edu).

Save the date....

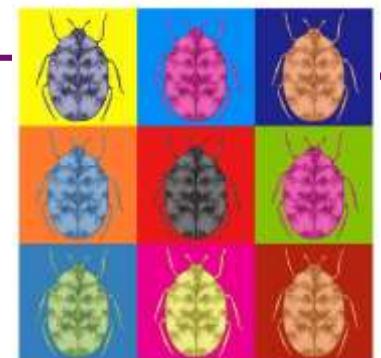
**Pest Odyssey 2021 – the Next Generation**

Detect, Respond, Recover – best practice IPM in 2021

Dates: **20 - 22 September 2021**

Fully virtual conference

Science, sustainability and climate change in relation to IPM.



Pest Odyssey UK is a non-profit group which is open to all and is made up of anyone with an interest in protecting our collections from pest damage. The Pest Odyssey UK website (<http://www.pestodyssey.org/>) allows all those interested in the field of Integrated Pest Management to collaborate, share and disseminate professional knowledge and experience in order to prevent pest damage to cultural and scientific collections

<http://www.pestodyssey.org/Pest-Odyssey-2021--The-Next-Generation.php>



## From Editor-in-Chief

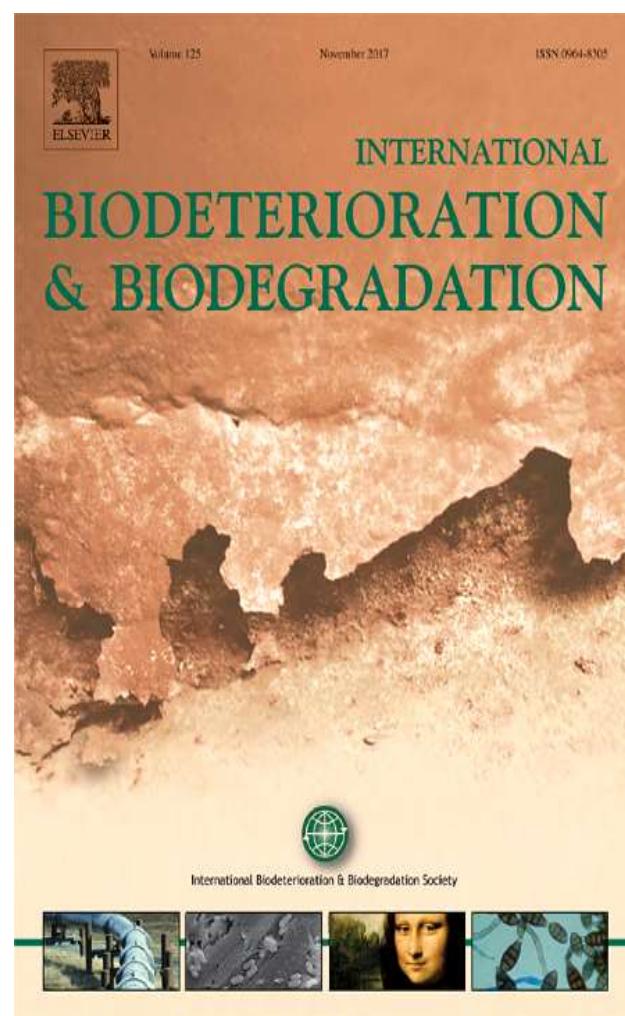
The IBBS journal *International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation* (published by Elsevier) is doing well again in 2020 and the newly released impact factor on June 30, 2021 is **4.320**, showing an increase of 6% from 4.074 of last year.

The success of this journal is mostly dependent upon its authors, reviewers and members of this society. Please make your contributions in every way you can.

### Ji-Dong Gu

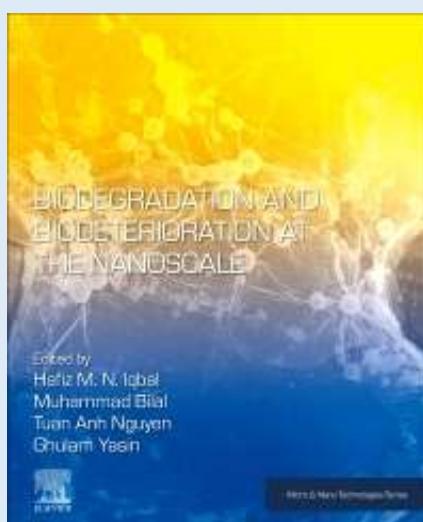
Editor-in-Chief

Guangdong Technion – Israel Institute of Technology  
e-mail: [jidong.gu@gtit.edu.cn](mailto:jidong.gu@gtit.edu.cn)



<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/international-biodeterioration-and-biodegradation>

## On the bookshelf....



### Biodegradation and Biodeterioration at the Nanoscale

1st Edition

**Editors:** Hafiz Iqbal Muhammad Bilal Tuan Anh Nguyen Ghulam Yasin

**Paperback ISBN:** 9780128239704

**Imprint:** Elsevier

**Published Date:** 1st September 2021

**Page Count:** 500

*Biodegradation and Biodeterioration at the Nanoscale* describes the biodegradation and biodeterioration of materials in the presence of nanomaterials. The book's chapters focus on the basic principles, action mechanisms and promising applications of advanced nanomaterials, along with their integration with biotechnological processes for controlled degradation and deterioration of materials. In addition, the current research indications, positive or negative environmental impacts, legislation and future directions are also discussed. This book is an important reference source for researchers, engineers and scientists working in environmental remediation, biotechnology, materials science, corrosion and nanotechnology.



## Interested in Hosting IBBS19 in 2024?

IBBS is preparing for virtual **IBBS18** and looking ahead to **IBBS19**. **IBBS19** will be planned as a hybrid conference with in-person meetings and virtual connectivity.

### Qualifications for IBBS19 Host

Chair of organizing committee must be an IBBS member.

On-site meeting locations should have the following.

- Meeting rooms to accommodate 2 concurrent sessions
- Space for vendors and sponsors to exhibit
- Space for poster displays and judging
- Space for coffee breaks and informal gatherings
- Accommodations for welcome reception, post-session socials and farewell dinner
- Facilities for virtual participation
- Hotels, dormitory rooms, and restaurants located within 15 min walk of meeting facility
- Local attractions

IBBS triennial meetings are typically arranged for September of the conference year. However, the Host may propose an alternate month based on local preferences, e.g., weather, availability, or convenience. Preferably, space for vendors, sponsors, coffee breaks, poster displays and socials will be co-located. In-person attendees are estimated to be 100 to 150. The Host must be prepared to attract sponsors and funding to support the event. IBBS will provide some funding for event planning prior to the conference and will assist in the identification of sponsors.

IBBS has a proud history of International Biodeterioration and Biodegradation Symposia going back to Southampton, UK in 1968, followed by Lunteren, Netherlands (1971), Rhode Island (1975), Berlin (1978), Aberdeen, Scotland (1981), Washington, DC (1984), Cambridge, UK (1987), Windsor, Ontario (1990), Leeds, UK (1993), Hamburg (1996), Crystal City, Virginia (1999), Prague (2002), Madrid (2005), Taormina, Sicily (2008), Vienna (2011), Lodz, Poland (2014) and Manchester.

If you or your organization is interested in **hosting IBBS19**, please contact Chris Gaylarde, IBBS Honorary Secretary [cgaylarde@gmail.com](mailto:cgaylarde@gmail.com). Please provide some details, addressing the specifics delineated above.





## Being part of IBBS Council: nice experience and good friends

### *Asunción de los Ríos<sup>1</sup> and Ana M. García<sup>2</sup>*

1) The National Museum of Natural Sciences-CSIC, Spain; 2) Universidad Politécnica de Madrid Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingenieros Industriales

It is time to say goodbye. After two periods as Joint Scientific Programme Officers of the IBBS Council, we opted out of renewing our position for different reasons. We need to move onto another endeavours and we consider it convenient to facilitate young people to access to the Council.

Being member of the IBBS Council has been a great pleasure. We accepted the challenge with enthusiasm few years ago when Diego A. Moreno proposed us (Fig. 1) and we have not regretted at all.



Fig. 1- Ana M. García (from the left), Diego Moreno and Asunción de los Ríos

During this time we have learned a lot and gained different perspectives on biodeterioration and biodegradation from our colleagues. We remember these years with a dash of nostalgia and the feeling like that we have been part of a warm and enthusiastic family.

We have participated in interesting meetings and workshops such as those held in Vienna, Lodz or Manchester (Fig. 2), which has allowed us to be in contact with colleagues from other countries and establish International networks. Last but not least, we have also enjoyed nice social activities together, in which biodeterioration and biodegradation were always common topics of conversation.



Fig. 2: Asunción de los Ríos (from the left), Ana M. García, Concepción Calvo and Maximino Manzanera in Manchester during IBBS17

We would like to thank the different members of the IBBS Council who have accompanied us over these years and especially to its Presidents, John Gillatt and Brenda Little, and its Secretary, Christine Gayarde.

We hope we have been helpful and we trust to meet us soon in coming meetings.

We will miss you. Kind regards from Spain



## Initiatives for the International Microorganism Day



### Blogging Bootcamp for International Microorganism Day

Training and support for anyone wishing to practise and perfect their blogging skills:

<https://www.internationalmicroorganismsday.org/blog/join-the-international-microorganism-day-2021-blogging-bootcamp>

This online course is self-paced with pre-recorded classes mixed with homework, feedback and live "office hours". The final project in the course is to produce a blog post for the IMD website in the style of your favourite author.

This course is perfect for beginner and intermediate writers and is broken down into bitesize sections that can be spread out over time or done back to back for an intensive learning style. Accreditation is provided upon completion of the bootcamp. Register your interest today!

Additionally, soon will be launched a speaker programme for IMD2021 on 17 September, so if anyone would like to indicate an interest in returning for this year's 24-hour live stream or know of others who would, then do drop an email to **Joseph Brooks Shuttleworth**:

**Joseph Brooks Shuttleworth**

**Science Communications Officer**

Federation of European Microbiological Societies  
Delftechpark 37A, 2628 XJ Delft, The Netherlands.

Tel: +31-(0) 15 302 0050

[joseph.shuttleworth@fems-microbiology.org](mailto:joseph.shuttleworth@fems-microbiology.org)

[www.fems-microbiology.org](http://www.fems-microbiology.org)



## An International Workshop on Conservation of Cultural Heritage at the City University of Macau, China

### Guang Huang

Faculty of Innovation and Design, City University of Macau, e-mail: ghuang@cityu.mo

### Ji-Dong Gu

Guangdong Technion \_ Israel Institute of Technology, e-mail: jidong.gu@gtiit.edu.cn

A workshop on Conservation of Cultural heritage was held on May 21-22, 2021 in Macau of China in light of the Covid-19 and travel restrictions. At this event, both the Sino-Portugal Belt-and-Road Joint Laboratory on Science of Cultural Heritage Conservation, and the Joint Laboratory of Heritage Conservation and Materials Analyses between City University of Macau (China) and University of Evora (Portugal) were launched officially. These research facilities and capabilities enhanced the scientific research of the city as an international tourist destination boasted for the UNESCO Cultural Heritage Sites of the city dominated with Portugal architecture and historical buildings.

The workshop started with the unveiling of the joint laboratories followed by a series of talks delivered on a range of topics delivered by scientists on each of the identified areas and topics.

Talk titles included integrated approach for the study and conservation of architectural and cultural heritage – experiences and challenges by Antonio Candeias (University of Evora); microbiological research and conservation experiences of the sandstone remains of Angkor, Cambodia by Ji-Dong Gu (Guangdong Technion – Israel Institute of Technology); luminescence dating and archaeological chronology by Zhong-Ping Lai (Shantou University); desalination techniques of ancient ceramic in the burial environment of ocean with Nan'ao I shipwreck by A-Lei Xi (Guangdong Provincial Museum); education and nurturing of talents working on cultural heritage conservation and restoration by Xiao-Tong Zhang (Chinese Academy of Cultural Heritage); retrospect, current status and challenges of the preservation and conservation of Macau cultural heritage by Zhi-Liang Chen (Macau Institute of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage); deciphering the ancient artifacts: science and technology, culture and trades by Tien-Quan Zhu (Guangdong Academy of Fine Arts); the argument between 'tech school' and 'craft school': a discussion on the training and teaching mode of oil painting conservation by Chen Wang (Shanghai University); the process and problems on investigating the iconography of the main statue at the Laitan Second Buddha temple in Hechuan, Sichuan Province by Jian He (Shanghai Institute of Visual Arts); and a study on the conservation treasures of traditional ancestral shrines in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area – an example of immovable cultural relics in Doumen District, Zhujiang City by Zhen-Hua Ma (Guangzhou JiSheng Cultural Heritage Consulting).

The workshop was very well received by attendees and future events are planned on a regular basis to report the research progress and also maintain an active network for people working on this subject area for efficient communication and exchanges of new findings and ideas. In doing this way, the academic achievements of the institution and individuals can be promoted publicly.



**A photograph of the workshop banner displayed at the conference site**



## BAM coordinates new European research network on corrosion damage caused by microorganisms

Corrosion caused by microorganisms is a worldwide problem. In Europe, the research landscape has so far been very fragmented. The Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (BAM), Germany, is now coordinating a new research network that aims to promote interdisciplinary exchange. It will be financially supported by the European funding organisation COST (Cooperation in Science and Technology) for the next four years.



Microbially influenced corrosion - MIC for short - causes billions of euros in damage worldwide every year. Materials of all kinds can be affected: metals, plastics and even concrete. The consequences can be seen, for example, in important energy supply infrastructures such as wind turbines or pipelines, but also in bridges, harbour facilities, in the tanks of ships and airplanes and numerous objects of the daily life.

So far, MIC has been studied only sporadically in Europe; there is a missing exchange between industry and science. Furthermore, there is also often a lack of an interdisciplinary approach - which, however, is necessary given the breadth of the topic and the numerous areas affected by MIC. Especially since experts assume that global warming will favour the spread of MIC and further impair the lifespan of materials in the future.

Andrea Koerdt from Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (BAM), Germany, together with Torben Lund Skovhus from VIA University College in Aarhus, Denmark, has therefore now launched the Euro-MIC network. It is supported by the European funding organisation COST (Cooperation in Science and Technology). COST promotes the creation of international networks and thus wants to give impulses for research progress and innovations.

"The funding from COST is a great support for our project," says Andrea Koerdt. "With Euro-MIC, we want to bundle the research work in Europe, which has often been fragmented up to now, create an interdisciplinary and collaborative network, promote the exchange between academia and industry and develop prevention methods against MIC."

"Interdisciplinary research into MIC is a key focus at BAM," says BAM President Prof. Dr Ulrich Panne. "I am pleased that this approach is now being extended to the European framework and far beyond. Research and industry can only benefit from this."

Almost 100 institutions from 33 countries are involved in Euro-MIC, from Norway to Greece and Portugal to Cyprus. In addition to the 24 COST member states, associated countries such as Brazil, Australia, India, Singapore, Japan, Tunisia and the USA are represented, as well as scientists from disciplines as diverse as materials science, physics, chemistry, microbiology, biochemistry, geology and environmental sciences.

Euro-MIC is organised into five working groups on overarching themes, including the development of a common terminology, research into diagnostic methods, monitoring of MIC and the search for effective counterstrategies. Online courses, workshops, summer schools, conferences and citizen science projects are planned for the next four years.

<https://www.bam.de/Content/EN/Press-Releases/2021/Environment/2021-05-31-research-network-microorganisms.html>





## Save the date....

### Next FEMS Conference on Microbiology in Belgrade

FEMS and the Serbian Society for Microbiology are happy to announce the next FEMS Conference on Microbiology, which will take place from 30 June to 2 July 2022 in Belgrade, Serbia.

FEMS commitment is to support microbiologists with their work, promote the best in microbiology research to the world, and bring microbiologists together. This event supports that commitment: giving high value for money at a low registration fee, it opens possibilities for networking and exchanging knowledge and experiences.

The FEMS Conference on Microbiology, a new FEMS event format, is organized in close collaboration with the respective local regional society. The FEMS Online Conference 2020 has already been successfully organized in collaboration with the Serbian Society for Microbiology (SSM) as an ONLINE format. Yet again, the FEMS Conference in Belgrade 2022 relies on its high-end scientific profile and combined expertise of FEMS and SSM in successfully organizing global and SEE regional scientific events and we are looking forward to a great experience for all involved.

Especially scientists and professionals from the Southeast of Europe will have the opportunity to be part of a world class event and most certainly a cornerstone of the new phase of the regional SEE development in Microbiology.

Be part of this event, where intercontinental, European, regional, and local scientists from all stages in their career and from all demographical backgrounds can participate in a multifaceted conference.

You can find up-to-date information on the conference at [www.femsbelgrade2022.org](http://www.femsbelgrade2022.org).

#### IBBS is a member of FEMS

FEMS is the Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS), an international organization formed by the union of a number of European scientific organizations.



Federation of European  
Microbiological Societies

Read the the latest news: <https://fems-microbiology.org/news/>  
Here is your link for the latest FEMS newsletter.

<https://crm.fems-microbiology.org/civicrm/mailing/view?id=452&reset=1>

Members of FEMS Member Societies can apply for grants for research and training, or for support when organizing or attending a meeting – including our Member Societies' national and regional congresses. Every year FEMS supports meeting organizers and early career researchers and enables experts to share ideas and promote excellence in science.



## Reading post-apocalyptic fiction in an apocalyptic world: part 4

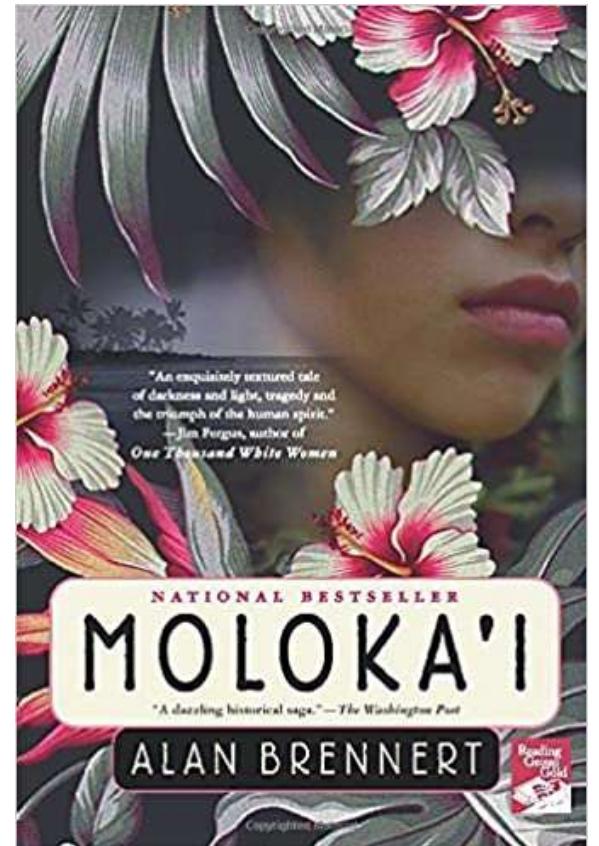
by Joanna Verran

*FEMS Representative, IBBS Council*

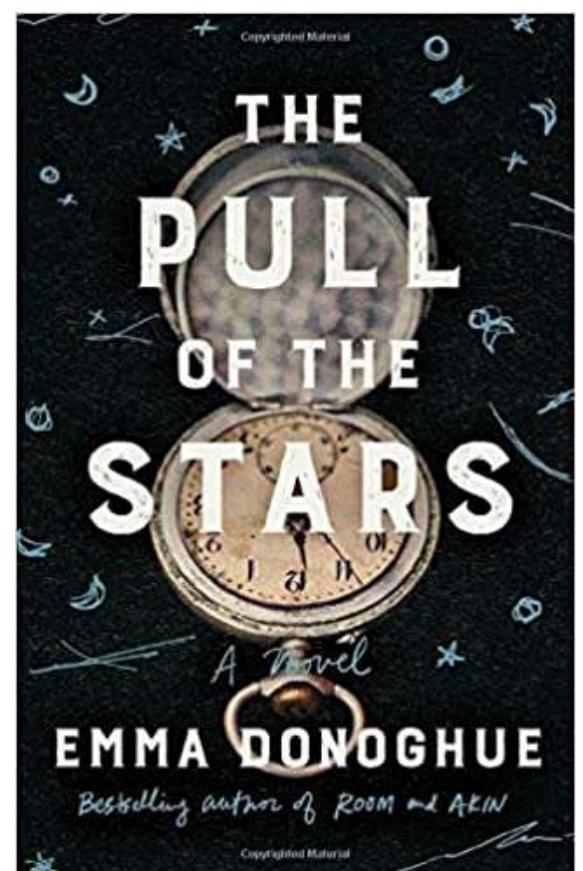


Well, I thought my previous lockdown bookclub article would be the last – but that was not to be the case. Although the UK continues to implement its successful vaccination campaign, the emergence of the delta variant (especially in Manchester) reminds us that we need to remain vigilant. So the Bad Bugs Bookclub meetings remain online for the moment.

In March, *Moloka'i* by Alan Brennert took us to Hawai'i, but to a leper colony. The story focused on the life of a woman who spent most of her life on the island of Moloka'i through much of the twentieth century, until antibiotics cured her of leprosy and enabled her to leave. The Hawai'ian culture, as well as the impact of America on Hawai'i and its history was fascinating. The impact of antibiotics on such an ancient illness reinforced their impact on infectious disease in general: we also empathised to some extent – within our own rather less extreme lockdown experiences - with the culture of isolation and social distancing, prejudice and the social status of the individuals who were afflicted with Hansen's disease.



*The Pull of the Stars* by Emma Donoghue is set in a maternity/fever ward in Dublin in 1918, towards the end of World War I. The fever of concern is influenza, and all the heavily pregnant women in the ward also have influenza. The book describes events over four days, giving graphic information about the complexities of childbirth and the varying morbidities of influenza as it affects the characters. During this May meeting, we noted the significant changes in infection control practice when compared with a previous read (*The Bone Garden* by Tess Gerritsen), and were impressed with the care given to the patients by the nursing staff. The difficulties of preventing the spread of a pandemic where the causative agent was unknown, and no treatment was available, was evident throughout the novel, and we were able to compare their experiences with ours as we experienced the coronavirus pandemic.



...continued on page 14



....continued from page 13

Our next meeting will take place (online) on July 21. We will be discussing two new publications: Michael ('We're Going on a Bear Hunt') Rosen's *Many Different Kinds of Love: a story of love, death and the NHS* and *Summer* by Ali Smith. Both of these books deal directly with coronavirus: Rosen's own experience of several months in intensive care, and Smith's narrative set in 2020, where coronavirus is part of the backdrop through which her characters move.

If anyone wants to read more about the bookclub, and how I set about raising its profile (inadvertently during a pandemic) I have had a paper accepted (in press) in FEMS Letters that you might like to read.

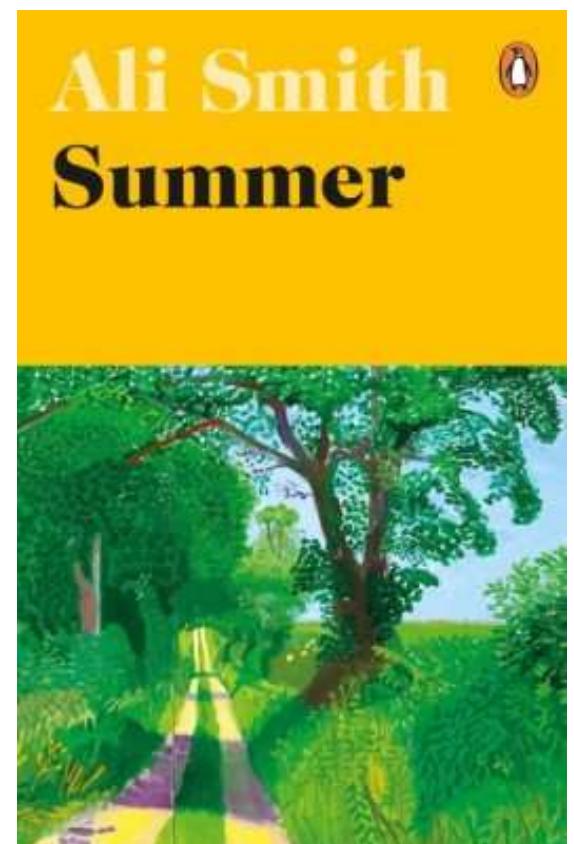
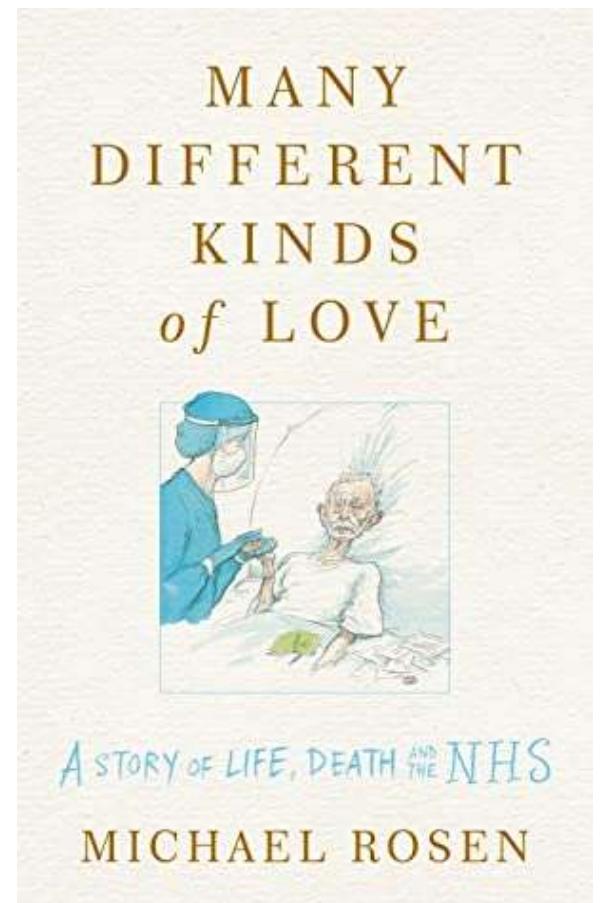
Best wishes all, and I hope to 'see' some of you during IBBS18.

J.verran@mmu.ac.uk

*"The aim of the Bad Bugs Book Club is to get people interested in science, specifically microbiology, by reading books (novels) in which infectious disease forms some part of the story."*

### Bad Bugs Bookclub

(<https://www.mmu.ac.uk/engage/what-we-do/bad-bugs-bookclub/>)



### "Heritage Biocare" course on CD

We have received some requests about the Allsopp and Gaylarde course CD ("Heritage Biocare"), which contains a series of highly illustrated lectures about biodeterioration of cultural heritage, museum artefacts, etc, and its control. This is no longer available on our website, but we have a few copies in English and rather more in Brazilian Portuguese that we can send out for £10 plus postage. Contact the Hon. Secretary if you are interested. ([secretary@ibbsonline.org](mailto:secretary@ibbsonline.org))





## IBBS Membership Renewal

In case you still haven't renewed your annual subscription to the International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation Society (IBBS), please do so by January

Our current membership rates (mostly unchanged) are as follows:

Ordinary Membership - £47.50

Student Membership - £12.50

Retired Membership - £12.50

Online Journal Subscription \* - £40.00

Hard Copy Journal Subscription \* (delivered by post) - £60.00

Lifetime Standard Membership - £475

Lifetime Retired Membership - £125

\* Includes all member benefits and access to 10 copies per year of International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation.

To renew, visit [www.ibbsonline.org/membership](http://www.ibbsonline.org/membership), log in using your email address and password and click on “**renew membership**”.

If you have forgotten your password, click on the big green JOIN IBBS button, or use this link, [www.ibbsonline.org/ibbsmember/signup](http://www.ibbsonline.org/ibbsmember/signup), and follow the instructions.

Payment is by credit/debit card or PayPal.

If you experience problems, please email: [membership@ibbsonline.org](mailto:membership@ibbsonline.org)

IBBS is the only scientific society for scientists working in the fields of biodeterioration, biodegradation, bioremediation and associated disciplines!

### What we offer:

- Reduced registration rates at Society meetings and the joint meetings that we hold with other organisations and societies.
- Eligibility for awards and bursaries, to support small research projects and meetings, including student bursaries. (More info here: <https://ibbsonline.org/bursaries/>)
- As an affiliated society of FEMS (Federation of European Microbiological Societies), members can receive FEMS research grants and funding to attend conferences.
- An extensive and informative website ([www.ibbsonline.org](http://www.ibbsonline.org)) with details of forthcoming meetings, the ability of members to publicise meetings and conferences that they are organising or involved with.
- Special rates for Society publications and resources.
- Regular member contact via our newsletter “IBBS World”, and frequent updates through our website and email network.
- Regular Society meetings and conferences - e.g. our triennial symposia - IBBS 18 online in 2021, is a three to four-day showcase event of the Society, although we usually have at least one shorter meeting each year, normally on a specific topic. (More info here: <https://ibbsonline.org/meetings/>)



The IBBS Council offers bursaries, up to £1,000 each, in support of both undergraduate student projects and postgraduate student research.

Postgraduate applicants must be members of the Society, in good standing (dues paid), working in higher education or research institutes.

Undergraduate applicants must be sponsored by a faculty member who will supervise the applicant. Projects must be related to biodeterioration or biodegradation.

Research must be completed either in the applicant's (i.e., supervisor's) laboratory, or another laboratory that has agreed to accept the candidate without fees. Deadlines for bursary applications:

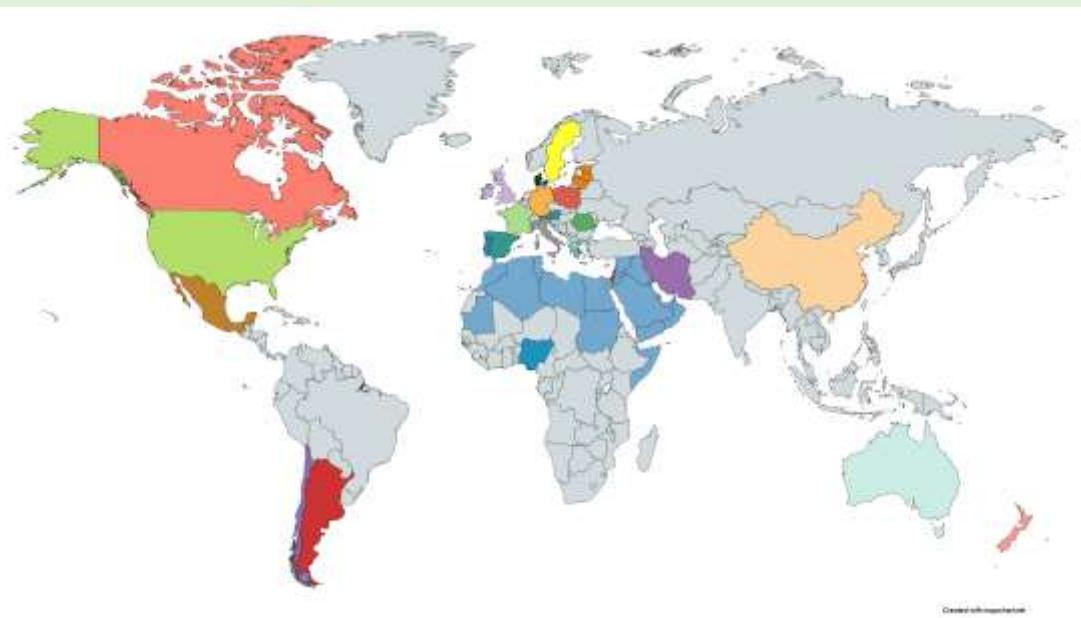
Bursary applications will be considered two times per year.

For proposed start dates between 1 July and 1 December, **deadline: 1 March**

For proposed start dates between 2 December and 30 June, **deadline: 1 October**

## IBBS Country Representatives

IBBS Country Representatives have been appointed to help members and potential members in their geographic areas of responsibility, to promote the work of the Society and to be a contact point. So far, we have appointed twenty-seven Country Representatives, each covering one country (two in the case of China and Austria) or region.



Check on the IBBS website to locate the representative of your country:

<https://ibbsonline.org/countryreps/>

If you are interested in being one of our “ambassadors” please contact the IBBS Hon. Secretary – [secretary@ibbsonline.org](mailto:secretary@ibbsonline.org).