

Program

Microbial Engineering II

April 3-7, 2022

Albufeira, Portugal

Conference Chairs

Eli Keshavarz-Moore

University College London, United Kingdom

Barry Buckland

BiologicB, USA



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Previous conferences in this series:

Microbial Engineering

March 4-8, 2018

Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA

Conference Chairs:

Eli Keshavarz-Moore (University College London , UK)

Barry Buckland (BiologicB, LLC USA)

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Sunday, April 3, 2022

15:00 – 17:00	Conference Check-in
17:00 – 18:00	Reception – overlooking the sea
18:00 – 18:15	Welcoming Remarks Barry Buckland and Eli Keshavarz-Moore, Conference Chairs
	Plenary Lectures
18:15 – 19:00	Engineering Microbial systems: potential to enable affordable and accessible interventions for global health Stephen Hadley, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USA
19:00 – 19:45	Refactoring yeast central metabolism to reverse growth phenotypes and Product formation Diethard Mattanovich, BOKU, Austria
20:00 – 22:00	Dinner

Locations and Notes

- *Technical Sessions will be held in the Balaia Room.*
- *Poster Sessions will be in the Santa Eulália Room.*
- *The ECI office will be the Executive Room.*
- *Please wear your mask except when giving a presentation or actively eating or drinking. Please maintain physical distancing as much as possible.*
- *Audio, still photo and video recording by any device (e.g., cameras, mobile phones, tablets, laptops, smart watches) is strictly prohibited during the technical sessions, unless the author and ECI have granted prior permission.*
- *Speakers – Please have your presentation loaded onto the conference computer prior to the session start (preferably the day before).*
- *Speakers – Please leave at least 3-5 minutes for questions and discussion.*
- *Please do not smoke at any conference functions.*
- *Turn your mobile telephones to vibrate or off during technical sessions.*
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- *Emergency Contact Information: Because of privacy concerns, ECI does not collect or maintain emergency contact information for conference participants. If you would like to have this information available in case of emergency, please use the reverse side of your name badge.*

Monday, April 4, 2022

07:30 – 08:30 Breakfast Buffet

SESSION I: METABOLITES

Session Chairs: Arindam Bose, AbiologicsB LLC, USA
Brigitte Gasser, BOKU, Austria

08:30 – 08:35 Session Introduction

08:35 – 09:05 **Valorization of renewables into bio-based chemicals using metabolically engineered microbes**

Christoph Wittmann, Saarland University, Germany

09:05 – 09:30 **Microbial engineering of new *Streptomyces* sp. from extreme environments for novel antibiotics, anticancer and antifungal Drugs**

Juan Asenjo, University of Chile, Chile

09:30 – 09:55 **Pollution to products: Recycling of “above ground” carbon by gas fermentation**

Michael Koepke, Lanzatech Engineering, USA

09:55 – 10:20 ***Klebsiella pneumoniae* as cell factory for chemicals production**

Frank Baganz, University College London, United Kingdom

10:20 – 10:50 **Fermented pheromones – a sustainable solution for plant protection from insect pests**

Irina Borodina, BIOPHERO ApS, Denmark

10:50 – 11:20 Coffee Break

SESSION II: THERAPEUTIC PROTEINS AND PEPTIDES

Session Chairs: Neil Dixon, University of Manchester, United Kingdom
Tiffany Rau, Rau Consulting, USA

11.20 – 11.25 Session Introduction

11.25 – 11:55 **Expanding understanding and scope of *Pichia pastoris* for secreted protein expression**

Nico Callewaert, University of Gent, Belgium

11:55 – 12:20 ***Pichia* production host engineering by systemic host changes**

Christoph Kiziak, Lonza, Switzerland

12:20 – 12:45 **Flo8 – A versatile regulator for improving recombinant protein production in *Pichia pastoris***

Brigitte Gasser, BOKU, Austria

12:45 – 13:45 Lunch and Networking

SESSION II: THERAPEUTIC PROTEINS AND PEPTIDES (continued)

13:45 – 14:10 **Characterization of homologous industrial strains using continuous cultivation techniques to understand process performance variation in a platform fed-batch production process**

Anthony Grippe, Merck & Co., Inc., USA

Monday, April 4, 2022 (continued)

14:10 – 14:22 **Combinatorial Fusion TAG yields powerful platform process for the production of pharmaceutically relevant proteins**
Christoph Köppl, ACIB, Austria

14:22 – 14:34 **Developing methods for the production of antiviral VHH-Fc antibodies in *Pichia pastoris* for fast pandemic response**
Chiara Lonigro, Gent University, Belgium

14:34 – 14:46 **Going beyond the limit: impact of increasing global translation activity on the productivity of recombinant secreted proteins in *Pichia pastoris***
Jennifer Staudacher, BOKU, Austria

14:46 – 15:11 **Accurate scalable microfermentation screening for microbial cell line development of therapeutic proteins**
Erik Nordwald, KBI Biopharma, USA

15:11 – 15:45 Coffee Break

SESSION II: THERAPEUTIC PROTEINS AND PEPTIDES continued

15:45 – 16:10 **Optimization of *E. coli* SoluPro® using synthetic biology to generate high-performance microbes for scalable production of protein therapeutics**
Drew Tack, AbSci, USA

16:10 – 16:35 **Growth-decoupled recombinant protein production in *Escherichia coli***
Patrick Stargardt, enGenes Biotech, Austria

16:35 – 17:00 **Development of the filamentous fungus *Myceliophthora thermophila* C1 into a next-generation therapeutic protein production system**
Andriy Kovalchuk, VTT, Finland

17:00 – 17:25 **Robust protein production and secretion in bacteria using type III secretion system**
Danielle Tullman-Ereck, Northwestern University, USA

19:00 – 20:30 Dinner

20:30 – 22:00 **POSTER SESSION I** (with social hour and dessert)
Session Chairs: Brenda Parker, University College London, United Kingdom
Laura Stoffels, Syngenta, United Kingdom

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

07:30 – 08:30 Breakfast Buffet

SESSION III: SUSTAINABILITY

Session Chairs: Behnam Taidi, CentraleSupélec, France
David Stuckey, Imperial College, United Kingdom

08:30 – 08:35 Session Introduction

08:35 – 09:00 **Robust, reliable and controlled bio-methane production**
Behnam Taidi, CentraleSupélec, France

09:00 – 09:25 **Controlling the size and linkage type of biopolymers derived from sucrose**
Magali Remaud-Siméon, INSA/University of Toulouse, France

09:25 – 10:00 **Biosensors and biocatalysis for biorefinery and bioremediation**
Neil Dixon, University of Manchester, United Kingdom

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee Break

10:30 – 11:00 **A biotechnological strategy for the valorization of cellulose through Levoglucosenone**
Louis Mouterde, Agro Paris Tech, France

11:00 – 11:25 **Unraveling acetogen gas fermentation using quantitative systems biology**
Kaspar Valgepea, University of Tartu, Estonia

11:25 – 11:55 **Developing a novel microbial host and synthetic biology tools for valorizing waste polyethylene terephthalate and lignin-derived compounds**
Tae Seok Moon, Washington University, USA

12:00 – 14:00 Lunch and Networking

SESSION IV: MICROBIOME

Session Chairs: John Aunins, Seres Therapeutics, USA
Kristala Prather, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

14:00 – 14:05 Session Introduction

14:05 – 14:35 **Fungal highways enable migration and communication of engineered bacteria in soil**
Eric Young, Worcester Polytechnic, USA

14:35 – 15:05 **Treating microbial systems engineering as an inverse function problem to enhance production of biomolecules**
Ranjan Srivastava, University of Connecticut, USA

15:05 – 15:35 **Metabolic modeling for the microbiome**
Costas Maranas, Penn State University, USA

15:35 – 16:05 Coffee Break

16:05 – 16:35 **Engineering microbes and biology for communicating with electronics**
William Bentley, University of Maryland, USA

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 (continued)

- 16:35 – 17:05 **Novel technologies are key for the development of live bacterial therapeutics**
Christophe Lacroix, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
- 17:05 – 17:15 Stretch Break
- 17:15 – 18:00 **KEYNOTE**
Metabolic Engineering
Kristala Prather, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA
- 19:00 – 20:30 Dinner
- 20:30 – 22:30 **POSTER SESSION II** (with social hour and dessert)
Session Chairs: Brenda Parker, University College London, United Kingdom
Laura Stoffels, Syngenta, United Kingdom

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

07:30 – 08:30 Breakfast Buffet

SESSION V: CELL FREE MICROBIAL SYNTHESIS

Session Chair: Daniel Bracewell, University College London, United Kingdom

08:30 – 08:35 Session Introduction

08:35 – 09:15 **New kid on the block: Industrialization of cell-free synthesis for biotherapeutics development**

Marcella Yu, Sutro Biopharma, USA

09:15 – 09:45 **Rapid iterative design of tandem-core virus-like particles using Escherichia Coli-based cell-free protein synthesis**

Beatrice Melinek, University College London, United Kingdom

09:45 – 09:50 Introduction to Plenary Lecture

09:50 – 10:35 **Plenary Lecture**
Next wave of microbially expressed Biologics – a step towards synthetic biology

Thomas Sauer, Sanofi, France

10:35 – 11:05 Coffee Break

11:05 – 11:10 Introduction to Plenary Lectures

11:10 – 11:55 **Plenary Lecture**
Continuous culture reborn or revived?

Charles Cooney, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

11:55 – 12:40 **Plenary Lecture**
Reimagining biomanufacturing for equitable access to medicines: The Resilience Story

Rahul Singhvi, RESILIENCE, USA

12:40 – 17:30 Lunch and Networking (at hotel) or excursion/walking tour of Silves

18:00 – 19:00 **WORKSHOP: What is the vision of the future of biomanufacturing?**

Chair: Eli Keshavarz-Moore

Contributors: Aaron Pilling (KBI Biopharm. USA)

Vaughan Thomas (Tillingbourne Consulting, UK)

The COVID-19 pandemic paralysed many of the world's economies, but galvanised the scientific and engineering communities to produce vaccines and therapeutics in record time. As the world gradually emerges from COVID-19 into an uncertain future, which technologies will meet the challenges for the next ten years? The workshop will analyse the challenges facing the globe, including equitable access to pharmaceuticals, feeding the world, all wrapped together with low-carbon, sustainable targets. Discussion topics will include:

- Will the productivity advantages of microbial manufacturing win out over mammalian cells?
- Will continuous manufacture finally be adopted more widely?
- Is cell-free synthesis a viable alternative to bioreactor variability?

19:30 – 22:30 Reception, Conference Banquet and Poster Prizes

Thursday, April 7, 2022

07:30 – 08:30 Breakfast Buffet

SESSION VI: VACCINES

Session Chairs: Stefanie Frank, University College London, United Kingdom
Barry Buckland, BiologicB, USA

08:30 – 08:35 Session Introduction

08:35 – 09:15 **Product and host engineering for low-cost manufacturing of therapeutic proteins in yeast**

Neil Dalvie, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

09:15 – 09:45 **Development of affordable recombinant glycoconjugate vaccines in bacterial cells**

Brendan Wren, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom

09:45 – 10:10 **Late stage process development for a commercial streptococcus pneumoniae fermentation bioprocess**

Matthew Woodling, Merck & Co, Inc., USA

10:10 – 10:35 **Optimising mRNA vaccines manufacturing by using Machine learning approaches**

Marco PC Marques, University College London, United Kingdom

10:35 – 11:05 Coffee Break

11:05 – 11:30 **Challenges in implementing single-use processing for the purification of polysaccharides**

Francis DiGennaro, Merck & Co, Inc., USA

11:30 – 11:55 **Microbial platform for vaccine production for low and medium income countries (LMICs): 2 case studies**

Salome De Magalhaes, University College London, United Kingdom

11:55 – 12:20 **Bioengineering bacterial protein nanocompartments as modular platforms for vaccines and drug delivery**

Stefanie Frank, University College London, United Kingdom

12:20 – 12:25 Introduction to Closing Plenary Lecture

12:25 – 13:10 **Plenary Lecture
Engineering *Pichia pastoris* to make the impossible hamburger possible**

Smita Shankar, Impossible Foods, USA

13:10 – 14:30 Lunch Buffet and Departures

Poster Presentations

1. **Yarrowia lipolytica as a chassis for isoprenoid production**
Aleksander Kruiš, Acies Bio, Slovenia
2. **Selective in vitro loading of proteins into protein nanocompartments for applications in the bioindustry**
Alexander Van de Steen, University College London, United Kingdom
3. **Impact of oxygen availability on organelle-specific redox potentials and stress in recombinant protein producing Pichia pastoris**
Aliko Kostopoulou, Austrian Center of Industrial Biotechnology (ACIB), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria
4. **Use of Genome-scale Models to get new insights into the Marine Actinomyces genus Salinispora: Microbial engineering and its application in secondary metabolite production**
Barbara A. Andrews, University of Chile, Chile
5. **Hidden methanol assimilation pathways in the methylotrophic yeast Pichia pastoris**
Bernd Mitic, Austrian Center of Industrial Biotechnology (ACIB), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria
6. **Caprylate production with lactate as electron donor using Megasphaera hexanoica**
Byoung In Sang, Hanyang University, South Korea
7. **Semi-rational engineering of Adh2 for improved methanol utilization in Komagataella phaffii**
Charles Moritz, Austrian Center of Industrial Biotechnology (ACIB), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria
8. **Baker's yeast breeding and engineering to improve biologics manufacturing**
Chris Finnis, Phenotypeca Ltd, United Kingdom
9. **Rapid iterative design of tandem-core virus-like particles using Escherichia coli-based cell-free protein synthesis**
Daniel G. Bracewell, University College London, United Kingdom
10. **A chalcone synthase-like bacterial protein catalyzes heterocyclic c-ring cleavage of naringenin to alter bioactivity against nuclear receptors in colonic epithelial cells**
Ebru Ece Gulsan, Tufts University, USA
11. **Accurate, scalable microfermentation screening for microbial cell line development of therapeutic proteins**
Erik Nordwald, KBI Biopharma, USA
12. **Increasing the carbon efficiency of citric acid production**
Evelyn Carolina Vásquez Castro, Austrian Center of Industrial Biotechnology (ACIB), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria
13. **Towards a platform process for the manufacture of glycoconjugate vaccines for pneumococcal disease**
Frank Baganz, University College London, United Kingdom

14. **Pathway design for mixotrophic production of biochemicals from CO₂ and methanol in yeasts**
Golnaz Memari, Austrian Center of Industrial Biotechnology (ACIB), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria
15. **Method development, validation, and implementation of Raman spectroscopy as an in-situ process analytical technology for fermentation process development and commercial manufacturing**
Griffin Thomas, Merck & Co., Inc., USA
16. **Genetically encoded biosensors as tools for the up-cycling of aromatic-based feedstocks**
Guadalupe Alvarez Gonzalez, University of Manchester, United Kingdom
17. **Unfolded protein response biosensors for recombinant protein expression**
Helena Godon, ACIB, Austria
18. **High-throughput enzyme engineering for commercial-scale production of natural products**
Irina Koryakina, Amyris, Inc., USA
19. **mDOE for development of optimized fed-batch cultivation for the production of PET degrading enzymes in E. coli**
Lisa Fohler, Austrian Center of Industrial Biotechnology (ACIB), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria
20. **Lactic acid production in the synthetic autotroph Komagataella phaffii**
Michael Baumschabl, ACIB GmbH, Department for Biotechnology, Austria
21. **Clickable Shiga Toxin tracer for drug delivery**
Natalia Karolina Danielewicz, enGenes, Universitat fur Bodenkultur, Austria
22. **From flask to large scale high cell density production of ω -transaminase using auto-induction media**
Sofia Nunes, University College London, United Kingdom
23. **Genetically stable CRISPR-based kill switches for engineered microbes**
Tae Seok Moon, Washington University in St. Louis, USA
24. **Investigating the role of oxidative stress response genes in protein secretion using a novel combinatorial Golden Gate based approach**
Victor Mendes Honorato, Austrian Center of Industrial Biotechnology (ACIB), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria
25. **Novel Cold-Adapted Lipase from Marine Plankton, Salpa thompsoni**
Brenda Parker, University College London, United Kingdom
26. **Optimisation of an alkaline lysis process for a plug- and play plasmid DNA production**
Fatma Mohamed Ebrahim Alhamer Almulla, University College London, United Kingdom
27. **Enzymatic synthesis and immobilization of coenzymes of interest: the example of NADP(H) and Coenzyme A**
Celestin Bourgery, URD ABI – AgroParisTech, France