Report for ISME

Title of the event

Innovation to combat the problems caused by multi-drug resistant bacteria, in the context of One Health

Date: March 7th, 2024

Place: Palace of the Academies (Rubens Auditorium), Rue Ducale/Hertogsstraat, 1 - 1000 Brussels.

Type of meeting: Expert Meeting (Maximum 50 attendees)

Context: Project organized Under the Auspices of the EU Belgium Presidency

Organization committee:

Philippe Gabant (Syngulon, BSM board member) & Guy Hélin (Syngulon)
Jacques Mahillon (UCLouvain, NaComi Vice President)
Eveline Peeters (VUB, BSM chair)
Mimi Deprez (VUB)

In collaboration with: Belgian Society for Microbiology (BSM - https://belsocmicrobio.be/)

Social media: The Young BSM members posted before and during the meeting on social media.

Objective of the meeting:

The aim of the meeting was to present and discuss the strengths of the Belgium Microbiology to fight the surge of multi-resistance to antibiotic (AMR) and this in the One Health context. Representative from different Belgium Institutions were invited to present their roles and visions to limit AMR spreading. A link with the EU institutions was made by the HERA agency. Importance of training and activities of young scientists in microbiology (represented by the Young BSM) were presented. The importance of microbes in all human activities was illustrated by the implication of Belgium microbiologists of the SK-Cen in space exploration. During the meeting new alternative to antibiotics were presented and discussed (Phages, bacteriocins). At the end of the meeting the potential of synthetic biology to control AMR was presented and discussed in a final panel discussion. At the end of meeting a networking drink was organized. A total of forty attendees joined the meeting.
Program:

14:00 Welcome word by Jacques Mahillon (UCLouvain, NaCoMi Vice-President) and Eveline Peeters (VUB, BSM Chair)
14:15 Jean-Paul Pirnay (Queen Astrid Military Hospital, Brussels): Phage therapy
14:45 Françoise Van Bambeke (UCLouvain): Limit of current antibiotics
15:00 Jean-Baptiste Perrin (HERA) - Keynote AMR - Innovations from EU’s view point
15:45 Charles Van der Henst (VUB, VIB, ISME ambassador)
16:00 Coffee Break
16:30 Young BSM: Amir Hassan (UGent)
16:40 Agustin Reséndiz Sharpe (KU Leuven) - Alternatives to animal models to test antimicrobials
16:50 Natalie Leys (SCK-CEN) - The control and use of microbes in human space exploration
17:10 Fabiana Dal Pozzo (AMCRA) - Adopted strategies and challenges to tackle AMR in veterinary medicine
17:30 Philippe Desmeth (BCCM) - Importance of microbial collections
17:50 Philippe Gabant (Syngulon) with Vitor Pinheiro (Support Guy Bart Stan) - Synthetic Biology
18:00 Round table and Conclusions
18h30 Networking drink with members of the board of the BSM
Welcome word by Jacques Mahillon (UCLouvain, NaCoMi Vice-President)

Welcome word by Eveline Peeters (VUB, BSM Chair)

Jean-Paul Pirnay (Queen Astrid Military Hospital, Brussels): Phage therapy

Françoise Van Bambeke (UCLouvain): Limit of current antibiotics

Jean-Baptiste Perrin (HERA) - Keynote AMR - Innovations from EU’s view point.

Charles Van der Henst (VUB, VIB, ISME ambassador)
Amir Hassan (UGent): Young BSM

Natalie Leys (SCK-CEN): Control and use of microbes in human space exploration

Fabiana Dal Pozzo (AMCRA): Adopted strategies to tackle AMR in vet medicine

Panel discussion
Innovation to combat the problems caused by multi-drug resistant bacteria (AMR) in the context of One Health

The organising Committee
Philippe Gabant & Guy Hélin (Syngulon)
Jacques Mahillon (UCLouvain)
Eveline Peeters (VUB)
Mimi Deprez (VUB)
Many thanks to...