



GORDON RESEARCH CONFERENCES

FINAL PROGRESS REPORT

ISME

2019 GRC/GRS Archaea: Ecology, Metabolism, and Molecular Biology

July 21-26, 2019

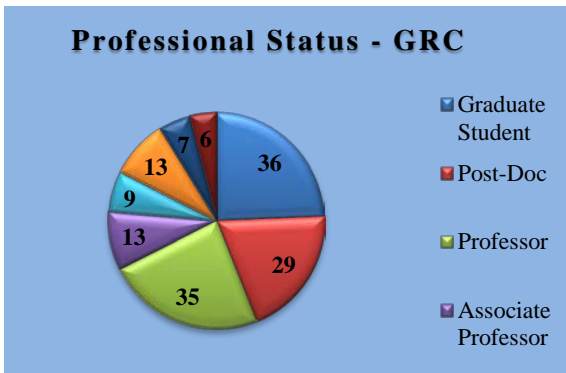
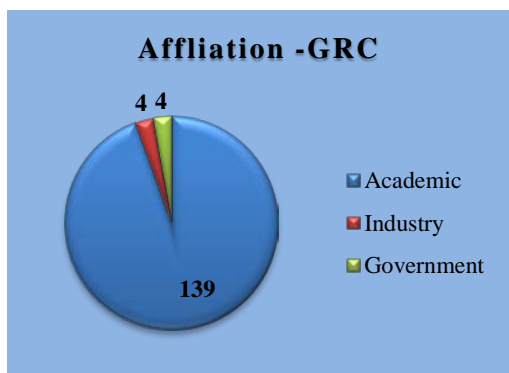
Operational Summary

The Gordon Research Conference (GRC) and Gordon Research Seminar (GRS) on Archaea were held at Les Diablerets, Switzerland on July 21-26, 2019. The meeting covered a variety of scientific topics and the content presented was highly rated by participants.



Conference Participants

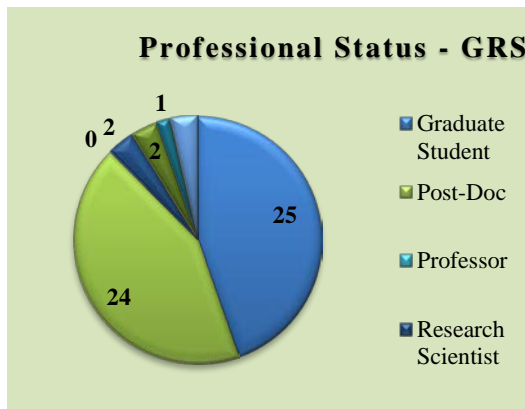
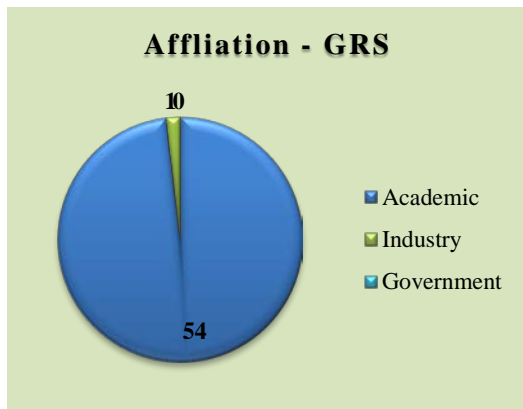
The Conference was well-attended with 148 participants. Scientists from academia represented 93% of the participants while attendees from government accounted for 2% and those from industry totaled 2%. The meeting also attracted a strong mix of young investigators and senior scientists. Students and post-docs accounted for 24% of all attendees. Approximately 45% of the participants at the 2019 meeting were women.



Gordon Research Seminars

Seminar Participants

The Seminar was well-attended with 56 participants. Scientists from academia represented 96% of the participants while attendees from government accounted for 0%. Students and post docs combined accounted for 86% of all attendees. Approximately 60% of the participants at the 2019 seminar were women.



Conference Program

These are exciting times for research on the Archaea. Little more than 40 years after their discovery, methodological and technical development is providing unprecedented access to their fascinating and unique biology, with new discoveries unveiled at a stunning pace.

Since 1984, the GRC on Archaea has gathered all scientists that share a passion for these microorganisms to discuss the latest developments in the field from a wide range of disciplines including: microbiology, molecular, cellular and structural biology, biochemistry and biophysics, ecology, genomics and evolution. The spectrum of topics discussed in this conference provided the broadest view on archaeal research, and the ideal platform to exchange scientific discoveries and unite them in pursuit of new lines of investigation. For the 2019 conference, each session sought to place Archaea in a comparative context by emphasizing features of their biology that are unique, or shared, with Bacteria and Eukaryotes, and their impact on the evolving Tree of Life.

According to GRC tradition, this prestigious meeting combined presentations from early career researchers with the global leaders in their fields. A strong emphasis was put on facilitating interactions between young and established researchers. In addition, and in order to provide a specific platform for early-career scientists, this GRC was - for the first time - associated with a Gordon Research Seminar (GRS).

Conference Budget

Funding provided by ISME supported partial registration for an early career scientist at the GRC.

Conference Feedback

Participants had an opportunity to provide feedback at the end of the Conference. The feedback collected from the meeting was extremely positive. Evaluations included numerous positive remarks regarding talks, poster presentations and diversity of discussions. Evaluations from the GRS included positive comments regarding the unpublished work, poster sessions, and interdisciplinary discussions.

GRC would like to thank the ISME for its continued support of the meetings. The contributions received have been critical to the success of the conferences and are having a measurable impact in advancing the frontiers of science worldwide.

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