

Danish Microbiological Society yearly report 2017

Danish Microbiological Society has in 2017 maintained its number of members and increased its gross turn over and has continued its involvement with within the framework of Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS).

DMS has experienced a drop in members from 412 at the end of 2016 to 335 by the end of 2017. This is due to a new method of calculating memberships – in which we now only count the members by January 1 that have paid the fee for the coming year. The annual turnover was increased from DKK 7.332 in 2016 to DKK 17.827 2017.

DMS was formed in 1958 and 2018 will thus mark the 60th birthday of the society – planned to take place on April 25 in Copenhagen.

The general assembly 2017 was held on March 23rd in Copenhagen in connection to a symposium themed “*Application of Mass Spectrometry in Environmental, Industrial and Clinical Microbiology*”. Approximately 50 people participated in the meeting.

Jakob Herschend gave a presentation titled: “*Application of mass spectrometry for studying bacterial interactions*”, followed by Preben Nielsen on “*Rapid MALDI-TOF identification of environmental bacteria*.” Niels Nørskov-Lauritsen gave a presentation on “*MALDI-TOF MS – the view from the diagnostic laboratory*” and finally Morten Simonsen Dueholm presented the talk “*Direct identification of amyloids by label-free quantitative LC-MS combined with formic acid treatment*.”

The annual congress on November 13th 2017 took place in Eigtveds Pakhus and was attended by 321 persons and a total of 13 companies sponsored the event.

A total of 98 posters were accepted and out of these 18 was selected for “poster-flash” presentations. Besides these, all other talks were based on invitation only.

Two plenum sessions kick-started the congress: Stefan Bertilsson spoke on “*Understanding the interactive nature of aquatic microbial communities from genomic data*” and Rose Cooper gave a presentation titled “*Treating wounds in the face of antibiotic resistance*”.

After these plenum presentations nine parallel sessions before lunch and nine after lunch were presented each consisting of three presentation of 15-25 minutes and three 5-minute poster flash presentations. The titles of the three sessions before lunch were: “*Applied bioinformatics*,” “*Clinical microbiology and beyond: recent developments*” and “*Microbiome dynamics in changing ecosystems*.” The titles of the three sessions after lunch were: “*Second messengers*,” “*Targeted changes in gut microbiota*” and “*New perspectives in wastewater treatment by introducing circular economy*.”





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The keynote presentation was given by Jan Roelof van der Meer from the Department of Fundamental Microbiology from University of Lausanne, Switzerland. The title of his presentation was *“Probing the soil interactome”*.

After the presentations a reception with fermented beverages was held for all participants, allowing to network and wrap-up of the day. After the reception 156 participants went to Spiseloppen at Christiania for the congress dinner.

In 2018 the date of the DMS Annual Congress is November 12th and the venue will be Eigtveds Pakhus as in previous years.

Other activities

DMS has established a Facebook page gathering over 340 followers. We plan to use this channel to spread microbiological news and publications as well as inform about the activities of the society.

European collaboration

The Federation of European Microbiological Societies have a strong priority with DMS. Carsten Suhr Jacobsen has been become member of the FEMS Election Committee. The Election Committee is established with the overall objective of encouraging nominations to the FEMS Board of Directors (the “BoD”) of candidates representing the full diversity of FEMS Member Societies and of the FEMS community. At the same time, the ECom will ensure there are fair and appropriate nominations for each position on the BoD and will oversee the election process, ensuring full transparency and compliance with existing regulations.

In addition, Henrik Christensen from University of Copenhagen and Preben Nielsen of Novozymes represented DMS and its members at the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes meeting in Valencia, Spain.

In conclusion, DMS is increasing its activity level both nationally and internationally. The society has increased its earnings and has a steady number of members.

It is intended that DMS in the coming years will further consolidate its status as the primary source of scientific and social networking activities for microbiologist studying or employed in Denmark.

Carsten Suhr Jacobsen
Chairman of DMS

