



1er Taller de la Red colaborativa en Ecología Microbiana Acuática en América Latina

μ SudAqua

4 al 8 de diciembre de 2017
Rocha, Uruguay

Event Report: Workshop for Launching of a Latin American collaborative network in Aquatic Microbial Ecology (μ SudAqua)

The Workshop for Launching of a Latin American collaborative network in Aquatic Microbial Ecology (μ SudAqua) was held at the Centro Universitario Regional del Este, in Rocha, Uruguay between 4th and 8th of December 2017.

It was organised by a regional team of 3 researchers: Cecilia Alonso (Centro Universitario Regional del Este, Universidad de la República, Uruguay), Hugo Sarmiento (Universidade Federal de São Carlos, Brasil) and Fernando Unrein (Instituto de Investigaciones Biotecnológicas-Instituto Tecnológico de Chascomús, Argentina).

The participants were 46 researchers and post-graduate students representing 20 research groups working in Aquatic Microbial Ecology in Argentina, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Sweden, and Uruguay, including 2 invited speakers from Canada (Paul del Giorgio) and Spain (Ramón Rosselló-Mora). All participants stayed together in a shared accommodation scheme.

This network emerged as an initiative to nucleate researchers of the field to join efforts in consolidating a regional critical mass. Our main objectives are to strengthen and expand the interactions between aquatic microbial ecologists, ii) to contribute to the development of a community feeling at the regional level and iii) to provide a fruitful space for long-term collaboration in research and training of human resources.

During this workshop an amenable and stimulating space for exchange and discussion was opened. The activities developed included: i) Presentation of the intervening research groups following a general scheme, ii) Presentation of research results, iii) Plenary presentations by invited speakers, iv) Plenary sessions discussing the formation of the network, v) Working groups sessions dealing with specific topics, vi) Plenary sessions for presenting the proposals of the different working groups and vii) Synthesis and perspectives sessions, according to the program schedule presented below.

The working groups sessions were very successful. 4 groups were constituted 1) Towards a South American μ -Observatory, 2) Patterns in the South American aquatic microbiome, 3) Morpho-functional traits in aquatic microbial ecology, 4) The need for revisiting bacterial biomass nutrient (C, N and P) contents and conversion factors. The product of each group was a specific working proposal with a defined schedule to be developed in 2018. The next workshop will be held in Chascomús, Argentina in June-July 2019. Further details can be found under <https://microsudaqua.blog/>

Group picture

Students sponsored by ISME



Presentations of research groups

Poster session



Work in groups

Plenary lectures

