

IMCONet Workshop on “Microbial communities: structure and interactions with other pelagic and benthic components of the coastal western Antarctic environments”

Date: 17th and 18th, December 2015 at Argentine Antarctic Institute and Argentinean Council, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

On Tuesday 17th and Friday 18th December 2015 the IMCONet Workshop on “*Microbial communities: structure and interactions with other pelagic and benthic components of the coastal western Antarctic environments*” was held in Buenos Aires. On the first day scientists presented their work and recent results in the Bordeaux Room of the Argentinean Foreign Office. During the second day, Comments about talks of the previous day, planning for the near future and conclusions were presented at the new building of the Argentine Antarctic Institute (IAA). The Workshop was coordinated by Dr Walter Mac Cormack (IAA, WP3 leader) and involved scientists of WP2 (Plankton Community Change), WP3 (Microbiology), WP4 (Benthic Ecology) and WP6 (Ecological Modeling).

Participants were from (IAA), Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI), National University of General Sarmiento (UNGS), University of Gröningen (RUG), National Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET), Ghent University (Belgium, UGent), Atomic Energy National Commission (CNEA), University of Buenos Aires (UBA) and Universidad Mayor from Santiago de Chile.

Activities/Milestones:

- Seventeen presentations covered very different aspects of the microbial world from Potter Cove and gave new data to the members of WP6 for the improvement of models describing structure and function of Potter Cove Ecosystem (see the Workshop program)
- The improvement of the monitoring program on Potter Cove was discussed. It was agreed to increase the number of parameters to be measured. Total counts by fluorescence microscopy, fingerprinting of the

bacterial community (DGGE) and HPLC analysis of toxins were proposed as new parameters for the next year.

- The structure of two papers based on results of bacterial and eukaryotic communities' structure from three stations in Potter Cove was coordinated between IAA and RUG researchers.
 - Future secondments were coordinated and confirmed.
 - Among the new cooperation plans between WP2 and WP3, a joint sampling from the mesocosms was planned, which will be performed at Carlini station during January 2016. The bacterial community structure and changes occurring under low salinity and high temperature will be studied in a collaborative work.
-

Pictures:



Attending presentations in the Bordeaux Room of the Argentinean Foreign Office Building (San Martín Palace). 12/17/2015



Talking (about science) during the lunch break in Argentinean Foreign Office (San Martín Palace). 12/17/2015



Discussions about the presentations of the previous day. Planning for further activities and cooperation.



Participants of the Workshop in the new building of the IAA