

Programme for the VAAM Workshop 2025

Wednesday, September 24th

13:00 – 14:45	Registration & Poster Set-Up (Foyer Königin-Luise-Str. 12-16)
14:45 – 15:00	Welcome and Opening remarks Timo Niedermeyer, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
15:00 – 16:00	Opening lecture (PL1) Aharon Oren, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel <i>Practicing the world's oldest profession</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break
16:30 – 18:10	Poster pitches Chair: Alexander Weng
18:10 – 19:30	Poster session I (uneven poster numbers) with finger food

Thursday, September 25th

8:30 – 9:15	Lecture Session “Natural Product Ecology & Function” Chair: Tomáš Galica PL2: Mitja Remus-Emsermann Freie Universität Berlin, Germany <i>Ecological consequences of biosurfactant production on leaf surfaces</i>
9:15 – 9:30	SL1: Alexandra Eckart, Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland, Saarbrücken, Germany <i>Protective marine symbionts from <i>Hydractinia echinata</i> as source of novel anti-infectives and new biocatalyst</i>
9:30 – 9:45	SL2: Nico Brüssow, Universität Potsdam, Germany <i>Characterization of a class II lanthipeptide from the cyanobacterium <i>Nostoc punctiforme</i> that is implicated in symbiotic interactions with the liverwort <i>Blasia pusilla</i></i>
9:45 – 10:00	SL3: Valerie Rebhahn, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany <i>Aetokthonotoxin uncouples oxidative phosphorylation due to protonophore activity</i>
10:00 – 10:15	SL4: Leo Dumjahn, Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology, Jena, Germany <i>Dual-use virulence factors of the opportunistic pathogen <i>Chromobacterium haemolyticum</i> mediate haemolysis and colonization</i>
10:15 – 10:45	Coffee break
10:45 – 11:30	Lecture Session “Natural Product Chemistry” Chair: Franziska Schanbacher PL2: William Gerwick Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego, USA <i>Biosynthetic and Artificial Intelligence Insights Efficiently Solve Complex Cyanobacterial Natural Product Structures</i>
11:30 – 11:45	SL5: Frederik Weiß, Universität Osnabrück, Germany <i>Identification of a black pigment produced by <i>Actinosynnema mirum</i> after electroporation</i>
11:45 – 12:00	SL6: Mitja Zdouc, Wageningen University & Research, Netherlands <i>FERMO: a Dashboard for Automated Prioritization of Molecular Features from Mass Spectral Data</i>
12:00 – 12:15	SL7: Michael Brigham, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany / University of Leeds, United Kingdom <i>Discovery and characterisation of biffamycin: a unique, antimicrobial non-ribosomal peptide containing an unprecedented chloro-methoxy-tryptophan moiety</i>
12:15 – 12:30	SL8: Amira Naimi, Philipps Universität Marburg, Germany <i>Native metabolomics-guided Discovery of a Cell-Permeable Gai-Inhibitor</i>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break

Lecture Session “Biosynthesis & Engineering – Part I”

Chair: Valerie Rebhahn

13:30 – 13:45	SL9: Tetiana Gren, The Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Biosustainability, Denmark <i>Genome engineering of Streptomyces species using CASCADE-Cas3 technology</i>
13:45 – 14:00	SL10: Phillip Schlegel, Leipzig University, Germany <i>Uncovering and Designing a Flexible Amino Acid Ligase from Streptomyces mozunensis</i>
14:00 – 14:15	SL11: Ulrike Tarazona Janampa, Leibniz Institute, DSMZ, Braunschweig, Germany <i>Exploring the natural product biosynthetic potential of Antarctic actinomycetes</i>
14:15 – 14:30	SL12: Chengzhang Fu, Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland, Saarbrücken, Germany <i>Unlocking Hidden Chemistry: From Genome Mining to Mechanistic Insights and New Antibiotics</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Coffee break
15:00 – 16:30	Poster presentation II (even poster numbers) with coffee and cookies
16:45 – 20:00	Special Session: Natural Products from Plants Botanical Garden of the FU Berlin 18:30 group photo in front of the “Großes Tropenhaus” finger food

Friday, September 26th

8:30 – 9:00	Hendrik Wolff Award Award lecture Chair: Christine Beemelmans
9:00 – 9:45	Lecture Session “Biosynthesis & Engineering – Part II” Chair: Lenka Stenclova PL4: Muriel Gugger Institut Pasteur, Paris, France <i>The Pasteur Cultures of Cyanobacteria: A Treasure for Natural Products</i>
9:45 – 10:00	SL13: Dana Parade, Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland, Saarbrücken, Germany <i>Advancing heterologous expression of biosynthetic gene clusters in cyanobacterial host organisms</i>
10:00 – 10:15	SL14: Jonas Korb, TU Dortmund, Germany <i>In Vitro Production of Aminochelin</i>
10:15 – 10:30	SL15: Alena Strüder, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen and Institute for Microbiology and Infection Medicine Tübingen, Germany <i>Negamycin: Unusual biosynthesis directed by a split biosynthetic gene cluster</i>
10:30 – 10:45	SL16: Florian Hubrich, Saarland University, Germany <i>Ribosomal peptide prenyltransferases with biocatalytic potential</i>
10:45 – 11:30	Coffee break
	Lecture Session “Natural Product Evolution & Regulation” Chair: Lukas Koch
11:30 – 11:45	SL17: Aleksandra Korenskaia, Interfaculty Institute for Microbiology and Infection Medicine Tübingen, Germany <i>PhyloNaP: a user-friendly database of Phylogeny for Natural Product-producing enzymes</i>
11:45 – 12:00	SL18: Tim Berger, Philipps Universität Marburg, Germany <i>The Role of Marine Fungi in Tackling Plastic Waste: A Multiomics Approach</i>
12:00 – 12:15	SL19: Lena Mitousis, University of Tübingen, Germany <i>CRISPR-Cas systems in antibiotic-producing Actinomycetes: Insights from Streptoalloteichus tenebrarius</i>
12:15 – 12:30	SL20: Luis Linares Otoyá, Princeton University, USA <i>Discovery of the N-acyl-cyclolysine system, a widespread chemical signalling pathway in the Bacteroidota</i>
12:30 – 13:00	Poster Awards and Closing remarks Timo Niedermeyer, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany