

## Newsletter Fachgruppe Microbial Viruses

Dear microbial virus enthusiasts,

hopefully you have enjoyed the summer and came back with fresh ideas to your work with microbial viruses. Here is news from the community:

### Activities of our VAAM Study Group

- Our next mini-symposium was planned for VAAM 2021. VAAM encourages us to assemble iSymposia as the whole conference will probably go virtual. We are looking forward to your ideas and speaker propositions for our iSymposium “Molecular structures made by viruses”.
- We have started discussions about writing a new bacteriophage textbook. To get your opinion and an overview on the needs of the microbial virus community please take the survey (about 3 min): <https://www.surveymonkey.de/r/P27V3VL>

### Other Microbial Virus Meetings

- The International Viruses of Microbes meeting that will be held in, Portugal, has been postponed to 5-9 July 2021. More info: <https://vom2020.org/>.
- As an addition, but not a replacement, a monthly webinar series (**iVoM**) has been set up. The first session will be on Thursday **September 17<sup>th</sup>**, 11 am GMT. For the program and more info check here: <https://ivom.phage.directory/>
- The venue of the 2022 International Viruses of Microbes meeting has been announced. It will be held in **Tbilisi, Georgia, from 4-9 July, 2022**. The local organizing committee will be chaired by Prof. Nina Chanishvili
- The 2nd Meeting of the National Forum Phagen, originally scheduled for November 2020 in Leipzig, is now postponed to November 2021. Themed virtual mini-symposia are planned to bridge the gap until the end of next year. We'll keep you posted.

### Awards

- The Journal ‘Viruses’ opens applications for two awards:
  1. Viruses Young Investigator Award (2000 CHF) - Nominations possible until 31 January 2021:  
[https://www.mdpi.com/journal/viruses/awards.pdf/0/pdf\\_8\\_2021\\_3\\_award.pdf](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/viruses/awards.pdf/0/pdf_8_2021_3_award.pdf)
  2. Viruses 2021 Travel Award for PhDs and Postdocs (800 CHF) - Applications possible until 31 January 2021:  
[https://www.mdpi.com/journal/viruses/awards.pdf/0/pdf\\_8\\_2021\\_4\\_award.pdf](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/viruses/awards.pdf/0/pdf_8_2021_4_award.pdf)

Please do not hesitate to contact us with your ideas and requests for all types of community activities, job postings, or any news to distribute into the “Fachgruppe Mikrobielle Viren”.

We are looking very forward to the exchange with you!

Best regards  
Tessa Quax and Stefanie Barbirz

### **Links to microbial virus communities in the world wide web**

VAAM Fachgruppe Viruses of Microbes: <https://vaam.de/die-vaam/fachgruppen/mikrobielle-viren-gemeinsame-fg-der-vaam-und-dghm/>

Nationales Forum Phagen: <https://nationales-forum-phagen.uni-hohenheim.de/>

International Society for Viruses of Microorganisms: <http://www.isvm.org/>

### **Upcoming conferences**

Viruses of Microbes 2020 Webinar series: <https://ivom.phage.directory/>

Viruses of Microbes Meeting 2021: <https://vom2020.org/>

Gordon Conference Physical Virology 2021: <https://www.grc.org/physical-virology-conference/2021/>

### **Special issues**

'Viruses of microbes' in the journal Viruses:  
[https://www.mdpi.com/journal/viruses/special\\_issues/VOM2020](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/viruses/special_issues/VOM2020)