

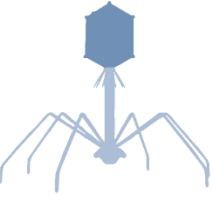
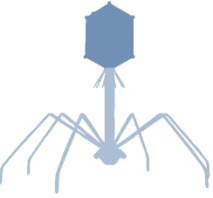


SPP 2330: New Concepts in Prokaryotic Virus-host Interactions

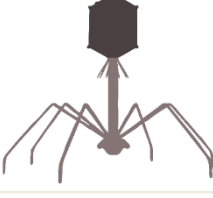
International Symposium

October 5 – 7 2026, Berlin

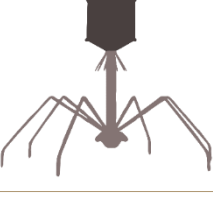
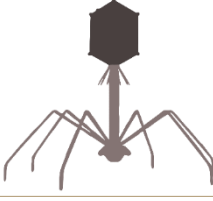
Monday, October 5

08:00 – 13:00	<i>Career & Industry Workshop (Mozart Zimmer)</i> Closed session for SPP 2330 young scientists	
12:00 – 14:00	Registration, Snacks and Drinks (from 13:00 on)	
14:00 – 14:15	Julia Frunzke	Welcome and Opening Remarks
	<i>Organisation and regulation of the viral infection cycle (Goethe Saal)</i> <i>Chairs: Kai Thormann & Ilya Osterman</i>	
14:15 – 14:45	Graham Hatfull (University of Pittsburgh, USA)	Mycobacteriophages and their host interactions
14:45 – 15:00	Avigail Stokar-Avihail (EMBL Heidelberg)	Discovery of capsid-packaged phage proteins injected into bacteria
15:00 – 15:20	Katharina Höfer (LIT Regensburg)	Decoding NAD-RNAs in Bacteriophage Infection
15:20 – 15:35	Nandika Sanjog Sahani (MPIB Martinsried)	Function of Phage Transfer-Messenger RNA in a crAss-like phage phi14:2
15:35 – 16:05	Rob Lavigne (KU Leuven, BE)	Fibrilysins: playing the Reverse Uno card against <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
16:05 – 16:35	Coffee break	
	<i>Organisation and regulation of the viral infection cycle (Goethe Saal)</i> <i>Chairs: Carolin Wendling & Avigail Stokar-Avihail</i>	
16:35 – 16:55	Jörg Vogel (HZI & University Würzburg)	ASO-based functional genomics reveals new phenotypes of essential genes in nucleus-forming jumbo phages
16:55 – 17:15	Katharina Kohm (University Hohenheim)	Functional dissection of the <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> SPβ prophage lysogeny-lysis system
17:15 – 17:30	Yael Litvak (The Hebrew University, IL)	The bully phage: A Shiga toxin-encoding prophage interferes with the induction of co-hosted prophages
17:30 – 17:45	Milan Gerovac (HZI Braunschweig)	The Phage Nucleus shapes the Virulence Spectrum in Chimalliviridae
17:45 – 17:55	Break	
17:55 – 18:40	Helga Hengge	Only the Sky Above
19:00 – 20:30	Dinner	
20:30 – 22:30	<i>Poster Session (Meitner-Saal I + II)</i>	

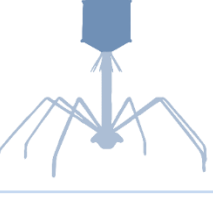
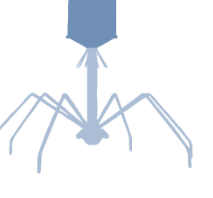
Tuesday, October 6

	<i>Viral impact on microbial communities (Goethe-Saal)</i> <i>Chairs: Milan Gerovac & Ruth Schmitz-Streit</i>	
08:45 – 09:15	Jeremy J. Barr (Monash University, AU)	Temperate bacteriophage populations in the human gut: culturomics and experimental insights
09:15 – 09:40	Kai Thormann (Justus Liebig University Gießen)	No Escape – The ARTs of host takeover
09:40 – 09:55	Enea Maffei (ETH Zurich, CH)	The Enemy of My Enemy Carries a Colicin: Engineering phages to redirect evolutionary trajectories of uropathogenic <i>E. coli</i>
09:55 – 10:15	Torben Sanders (Helmholtz Munich)	Targeted Antimicrobial Peptide Discovery and Phage Cocktail Development Against ESKAPE Pathogens
10:15 – 10:30	Marla Gaissmaier (TU Munich)	PhaDRiM - Phage induced Strain Replacement in Microbiomes
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break	Group photo
	<i>Viral impact on microbial communities (Goethe-Saal)</i> <i>Chairs: Jeremy Barr & Tanita Wein</i>	
11:00 – 11:30	David Bikard (Institut Pasteur, FR)	Genetic perturbation of gut bacteria with engineered phage vectors and CRISPR-Cas systems
11:30 – 11:45	Sabine Schwarzer (University of Groningen,NL)	Exploring virus dynamics in a Nanobdellati Co-culture system
11:45 – 12:05	Nicola Sekularac (RPTU Kaiserslautern)	Viral Take-over of Host Photosynthetic Electron Transport: Investigating the role of Cyanophage-encoded Plastocyanin
12:05 – 12:20	Ilya Osterman (EMBL Heidelberg)	Metabolic reconstitution in the NAD+ battlefield: phages and bacteria in a molecular arms race
12:20 – 12:50	Stineke van Houte (University of Exeter, UK)	tba
12:50 – 14:00	Lunch	

Tuesday, October 6

	<i>Novel anti-viral defence systems (Goethe-Saal)</i> <i>Chairs: Rotem Sorek & Luuk Loeff</i>	
14:00 – 14:30	Karen Maxwell (University of Toronto, CA)	tba
14:30 – 14:45	Jens Hör (HIRI Würzburg)	ApeA cleaves genomic RNA to defend against RNA phage infection
14:45 – 15:00	Jonas Juozapaitis (Vilnius University, LT)	Deoxydinucleotides activate the bacterial anti-phage defense system ApeA
15:00 – 15:20	Julia Frunzke (Forschungszentrum Jülich)	tba
15:20 – 15:40	Stefan Miller (PolyQuant Bad Abbach)	tba
15:40 – 16:10	Coffee break	
	<i>Novel anti-viral defence systems (Goethe-Saal)</i> <i>Chairs: Jens Hör & Katharina Kohm</i>	
16:10 – 16:40	Melanie Blokesch (EPFL Lausanne, CH)	Horizontal Gene Transfer Shapes Bacterial Defense in <i>Vibrio cholerae</i>
16:40 – 17:00	Juliana Geromillier (Tübingen University)	Sulfonamide antibiotic rescues bacteria from phage-induced collapse
17:00 – 17:20	Adhvaidhi Kuntran (Humboldt University Berlin)	Zorya-mediated defence results in distinct cellular outcomes following phage infection
17:20 – 17:35	tba	tba
17:35 – 18:05	Sanne Klompe (ETH Zurich, CH)	tba
18:05 – 20:00	Dinner	
20:00 – 23:30	Mixer (Planck Lobby)	

Wednesday, October 7

	<i>Novel anti-viral defence systems (Goethe-Saal)</i> <i>Chairs: Oleg Dmytrenko & Clara Rolland</i>	
09:00 – 09:30	Uri Gophna (Tel Aviv University, IL)	Diverse responses of an archaeal CBASS
09:30 – 09:50	Tanita Wein (Weizmann Institute Rehovot, IL)	The ancient evolution of gasdermin-mediated immunity
09:50 – 10:10	Federico Corona (EMBL Heidelberg)	Dozens of phage proteins block retrons defense by targeting its toxicity on the ribosome
10:10 – 10:40	Rotem Sorek (Weizmann Institute Rehovot, IL)	tba
10:40 – 11:10	Coffee Break	
	<i>Novel anti-viral defence systems (Goethe-Saal)</i> <i>Chairs: Uri Gophna & Katharina Höfer</i>	
11:10 – 11:25	Anna Kanevskaya (CIRI Lyon, FR)	A novel signaling system originating from a core metabolic enzyme
11:25 – 11:45	Marcel Sprenger (Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena)	Hidden Amun defensive proteins within defense islands broaden protectivity against phage families
11:45 – 12:05	Thomas Gaudin (HIRI Würzburg)	A compact Druantia defense clears phage infections via single-stranded DNA recognition and directional duplex unwinding
12:05 – 12:20	Luuk Loeff (Leiden University Medical Center, NL)	Processing of forked DNA activates a helicase-nuclease immune system
12:20 – 12:40	Final Remarks & Poster Prize Winners	
12:40 – 14:30	Lunch	

