

The Microbial Taxonomist

A Newsletter Published by Bergey's Manual Trust

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Bergey's Manual Trust Signs Wiley Contract to Publish *Bergey's Manual of Systematics of Archaea and Bacteria*

Bergey's Manual Trust and John Wiley & Sons, Inc. are pleased to announce a new partnership to produce an online encyclopedia entitled **Bergey's Manual of Systematics of Archaea and Bacteria (BMSAB)**. The digital edition of the systematics manual will provide up-to-date descriptions of the taxonomy, systematics, ecology, physiology and other biological properties of all named prokaryotic taxa. The new edition replaces and expands upon the second edition of *Bergey's Manual of Systematic Bacteriology*, completed in 2012.

BMSAB will be available via Wiley Online Library, which, with over 1,500 journals and over 14,000 online books, is the world's broadest and deepest multidisciplinary collection of online resources covering the sciences and humanities. Individual chapters of **BMSAB** will also be made available in e-book format.

Since its formation in 1936, Bergey's Manual Trust has worked to provide comprehensive and authoritative descriptions of bacteria and archaea through the publication of its Manuals on determinative and systematic bacteriology.

The result of a collaboration between the Trust and hundreds of

microbiologists from all over the world, the Manuals provide a natural classification of prokaryotes that reflects their evolutionary history and extensive descriptive information on the taxonomy, systematics, physiology, ecology and habitats of individual prokaryotic groups.

An explosion in the isolation and description of new taxa of prokaryotes over the past five years has resulted in the description of more than one hundred new genera and six hundred new species per year. This rapid pace underlines the need for a constantly updated electronic edition which keeps the community at the forefront of research.

"An online electronic work is critical to providing a comprehensive description of the wonderful diversity of prokaryotic life" says Barny Whitman, Director of the Editorial Office of Bergey's Manual and Professor of Microbiology at the University of Georgia, USA. "We are very fortunate that Wiley shares our vision of a dynamic Manual capable of providing comprehensive, detailed and up-to-date descriptions of bacteria and archaea for researchers, educators and students in microbiology." Vicky Johnson and Elizabeth Grainge from Wiley will be working closely with the Bergey

editorial office. “Since David Hendricks Bergey published his first encyclopedia in 1923, *Bergey’s* titles have earned a reputation as invaluable research tools for laboratories,” said Vicky Johnson, Associate Editorial Director, Wiley.



Vicky Johnson, Associate Editorial Director, Wiley & Sons, Inc.

“Our new partnership will maintain the high quality that *Bergey’s* is known for, while using digital platforms to ensure the third edition becomes the go-to resource for microbiologists globally.”



Elizabeth Grainge, Senior Project Editor, Wiley & Sons, Inc

Meeting of Bergeys International Society for Microbial Systematics Planned for April 7-10

Following on from the highly successful inaugural meeting of Bergey’s International Society for Microbial Systematics (BISMis) in Beijing, BISMis-2014 will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, from April 7th-10th, 2014. The theme of the meeting will be “Defining Microbial Diversity in the Genomic Era”. As more complete and draft genome sequences as well as environmental sequences become available and the cost of obtaining these sequences falls rapidly, the microbial

systematics community needs to discuss how this information can be used in routine identification, the description of new taxa, and in the delineation of higher level taxa. This meeting will bring together experts and interested parties to present and discuss their ideas and concepts. This meeting represents the only international meeting dedicated solely to those working in microbial systematics at which they can gather, present and discuss their findings.

For more details and registration, please visit the online web site:

http://bismis.org/?cm=body_bismis2014



Hans-Peter Klenk Receives 2014 Bergey Award

The Trustees of Bergey's Manual recently voted to present the Bergey Award for 2014 to Professor Dr. Hans-Peter Klenk, The Leibniz Institute DSMZ - German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures GmbH, Braunschweig, Germany. The Bergey Award has been presented since 1979 in recognition of outstanding contributions to the systematics and taxonomy of prokaryotes. In addition to a cash prize of \$2000, the award includes travel to the forthcoming meeting of Bergey's International Society for Microbial Systematics (BISMIS-2014) in Edinburgh, Scotland in April 2014. The nomination of Dr. Klenk for the Bergey Award reads: "Hans Peter Klenk is nominated for the 2014 Bergey's Award for his contributions to the genomics and phylogeny of prokaryotes. A leader in the Genome Encyclopedia of Bacteria and Archaea and curator of microorganisms at the Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen Zellkulturen (DSMZ), he is leading projects aimed at systematically filling

in the gaps in genomic sequencing among the bacterial and archaeal branches of the tree of life. With the DOE-JGI (Joint Genome Institute), he is currently working on the genomes of 1200 type strains of different prokaryotic species.

Dr. Klenk also participates in the "The All-Species Living Tree" project to reconstruct a single 16S rRNA tree harboring all sequenced type strains of the hitherto classified species of Archaea and Bacteria. The living tree database provides corrected entries and manually curated alignments, making it especially useful for the microbial taxonomy and ecology communities. During the project, greater than 500 "orphan" species were identified. These species were not represented by 16S rRNA gene sequence entries in the public repositories or the sequence entries of the type strains were of unsatisfactory quality. Under Dr. Klenk's leadership, the DSMZ provided biomass and sequences of such orphan species with the aim to fill the gaps in the genealogical tree."

Hans Peter Klenk received his undergraduate degree in Biochemistry from Eberhard-Karls-University Tübingen (1986), his Ph.D degree from Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich (1994), the *facultas docendi* from Darmstadt University of Technology (2004) and the *venia legendi* for Microbiology from the Technical University Carolo-Wilhelmina at Braunschweig in 2007. Dr. Klenk is currently the head of the Microbiology Department at DSMZ. His scientific career has been diverse with positions in both the public and private sectors. Since 1994 Dr. Klenk has authored or

coauthored over 400 publications with nearly 15,000 citations.

Dr. Klenk is an Associate Editor for the journal *Standards in Genomic Sciences* (SIGS) and serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Genomic Standards Consortium (GSC). He is an honorary member of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology (2009) and the Association of Microbiologists of India (2010).

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