

52nd Polish Microbial Conference

Environmental microbiology as an opportunity for biotechnology and sustainable development

Katowice - Ustroń, 12-15 June 2018

Meeting report - Ambassador Money Request

The Polish Microbial Conference is held at annual basis and aims to connect researchers working in all aspect of anthropogenic pressure on the biodiversity of microorganisms inhabiting various environments, the use of microorganisms in the biodegradation of xenobiotics, the molecular basis of microbial transformation of pollutants, application and development of molecular methods to study microbial diversity, role of microorganisms in promoting plant growth and phytoremediation, and use of microorganisms as bio-indicators. The 52nd edition was organized by the Department of Microbiology and the Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection, University of Silesia in Katowice, and held in Ustroń, Poland. The conference attracted 79 participants from all over Poland. During the conference, 4 plenary lectures were presented by invited guests:

- prof. Adam Jaworski from the University of Social Sciences in Lodz, world-renowned geneticist, gave a talk entitled ‘Vaccines and vaccinations – still one of the most important pro-health activities’;
- prof. Agnieszka Mrozik from the University of Silesia in Katowice, on behalf of the hosts of the conference presented a lecture entitled ‘Peptide nucleic acids as an alternative to antibiotic treatment’, about the latest trends related to the use of nucleic acids in antibiotic therapy;
- prof. Zofia Stępniewska from the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, a specialist in deep biosphere microbiology, gave a talk entitled ‘Microorganisms as bio-indicators and perspectives in environmental microbiology’;
- prof. Ewa Kaczorek from the Poznan University of Technology, a specialist in the biotechnology of microorganisms, gave a talk entitled ‘Biodegradation of hydrophobic pollutants enhanced by plants’ surface active compounds’.

During the five scientific sessions, 23 scientific presentations and 21 short reports were presented. During the poster session, 28 posters were presented.

The ISME support covered costs of accommodation of the invited speakers. The ISME logo was placed on the conference webpage (<http://www.52konferencjamikrobiologiczna.us.edu.pl/>); on the conference materials, and during the welcome presentation, and on the board at the entrance to the lecture room and hotel (together with other sponsors). The ISME promotional leaflets and gadgets were offered to the participants.



Picture 1. The support from the ISME was acknowledged during the welcome speech by the Dean of the Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection: prof. Zofia Piotrowska-Seget.



Picture 2. Audience listening to a scientific presentation during the conference.