

Fresh faces and new approaches at *Pathogens and Disease*

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We are excited to introduce ourselves as the new Co-Editors in Chief for *Pathogens and Disease*. Firstly, we want to thank and acknowledge the efforts of outgoing Editor Professor Patrik Bavoil, who started updating the journal by changing the journal name and profile, which resulted in improved reach and impact factor of the journal in his time. We have big shoes to fill, which might be why there is three of us! We have provided a brief Biography from each of us at the end of this letter so you can get to know us a little more.

We hope with the three of us we bring together the host, bacteria, and viral pathogen perspectives with our goal of broadening the scope of *Pathogens and Disease*. We believe that our mutual fields have a lot in common and by sharing our work in one common forum we can stimulate cross-fertilisation of research, and together advance knowledge on pathogens and diseases. We also want to increase the global reach of the journal with an increase in authors from more geographical regions. To help with this, we will be reaching out to our peers around the globe to publish or consider guest editing thematic issues for *Pathogens and Disease*.

We have also sought on new faces for our handling editorial team, and we aim to see excellent pathogenesis, infection and disease focussed research submitted to our journal. Like our predecessor's vision, we aim to see more research where the microbial communities and systems biology approaches in the context of disease and infection are featured in the articles in the journal.

We want to foster a culture of scientific exchange and dialogue around our articles. To achieve this goal we are changing our editorial system and culture to allow for a consultative review process. The Handling editor will work with the reviewers to construct a consensus request for revisions to ensure clarity and purpose for our authors.

We will also streamline some of our article formats and our new guidelines are now available in the instructions to authors.

We are very excited to introduce our new category of *Priority Papers*. We know how much work goes into research projects, and that sometimes there are good reasons for rapid publication or work. In such cases, we will have a specific rapid progress priority paper format.

As an editor team we want to show case your work and our journal so you will see us at conferences and meetings around the globe. We will be working on other ways to showcase and profile work from our journal in the coming year.

Lastly, we want to encourage high quality thematic issues and we invite expressions of interest from guest editors to host thematic issues. Please get in touch!

Remember, when you publish in *Pathogens and Disease*, you are supporting the work of the professional society FEMS, including fellowships, travel awards and advocacy for our field. Another good reason to publish in *Pathogens and Disease*.

We look forward to working with you as the new *Pathogens and Disease* Co-Editors In Chief.

Best wishes

Willa, Jörn, and Alfredo

Jörn Coers is an Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology and the Director of the Center for Host-Microbial Interactions at Duke University. Dr. Coers' research focuses on the function of Interferon-stimulated host defense programs and the regulation of inflammation in response to bacterial infections.

Alfredo Garzino-Demo is an Associate professor at the Institute of Human Virology, and the Department of Microbiology and Immunology of University of Maryland School of Medicine; and at the University of Padova. His research program is focused on the pathogenesis of HIV infection, and on novel therapeutic approaches to treatment and cure of the infection. His work has contributed to identify populations of cells that are highly permissive to HIV infection, and uncovered means to protect such cell populations.

Willa Huston is an Associate Professor and research group leader at the School of Life Sciences, University of Technology Sydney. Her research is focussed on molecular microbiology of the intracellular pathogen Chlamydia, particularly how proteases function in the organism's pathogenesis. She is especially interested in research into infectious diseases linked to infertility and pelvic inflammatory disease in women.