

## ISME Ambassador Sponsorship: REPORT

A short report about the event must be e-mailed to the ISME Office (within 2 months after the event has taken place) so ISME can place this on the website for the convenience of the members. This report should contain a clear overview of the event data and must clearly show what exactly was done with the funds made possible by ISME. Please include 1 or 2 pictures as well.

The 2018 annual meeting in the Norwegian Society for Microbiology (NFM) was held in Bergen 28th-29th of May, with the topic: "Microbial ecology in applied and natural systems". In total, there was 38 attendees, with an even combination of senior PI's, younger PhD candidates and postdocs. Two outstanding invited keynote presentations were delivered by Prof. Assaf Vardi (Weizmann Institute) and Prof. Paul Wilmes (University of Luxemburg). To support the associated costs of this meeting we requested 500 EUR as part of the ambassador program. This money was used to contribute to the overall travel costs required for Prof. Paul Wilmes to attend (400 EUR), and as a small cash prize to acknowledge the best presentation by a young scientist (under 35yo, 100 EUR).

To recognize the support given to the NFM meeting, the ISME logo was visible on all promotional material, including the advertising flyer and the program distributed to the meeting attendees (e.g. **Picture 1**). In addition, IMSE support was acknowledged during the meeting introduction lecture and a special 5 minute introduction to our ISME-supported keynote speaker (Paul Wilmes) (**Picture 2**). During this occasion, ISME ambassador Phil Pope communicated ISME's role in enabling the keynote speaker to attend and also provided additional information regarding ISME17 and ISME18 in 2020 (**Picture 2**). For the best presentation prize, eight presenters were eligible and two were selected as prizewinners (100 EUR split between them) (**Picture 1**). The certificate acknowledged ISME support, and was presented by ISME board member Åsa Frostegård (**Picture 1**), who also spoke at lengths about the role ISME has in the scientific community and the society's support for young scientists and events such as the NFM meeting. Despite the small size, this meeting was regarded by the NFM board as a large success, due to the quality of the keynote speakers as well as the large proportion of microbial ecologists who attended from the Norwegian Scientific community.

The Norwegian ISME ambassadors and the NFM board would like to thank ISME for their support and wish them a successful ISME17 at Leipzig

Lise Øverås / Phillip Pope



Picture 1: (L) Example of the meeting program with visible ISME marketing. (R) The award of the best presentation by a young researcher was supported by ISME and awarded by ISME board member Åsa Frostegård. Photos: ISME ambassador Phil Pope



Picture 2: (L) Dirk Linke (NFM president) welcoming lecture. (R) Phil Pope (ISME ambassador) introducing invited keynote Prof. Paul Wilmes and providing information related to ISME17. Photos: ISME ambassador Lise Øverås