

News from ISVM International Society for Viruses of Microorganisms

September
2024

Viruses of Microbes 2024: Conference

Viruses of Microbes 2024 Meeting: Expanding Our Viral Frontiers

The **Viruses of Microbes** meeting held in **Cairns, Australia on July 15-19th 2024** was a success with over 500 attendees from 47 countries attending.

The meeting brought together experts to discuss the latest research on viral ecology, virus-host dynamics, and biotechnological applications. The program included keynote lectures, workshops, and interactive sessions on viral diversity, evolution, and impacts on global ecosystems, offering a platform for researchers to share new discoveries in virology and microbiology.

With financial support from academic and industrial partners, the meeting organizers were able to allocate AU\$ 20,000 to support travel costs for the participation of 20 Early Career Researchers in the meeting.

With a focus on nurturing the next generation of researchers in the field, the Viruses of Microbes 2024 Meeting Local Organizing Committee established an Early Career Researchers Committee, which was comprised of PhD students and early career postdoctoral researchers, the Committee supported their peers attending the Meeting by enhancing their experience via targeted resources and events.

The ECR Committee organized professional development opportunities at the Meeting for students and ECRs, including networking events, student/ECR special sessions, and a Meeting mentorship program. Two dedicated ECR scientific sessions and an ECR meet the speakers session were organized to support their professional development. Additionally, a Masterclass in Communication workshop was organized to provide students and ECR the opportunity to learn tools to best communicate science.



General Assembly

Planning is already underway for **VoM2026 in Prague, Czech Republic.**



ISVM General Assembly

ISVM continues to serve as a central hub for researchers studying viruses that infect archaea, bacteria, and eukaryotic microorganisms. With a diverse global membership and a commitment to advancing scientific knowledge, ISVM fosters collaboration and supports the next generation of virologists. ISVM General Assembly meeting, held in Cairns, Australia during VoM 2024, brought several important updates, highlighted below:



Membership Growth and Community Engagement

ISVM's membership has expanded to over **1,400 members** from nearly 200 countries, demonstrating the society's extensive global reach. Local initiatives such as **VoMxUK**, **BSVoM**, **the French Phage Network**, **Phage Canada**, **GiVoM**, **the Spanish Network of Bacteriophages and Transducer Elements**, **the Polish Society for Research on Microorganism Viruses**, and **the African Phage Forum** continue to strengthen ISVM's outreach and build a strong, collaborative community across regions. ISVM encourages members to take an active role in further expanding the society's reach and impact.

iVOM Webinar Series

The **iVoM Webinar Series Season 3** attracted over 600 participants, for a global audience of **3,000 participants** over the three seasons. The webinars have covered a range of key topics such as phage therapy, viral ecology, viral structure, viral evolution, and virus-host interactions to name a few. Stay tuned for news on Season 4 to come in 2025.

iVoM webinar Season I

Viruses of Microbes 2020 webinar series: take a walk on the VoM side

Sept 2020 to March 2021 talks by 18 expert speakers > 1000 unique participants

-  **Prof. Corina Brussaard**
Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research, Netherlands
-  **Dr. Matthias Fischer**
Max Planck Institute for Medical Research, Heidelberg, Germany
-  **Dr. Aleksandra Petrovic Fabijan**
Westmead Institute for Medical Research and University of Sydney, Australia
-  **Jessica Sacher**
Co-founder of Phage Directory
-  **Jan Zheng**
Co-founder of Phage Directory

iVoM webinar Season II

Viruses of Microbes 2020 webinar series: take a walk on the VoM side

Season II	participants
Session 1: Control on viral action	289
Session 2: Raiders of the third domain	116
Session 3: Phage applications in the 'One Health' approach	209
Session 4: Endless virus diversity most beautiful	183
Session 5: environmental impact of virus host interactions	164
Session 6: Models for viral action	121
Session 7: Personalized phage therapy	123

Seven sessions from December 2021 to May 2022

iVoM Webinar Series Season 3

SPEAKERS

CHAIRS

TOPICS

- Ecological and functional roles of viruses
- Phage therapy
- Virus-microbe interactions in plants
- Virus evolution
- Virus-like elements
- Stealthy lifestyles of viruses

23 speakers
18 Early-career researchers
> 600 registrations
From 11 countries
Gender balance (13 males/10 females)

Applied Microbiology International

SUSTAINABLE MICROBIOLOGY

ISVM announcement

ISVM Announcements

ISVM Executive Board Elections - Call for Candidates

ISVM is pleased to announce the upcoming **Executive Board elections**. We encourage all members to consider standing for one of the available positions and help shape the future of ISVM.

Key Dates:

- **Application deadline:** September 27th, 2024 - **now closed**
- **Voting:** October 7th - 21st, 2024
- **Results announced:** October 31st, 2024
- **Transition period:** November 1st, 2024 - January 1st, 2025
- **New board takes office:** January 2025

ISVM Logo Design Competition - Call for Entries

ISVM is inviting our members to participate in the **NEW ISVM logo design competition!** This is a fantastic opportunity for creative minds to contribute to the visual identity of our International Scientific Society.

Competition Details:

- **Objective:** Design a new logo that reflects the themes of all viruses of microorganisms.
- **Submission Deadline:** October 6th, 2024, 5 pm CEST

Submission Guidelines:

- Submit your design in a high-resolution format (JPEG, PNG, SVG, etc.) along with a brief description of the concept behind it.
- The logo must be original and not infringe on any copyrights, trademarks, or designs.
- Keep the design simple, avoiding overly complex details or patterns to ensure easy reproduction.
- The logo should align with the goals and mission of ISVM. Learn more about our society's objectives [here](#).
- Ensure the design works in both color and black-and-white. While our preferred colors are light blue and green, other color suggestions are welcome.
- Typography should be readable and well-balanced.

Submission Details:

- Email your complete application to the ISVM Board at **board@isvm.org** by the deadline. Late submissions will not be reviewed. Please include your full name, institution, position, email address, and phone number.

Prize: The winning logo will become the official ISVM logo, and the designer will receive a **free registration** for the **Viruses of Microbes 2026** conference in Prague (July 6th-10th, 2026).

We look forward to seeing your creative designs!

Viruses of Microbes Themed Collection

ISVM has significantly contributed to scientific literature, publishing special issues in renowned journals such as *Virology*, *MicroLife*, and *Viruses*. ISVM and *Sustainable Microbiology* (Applied Microbiology International) have also announced a **call for papers** from VoM2024 participants (<https://academic.oup.com/sumbio>).

The ISVM website is undergoing a major overhaul to improve user experience, with new functionalities, enhanced member account features, and better conference support tools. Additionally, ISVM's social media presence on X (formerly Twitter) has grown to over **3,000 followers**, and four newsletters have been published this year, keeping members informed of the society's activities.

Guest Editors: Heather Hendrickson, Simon Jackson and Russell Neches

Sustainable Microbiology, in collaboration with [Viruses of Microbes 2024](#) and the [International Society for Viruses of Microorganisms](#), is pleased to call for papers for a themed collection of articles from conference participants, ISVM members, and any researchers working on the viruses of microbes and related topics.

Topics appropriate for the scope of this themed collection include bacteriophages, archaeal viruses, and viruses of microbial eukaryotes. From fundamental research to applications and beyond. The journal *Sustainable Microbiology* aims to demonstrate the current and future role of microbes in improving global economic, social, and environmental sustainability. Authors are asked to include a sustainability statement in their manuscript describing how the work might directly or indirectly impact any aspect of sustainability in a broad sense.

Sustainable Microbiology is a not-for-profit open access journal owned by [Applied Microbiology International](#) (formerly known as SfAM), in partnership with Oxford University Press. You can find more information at <https://academic.oup.com/sumbio>. The journal began publishing online in 2024 and you can view the first published articles [here](#).

The journal publishes a variety of article types including original research articles, reviews, perspectives, commentaries, meeting reports, policy papers and industry spotlights. You can find out more about each article type [here](#).

Authors will not be required to pay a publication fee. This will either be covered by preexisting read and publish agreements between our publisher OUP and authors' institutions, or alternatively by a full waiver if no such agreement exists.

As a token of appreciation, all published authors are also offered a year's free membership to Applied Microbiology International, with its many associated benefits, <https://appliedmicrobiology.org/membership-community/benefits-of-membership.html>.

The journal and AMI will ensure wide promotion of articles through our many marketing channels, including social media, our digital magazine *The Microbiologist* and through email updates to our members.

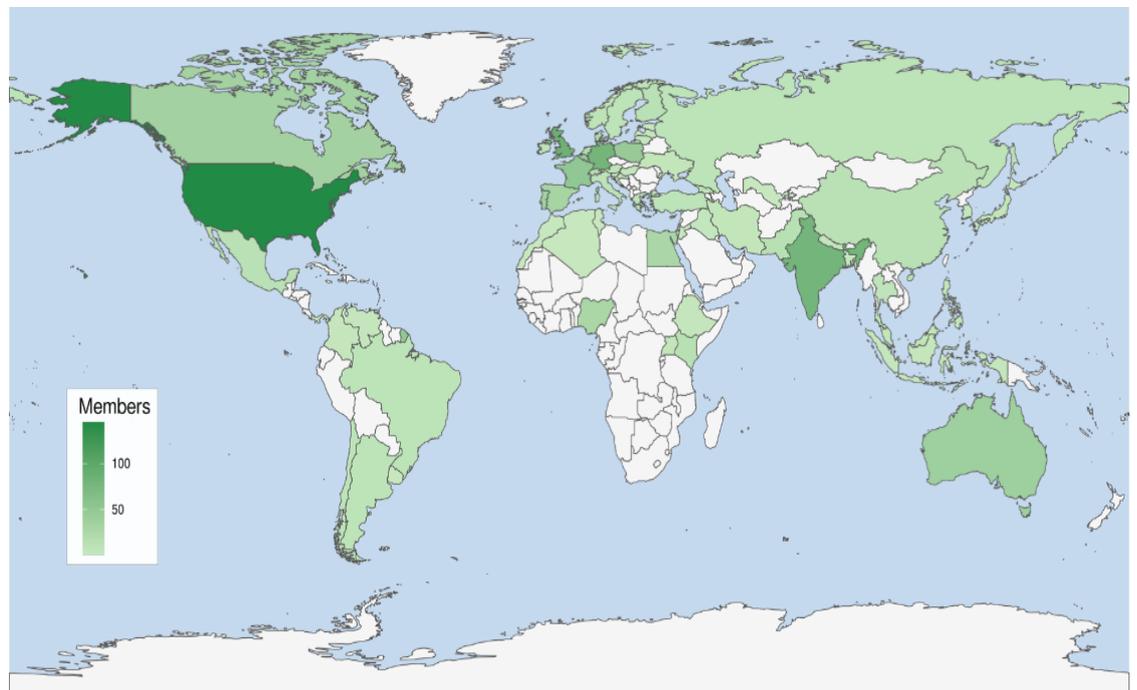
Submission Deadline: 15 December 2024. Please note that as the journal operates a continuous publication model, articles are published online as soon as they are ready without waiting to be assigned to an issue. They are then collated into a dedicated themed collection page. This model allows us to be flexible with deadlines, so extensions can be arranged to suit authors' schedules.

For any queries you can email publishing@appliedmicrobiology.org

ISVM Membership

The International Society for Viruses of Microorganisms (ISVM) boasts an impressive **1,400 members from nearly 200 different countries!** We invite you to become a part of this wonderful family, where we collectively redefine the possibilities and potential of the world of viruses of microorganisms.

Please spread the word, and **encourage your colleagues and young scientists to join our global community of members**, Register today [here!](#)



**ISVM
Membership**

ISVM PARTNERS



SUSTAINABLE
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Applied
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The Company of
Biologists

social media: **facebook** **twitter**

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