David Wilkins

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CURRENT POSITION City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR

Postdoctoral Fellow, microbial ecology

December 2013-present

EDUCATION

University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

Ph.D, molecular genetics

July 2009–November 2013

- Thesis title: Microbial Ecology and Biogeography of the Southern Ocean.
- Supervisor: Prof. Ricardo Cavicchioli.
- Cosupervisor: Dr. Federico M. Lauro.

B.Sc. (Honours, 1st class)

March 2005-April 2009

• Major: Microbiology.

• Minor: Development studies.

Peer-reviewed Publications

- **D. Wilkins**, E. van Sebille, S. R. Rintoul, F. M. Lauro, and R. Cavicchioli. *Advection shapes Southern Ocean microbial assemblages independent of distance and environment effects*. Nature Communications, 2013. DOI: 10.1038/ncomms3457
- **D. Wilkins**, F. M. Lauro, T. J. Williams, M. Z. DeMere, M. V. Brown, J. M. Hoffman, C. Andrews-Pfannkoch, J. B. McQuaid, M. J. Riddle, S. R. Rintoul, and R. Cavicchioli. *Biogeographic partitioning of Southern Ocean microorganisms revealed by metagenomics*. Environmental Microbiology, 2013, 15:1318–1333.
- **D. Wilkins**, S. Yau, T. J. Williams, M. A. Allen, M. V. Brown, M. Z. DeMaere, F. M. Lauro, and R. Cavicchioli. *Key microbial drivers in Antarctic aquatic environments*. FEMS Microbiology Reviews, 2013, 37:303–335.
- T. J. Williams, **D. Wilkins**, E. Long, F. Evans, M. Z. DeMaere, M. J. Raftery, and R. Cavicchioli. *The role of planktonic Flavobacteria in processing algal organic matter in coastal East Antarctica revealed using metagenomics and metaproteomics*. Environmental Microbiology, 2013, 15:1302–1317.
- M. V. Brown, F. M. Lauro, M. Z. DeMaere, L. Muir, **D. Wilkins**, T. Thomas, M. J. Riddle, J. A. Fuhrman, C. Andrews-Pfannkoch, J. M. Hoffman, J. B. McQuaid, A. Allen, S. R. Rintoul and R. Cavicchioli. *Global biogeography of SAR11 marine bacteria*. Molecular Systems Biology, 2012, 8:1–13.
- F. M. Lauro, M. Z. DeMaere, S. Yau, M. V. Brown, C. Ng, **D. Wilkins**, M. J. Raftery, J. A. E. Gibson, C. Andrews-Pfannkoch, M. Lewis, J. M. Hoffman, T. Thomas, and R. Cavicchioli. *An integrative study of a meromictic lake ecosystem in Antarctica*. The ISME Journal, 2010, 5:879–895.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- K. S. Siddiqui, T. J. Williams, **D. Wilkins**, S. Yau, M. A. Allen, M. V. Brown, F. M. Lauro, and R. Cavicchioli. *Psychrophiles*. Annual Review of Earth and Planetary Sciences, 2013, 41:87-115.
- T. J. Williams, **D. Wilkins**, M. Z. DeMaere, F. Lauro, and R. Cavicchioli. *Microbes under the microscope*. Australian Antarctic Magazine, June 2011
- F. M. Lauro, M. Allen, **D. Wilkins**, T. J. Williams and R. Cavicchioli. *Genetics, genomics and evolution of psychrophiles*, in Extremophiles Handbook. Springer Verlag GmbH, Heidelberg, Germany, 2010.

Conference Abstracts **D. Wilkins**, F. M. Lauro, T. J. Williams, R. Cavicchioli. *Biogeographic partitioning of Southern Ocean picoplankton*. 14th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology, Copenhagen, Denmark. August 19–24 2012.

R. Cavicchioli, F. M. Lauro, M. Z. DeMaere, T. J. Williams, M. V. Brown, S. Yau and **D. Wilkins**. *Microbial ecology of Antarctic aquatic ecosystems determined using metagenomics and metaproteomics*. 14th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology, Copenhagen, Denmark. August 19–24 2012.

R. Cavicchioli, F. M. Lauro, M. Z. DeMaere, T. J. Williams, M. V. Brown, S. Yau and **D. Wilkins**. *Extremophiles in Antarctica: insight into adaptation, evolution and ecosystem function of cold aquatic systems using metagenomics and metaproteomics*. 9th International Congress on Extremophiles, Sevilla, Spain. September 10–13 2012.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Bioinformatic

- Programming in a range of languages, but with particular expertise in Perl and R for biological and bioinformatic applications.
- Microbial community analysis using high-throughput sequencing, including both 16S rRNA tag pyrosequencing and shotgun metagenomics.
- Statistical and machine learning techniques to examine microbial community structure and biogeographic distribution.
- Statistical visualisation and graphics, both exploratory and publication quality.
- High-throughput management of large volumes of genetic data and experimental results in Unix-like environments.

Laboratory

- Standard microbiological laboratory techniques including culturing, media preparation, biochemical testing, staining and microscopy and microbial identification, for both research and clinical microbiology.
- Standard laboratory molecular biology techniques including cloning, nucleic acid extraction and purification, PCR and RT-PCR, gel electrophoresis, spectrophotometry and fluorescence microscopy.
- Experienced in recovery of DNA and RNA from low-yield and recalcitrant samples.

TEACHING

University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

March 2009-October 2012

Postgraduate tutor, demonstrator and marker for courses *Genetics*, *Genetics* (advanced), *Microbiology* 1, *Molecules Cells and Genes*, *Microbial Genetics* and undergraduate medicine classes including medical microbiology, biochemistry, molecular biology and genetics.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Australian Postgraduate Award

August 2009–February 2013