



Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council



Engineering and
Physical Sciences
Research Council



EBNet Newsletter - December 2019

Welcome back to the Environmental Biotechnology Network Newsletter

As we say goodbye to 2019 we wish you a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year. 2020 will deliver more EBNet events and funding so we hope you come back refreshed and ready!

(Details of all six BBSRC NIBBs can be found [here](#))

News

BOOK NOW

The EBNet Research Colloquium, University of Edinburgh, 22-23 January 2020

Join us for a gathering of top academic speakers and to network with other members in advance of our first Business Interaction Voucher (BIV) and Proof of Concept (POC) Calls. This event is open to our entire membership. Why not book a place at our FREE pre-event evening dinner (22 Jan) and FREE event (23 Jan) [here](#). For location and price we recommend the nearby [Salisbury Green Hotel](#).

Want to participate? Contact us to be considered for a FLASH presentation. ECR members providing a poster may be eligible for £100 bursary support. Contact us now to express an interest.

COMING SOON

The EBNet Business Interaction Voucher - 1st BIV Call - £20K

(Call Opens: 6 January 2020. Deadline: 28 February 2020)

EBNet BIVs are a BBSRC/EPSRC-funded initiative aimed at connecting industry and academic partners. Essentially, the voucher enables industry partners to 'buy' an academic's time and expertise to look at a clearly defined and specific industry problem for up to 6 months. Specific details available online from January.

Would you be interested in an Bioinformatics Crash Course?

EBNet is trying to gauge members' interest in sponsoring an opportunity to refresh skills and keep up to date with the latest in Bioinformatics. If this is something you think looks interesting could you take this short survey? Tell us what you want [here](#). We respond well to encouragement.

CALLING ALL ECR's - Join our Scientific Committee for the EBNet ECR Conference, 25-26 Jun 2020

We still require a few more Early Career Researchers to join the Scientific Committee for our Annual ECR Conference, tentatively planned for 25-26 Jan in the Midlands. If you would like experience in assessing abstracts for the conference and helping to judge presentations on the day, then please do [contact us](#) - it's a great learning experience.

Have you got a minute? An ERANETMED project, WABA, is looking for expert input. Lend your thoughts to a [survey](#) on "Wastewater bioremediation using Algae-Bacteria consortia for rural areas" [here](#).

(Get in touch if you would like to host an event. We are always looking to support enthusiastic members to disseminate and explore topics of wider interest.)

Spotlight on...



This month we are looking at **AquaEnviro** - a consultancy who run specialist technical training courses and conferences for the water, wastewater, biosolids and organic waste industries.

EBNet were proud to sponsor the "**Student and Young Professionals' Poster Award**" at this year's AquaEnviro **European Biosolids & Organic Resources Conference & Exhibition**, 19-20 November 2019, Manchester. On hand to offer the top prize of £250 was Angie Bywater with **Hamed Ghazisaidi, University of Toronto** for his winning poster on "Exploring the possibility of using hemoglobin as bioflocculant in dewatering of biosludge". More information on our Facebook page [here](#).



Forthcoming Events

Find selected upcoming events below or look further ahead with our online Google calendar.

What have we missed? Whether local or international, niche, general interest or 3rd party - provided the topic is EB, we can share with the wider membership.

[Profiting by Innovation - Innovate UK in the East Midlands](#)

8 January 2020, Nottingham

[CCnet – Carbon reCycling Conference](#)

10-12 February 2020, East Midlands Conference Centre and Orchard Hotel, University of Nottingham

Deadline for Abstracts and Registration is 6 January 2020

[CIWEM: Water resources planning: crisis or opportunity?](#)

26 February 2020, London

[Early Career Women in Water \(ECWW20\) Conference](#)

17 March 2020, Cranfield University

Keynote speakers: Professor Elise Cartmell, Chief Scientist at Scottish Water and Lila Thompson, Chief Executive, British Water.

For more, go to: [Events Roundup](#)

Funding

Funding opportunities for academia and industry are highlighted below.

Want a partner? Contact us with your details and we can connect you with members with similar interests or put a request out through the network



[KTN: GCRF AgriFood Africa Innovation Awards Competition](#)

Deadline: 6 January 2020

Up to £800k will be available to support a maximum of 20 awards

[POST's Parliamentary Academic Fellowship Scheme - Directed Call](#)

Deadline: 19 January 2020

[NERC: Announcement of Opportunity: Reducing the Impacts of Plastic Waste in Developing Countries](#)

Deadlines: intent to submit - 20 January 2020; full proposals: 17 March 2020

Highlight topics include "Biodegradable plastics as emerging environmental pollutants" and "Achieving net environmental gain and resilient ecosystems in the UK"

[Horizon 2020: EIC Horizon Prize for 'Fuel from the Sun: Artificial Photosynthesis' \(€5m\)](#)

Deadline: 3 February 2021

[INNOVATE UK: ISCF transforming foundation industries: fast start projects](#)

Deadline: 5 February 2020

[INNOVATE UK: ISCF TFP science and technology into practice: feasibility studies](#)

Deadline: 26 February 2020

For more, go to: [Funding Roundup](#).



PhD Studentships & Publications

Did you know we have funds available to help members access placements in industry or academia. Could you host one to share what you know? Contact us now.

[PhDs](#)

Understanding the behaviour, fate and environmental risk of microplastics in the plant-soil system

Rothamsted Research. Deadline: 17 January 2020

Engineering novel stress-resilient microalgae strains as improved platform strains for industrial biotechnology

University of Manchester. Deadline : 31 January 2020

Development of whole cell biocatalysts for biomass and plastic degradation

University of Manchester. Deadline: 31 January 2020

A more sustainable wastewater treatment technology: aerobic granular sludge

University of Southampton. Deadline: 31 August 2020

[ARIES DTP: Various](#)

Deadline: 8 January 2020

[Publication Round-up](#)

For insight into the focus of oil and gas industry see the series of lectures at [ICAM](#). Who knew they worked on AD? See "Biosciences for Oil and Gas" by Dr Kirsty Salmon for more.

Find information on recently funded UKRI projects in your topic quickly and easily with [GtR](#) to discover what your colleagues across the UK are up to. For example:

- Rational design of microbial community mixtures for biogas production
- Microbial hitch-hikers of marine plastics: the survival, persistence & ecology of microbial communities in the 'Plastisphere'
- Synthetic landfill microbiomes for enhanced anaerobic digestion to biogas
- Towards a general theory of ecological impacts of multiple, simultaneous stressors
- Imaging microorganisms and pollutants at the microscale

Still here?

An odd stocking filler idea for those of you ambivalent about Xmas. Will this delight or horrify... Available from Santa (& all good retailers) - [GIANTmicrobes](#). Would someone in your life value the "BioHazard box" of soft, cuddly toys or Xmas tree decorations?

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