



1st international foresight workshop on

Marine Holobionts - concepts and challenges

Roscoff Biological Station (France) - March 27th and 28th, 2018

Background and aim: The idea of considering organisms in connection with the complex microbial communities they are associated with, *i.e.* as holobionts, is a rapidly emerging concept in all fields of life science. Many marine labs have started to incorporate this notion into their research. However, there are few examples of research groups that bridge the gap between (1) the functional interdependencies of a host and its symbionts, (2) the impact these interdependencies have on the functioning of an ecosystem, and (3) the role of evolution and ecosystem in shaping these interdependencies. This workshop aims at bringing together a small group of experts and motivated early stage researchers working on different holobiont systems (micro, macro, plant, animal, viruses), at different scales (molecular to ecosystem), using different approaches (e.g. modeling, chemistry, microfluidics to genomics) to discuss key questions, opportunities and challenges in further integrating the holobiont concept into marine sciences.

Program: The workshop will consist of three sessions each with three invited talks followed by group discussions.

Session 1: The holobiont concept and implications on research

Invited speakers: [Derek Skillings](#), [Marc-André Sélosse](#), [Monica Medina](#)

Session 2: Current approaches to study holobionts

Invited speakers: [Shinichi Sunagawa](#), [Tilmann Harder](#), [Claire Gachon](#)

Session 3: Challenges and opportunities for future research on marine holobionts

Invited speakers: [Thomas Bosch](#), [Damien Eveillard](#), [Roman Stocker](#)

The afternoon of the second day will be dedicated to small group meetings to work specifically on the preparation of a position paper encompassing the results of the workshop.

Venue: Roscoff is a small town on the northern coast of Brittany about 60 km north-east of Brest and offer exceptional variety of biotopes: <https://goo.gl/axqJA3>

Participation: The workshop accommodation and board will be free of charge for participants; a limited number travel grants will attributed on a need-base. The total number of participants in the workshop is limited to 30. If you wish to participate, please fill in the following application form before January 15th, 2018: <https://goo.gl/NQwjJu>.

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Séminaires internationaux de recherche



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