

**Program of the Second GCC Marine Biotechnology Conference:
Emerging opportunities and future perspectives**

DAY1: 31th October	
8:00-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:05	Welcome Speech / H.E. Dr. Hamed Al-Oufi
9:05-10:00	Holy Quran and Plenary Speaker "Commercialisation of marine science discoveries: The success and the challenges" Burgess G., Newcastle University, UK
10:00-10:50	Poster Session Official Opening Coffee break
	Rapporteur: Prof. Grant Burgess Chair: Dr. Roger Huerlimann
10:50-11:10	Theme: General biotechnology Presentation 1: Improving the management of open innovation in Oman: Evidence from marine biotechnology firms. Al-Belushi K., Newcastle University, UK
11:10-11:30	Presentation 2: Status of marine biotechnology, South India. Godhantaraman N., University of Madras, India
11:30-11:50	Presentation 3: Quantitative measurement of industrial innovation in marine biotechnology. Al-Fundhaili A., Newcastle University, UK
11:50-12:20	Theme: Genetics and biodiversity Keynote Speaker "Environmental DNA - spyglass into aquatic biological diversity" Huerlimann R., James Cook, University, Australia
12:20-12:40	Presentation 1: Heat shock protein gene HSP70 as an indicator for determining thermal stress response in <i>Stylophora pistillata</i> from Gulf of Suez, Red Sea. Donia A., Benha University, Egypt
12:40-13:40	Group photo & Lunch Break
	Rapporteur: Dr. Michel Claereboudt Chair: Dr. Madjid Delghandi
13:40-14:00	Presentation 2: Genomic- wide SNPs reveal the genetic structure of the tropical spiny lobster <i>Panulirus homarus</i> from Oman. Al-Breiki R., SQU, Oman
14:00-14:20	Presentation 3: Use of NGS technologies for species delimitation and phylogenetic reconstructions of enigmatic gorgonian species collected in the National Park of Coiba (eastern Pacific). Polisenio A., Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich, Germany
14:20-14:40	Presentation 4: Illegally fished old precious corals: First taxonomic survey of the shallow water black corals from the southwest of Madagascar and insights on their age. Terrana L., University of Mons, Belgium

14:40-15:00	Presentation 5: Arabian corals in a warming Gulf. Bouwmeester J., Qatar University, Qatar
15:00-15:20	Presentation 6: Coral microbial community composition and enrichment analysis. Sessa J., Masdar Institute of Science and Technology, UAE
15:20-15:40	Presentation 7: Marine centric diatom composition after oil spill. Tabassum A., University of Karachi, Pakistan
15:40-16:00	Presentation 8: Dust storms and phytoplankton growth over Arabian Sea. Zaigham N., GeoEnviTechServices, Pakistan
16:00-16:30	Coffee Break/Poster Session
	Rapporteur: Prof. Claire Hellio Chair: Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Marzouqi
16:30-16:50	Presentation 9: Biodiversity of molluscan fauna in Gombr Area. Chellaiyan S., Alagappa University, India
16:50-17:10	Presentation 10: Remote sensing applications in marine ecosystem. Shah M., Space Applications Center-ISRO, India
17:10-17:30	Theme: Marine natural products Presentation 1: Phlorotannins and their medicinal, cosmeceutical applications. Thomas N., Higher College of Technology, Oman
17:30-17:50	Presentation 2: Uses of polysaccharides from algae as nutraceuticals for human health. Abdala R., University of Malaga, Spain
17:50-18:10	Presentation 3: Fucoxanthin content and chemical composition in brown seaweed, <i>Nizmuddinia zanardinii</i> (<i>Phaeophyta</i>) collected from Mirbat, Southern Oman. Chesalin M., Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia
18:10-18:30	Presentation 4: The role of bacterial metabolism in marine transparent exopolymeric particles. Al-Wahaibi A., Newcastle University, UK
18:30-18:50	Presentation 5: Chemical defenses in sea cucumbers: Saponins vs. plasma membranes. Claereboudt E., University of Liège, Belgium
20:00-22:00	Conference Dinner

DAY 2: 1st November

	Rapporteur: Sergey Dobretsov Chair: Dr. Hussein Al-Masroori
8:00-8:30	Theme: Marine biofouling and its prevention Keynote Speaker "From chemical ecology to marine biotechnology: case studies, the development of new antifouling strategies" Hellio C., Brest University, France
8:30-8:50	Presentation 1: Diatom community structure on green turtles. De Stefano M., University of Campania, Italy
8:50-9:10	Presentation 2: Temporal and spatial distribution of biofouling communities along the North Coast of the Persian Gulf: A

	climate change perspective. Nasrolahi A., Shahid Beheshti University, Iran
9:10-9:30	Presentation 3: Chitosan-ZnO nanocomposites for active food packaging and biofouling prevention. Al-Naamani L., SQU, Oman
9:30-9:50	Presentation 4: Biofouling in MD and RO membranes. Laqbaqbi M., MEDRC Water Research, Oman
9:50-10:10	Presentation 5: Bio-inspired nanorod photocatalytic antifouling coatings. Dobretsov S., SQU, Oman
10:10-10:40	Coffee Break/Poster Session
	Rapporteur: Dr. Stephen Goddard Chair: Prof. Claire Hellio
10:40-11:00	Presentation 6: The effect of silver nanoparticles against marine microalgae <i>Picochlorum</i> sp. Al-Thawadi S., University of Bahrain, Bahrain
11:00-11:20	Presentation 7: Chemical defence strategies of Red Sea macroalgae and soft corals; Do they influence the antifouling bioassay results? Sathianeson S., King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia
11:20-11:50	Theme: Aquaculture and fisheries Keynote Speaker "Integrated aquaculture in arid environment" Goddard S., WaterFarmers, Aquaponics, Belgium
11:50-12:10	Presentation 1: Development of land-based Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) system. Gallardo W., SQU, Oman
12:10-12:30	Presentation 2: Innovation and technology for intensive and sustainable aquaculture in land-scarce Singapore. Wee L.C., Temasek, Polytechnic, Singapore
12:30-13:30	Lunch
	Rapporteur: Dr. Wenresti Gallardo Chair: Dr. Roberto Abdala
13:30-13:50	Presentation 3: Biotechnological potential of <i>Nannochloropsis</i> . Al-Hoqani U., University College London, UK
13:50-14:10	Presentation 4: Assessing population structure of fisheries species around the Arabian Peninsula. Wilson S., KAUST, KSA
14:10-14:30	Presentation 5: Genotypic variation in the white spot syndrome virus isolated from different geographical locations in Sri Lanka. Fouzi M.N., University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
14:30-14:50	Presentation 6: Genetic and age-based analyses for fisheries management. Priest M., University of Queensland, Australia
14:50-15:20	Coffee Break/Poster Session
15:20-15:40	Presentation 7: Isotopic insight into herbivorous fishes' functional redundancy. Tietbohl M., KAUST, KSA
16:40-16:00	Presentation 8: Fish biotelemetry for improved fisheries management. Marshall A., SQU, Oman
16:00-16:20	Presentation 9: Parasite fauna of marine fish in Oman. Al-Manthary N., Al Khaboura Fishermen Training Institute, Oman

16:20-16:40	Presentation 10: Development of an optical immunoassay (OIA) for on-site rapid detection of Iridovirus. Padmanabhan S., Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore
16:40-17:00	Conclusive remarks and awards
18:00 – 21:00	City tour