

TRAVEL GRANT REPORT

Bacterial Morphogenesis, Survival and Virulence Conference			
<i>Cape Town, South Africa, 24-28th November 2019</i>			
<i>Molecular Microbiology</i>			
<i>Author of report</i>	Simon-Ulysse VALLET	<i>Affiliation of author</i>	Centre Medical Universitaire, Université de Genève

Thanks to the financial support of the SSM, I had the opportunity to participate at the second Bacterial Morphogenesis, Survival and Virulence conference, which took place in Cape Town, South Africa from the 24th to the 28th of November 2019.

During the conference I had the chance to listen brilliant talks from big names as *Tom Bernhardt* and *Tracy Palmer* working in the fields of cell wall and toxins, respectively. I was also very interested by the talks from PhD students like *Alessandra Vitale* who works on Gram-negative bacteria and peptidomimetic antibiotic resistance. She used a transposon-sequencing to identify resistant determinants to her compounds and many of which encode enzymes involved in the modification of the lipopolysaccharide.

I had the great pleasure to present my PhD project during the second poster session of the week. Talking about *Caulobacter crescentus* as a model to decipher antimicrobial resistance was challenging and rewarding. After findings targets involved in vancomycin resistance using a saturated transposon mutagenesis strategy (Tn-Seq), my second move was to create proper deletion of those genes and this work not always went the easy way. By dint of discussion on my poster, many solutions come to me: special thanks to Dr. Regis Hallez from the University of Namur for the missing strains and thanks again to *Alessandra Vitale* for this new antibiotic labeling method that will help me to answer many questions on my research project.

I would like to thank the Swiss Society for Microbiology for the financial support for making my first international conference a truly success.



The conference room located in the Monkey Valley Resort. A wonderful place for a wonderful conference.