

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. THEODORA NIKOLAKOPOULOU

Date of birth: June 20, 1973
Place of birth: Athens, Greece
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CURRENT PROFESSIONAL STATUS

As of December 2001: Scientific Associate at the Department of Botany, Faculty of Biology, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece).

MAJOR RESEARCH INTERESTS

Marine microbial diversity, antibiotic resistance on marine bacterial populations, mobility and transfer of antibiotic resistance genes in seawater samples, study of microbial diversity in environmental samples.

Study of the guard cell wall differentiation and stomatal pore formation in plants.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

English (Certificate of Proficiency in English, Cambridge), French (DELF2).

EDUCATION

1992-1996: Undergraduate studies in the Faculty of Biology, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens. My graduation Thesis was supervised by the Assoc. Prof. Karakouni A.

1998-2004: Preparation of PhD Thesis (Faculty of Biology, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece). During my PhD I studied the occurrence and transfer of tetracycline resistance genes in bacterial populations of different marine ecosystems. The presence of these genes was investigated in bacterial isolates, exogenously isolated plasmids and total community DNA of seawater samples. This work was the first attempt to record the reservoir, variety and transfer ability of tetracycline resistance genes in Greek marine environments. My PhD was supervised by Prof. Karagouni A.

Doctorate Thesis titled: “Distribution of tetracycline resistance genes in bacteria of marine ecosystems”.

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

1998-2001: EU-Biotechnology project RESERVOIR (BIO4 CT98 0053) titled: “Antibiotic resistance genes in the environment. A comprehensive, multi-phasic survey of prevalence and transfer.”

1999-2002: EU-Biotechnology project MECBAD (PL 970099) titled “Mobile elements, contribution to bacterial adaptability and diversity”.

2002-2003: EU-ACTAPHARM (QLK3-CT 2001-01783D6, AC ACTAPHARM) titled: “Innovative approaches to the discovery of novel bioactive compounds from natural actinomycete communities”.

2002-2005: “Study of microbial populations on the monuments of Acropolis – Acropolis Restoration Service”. Committee for the Conservation of Acropolis Monuments, Greek Ministry of Culture.

2006-present: “Guard cell wall differentiation and stomatal pore formation in plants”.

2010 : Global Ocean Sampling Expedition -C. Venter’s Institute.

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES

1. 5th Symposium on Bacterial Genetics and Ecology (BAGECO-5), Nafplion, Greece, 1996
2. International Symposium The Olive’s “Wastes”, Kalamata, Greece, 1997
3. 1st meeting on Antibiotic Resistance Genes in the Environment: a comprehensive, multi-phasic survey of prevalence and transfer (RESERVOIR, BIO4 CT98 0053), Warwick, UK,

1998

4. 2nd meeting on Antibiotic Resistance Genes in the Environment: a comprehensive, multi-phasic survey of prevalence and transfer (RESERVOIR, BIO4 CT98 0053), Strasbourg, France, 1999
5. 1st symposium of the EU-concerted action on “Mobile elements’ contribution to bacterial adaptability and diversity” (MECBAD), Le Mont Ste. Odile, France, 1999
6. 11th International Symposium on the Biology of Actinomycetes (ISBA-11), Heraklion, Greece, 1999
7. 3rd meeting on Antibiotic Resistance Genes in the Environment: a comprehensive, multi-phasic survey of prevalence and transfer (RESERVOIR, BIO4 CT98 0053), Paris, France, 1999
8. Antibiotic resistance in bacteria of animal origin: monitoring strategies, recommendations and ways of research, Paris, France, 1999
9. 2nd symposium of the EU-concerted action on “Mobile elements contribution to bacterial adaptability and diversity” MECBAD Symposium, Praha, Czech Republic, 2000
10. 4th meeting on Antibiotic Resistance Genes in the Environment: a comprehensive, multi-phasic survey of prevalence and transfer (RESERVOIR, BIO4 CT98 0053), Brussels, Belgium, 2001
11. 1st meeting of Actapharm (code No: 70/3/6132) at Lagonissi, Greece, 2001
12. 9th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology (ISME-9) Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 2001
13. 2nd Balkan Conference of Microbiology, Thessaloniki, Greece, 2001
14. 3rd Symposium on “Mobile genetic elements”, contribution to bacterial adaptability and diversity (MECBAD) Berlin, Germany, 2001
15. 11th International Symposium on Chemistry & Biology of Marine Organisms (ISBA-11), Kolympari, Crete, Greece, 2003

PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHOPS

1. 2nd MECBAD Workshop on “Detection of Mobile Genetic Elements in Total Community DNA” , Federal Biological Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry, Braunschweig, Germany
2. 3rd MECBAD Workshop on “In Situ Monitoring of Plasmid Transfer”, Copenhagen, Denmark.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

During my postgraduate studies and I contributed to the teaching activities of the Faculty of Biology, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens as follows:

1998-2002: Lab assistant in Microbiology.

1999-2002: Lab assistant in Selected Topics in Molecular and Applied Microbiology.

2000-present: Lab assistant in Introductory Botany (Faculty of Biology and School of Pharmacy).

2007-present: Lab assistant in Plant Anatomy.

Additionally, I contributed to the undergraduate program of the Faculty of Biology, NKUA by supervising undergraduate students through their graduation thesis in Microbiology.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Smalla K, Krogerrecklenfort E, Heuer H, Dejonghe W, Top E, Osborn M, Niewint J, Tebbe C, Barr M, Bailey M, Greated A, Thomas C, Turner S, Young P, Nikolakopoulou D, Karagouni AD, Wolters A, van Elsas JD, Dronen K, Sandaa R, Borin S, Brabhu J, Grohmann E and Sobecky P (2000) PCR-based detection of mobile genetic elements in total community DNA. *Microbiology*, 146(6), 1256-1257.
2. Heuer H, Krogerrecklenfort E, Egan S, van Overbeek L, Guillaume G, Nikolakopoulou TL, Wellington EMH, van Elsas JD, Collard J-M, Karagouni AD and Smalla K (2002) Gentamicin resistance genes in environmental bacteria: prevalence and transfer. *FEMS Microbiol Ecol* 42, 289-302.
3. van Overbeek LS, Wellington EMH, Egan S, Smalla K, Heuer H, Collard J-M, Guillaume G, Karagouni AD, Nikolakopoulou TL, van Elsas JD (2002) Prevalence of streptomycin-resistance genes in bacterial populations in European habitats *FEMS Microbiol Ecol* 42:277-288.
4. Nikolakopoulou TL, Egan S, van Overbeek LS, Guillaume G, Heuer H, Wellington EMH, van Elsas JD, Collard JM, Smalla K and Karagouni AD (2004) PCR detection of oxytetracycline resistance genes *otr(A)* and *otr(B)* in tetracycline resistant streptomycete isolates from diverse habitats. *Current Microbiology*. 51(4): 211-6.
5. Nikolakopoulou TL, Giannoutsou EP, Karabatsou AA and Karagouni AD (2008). Prevalence of tetracycline resistance genes in Greek seawater habitats. *J Microbiol* 46(6): 633-640.

6. Apostolakos P, Livanos P, Nikolakopoulou TL, Galatis B (2009). The role of callose in guard cell wall differentiation and stomatal pore formation in the fern *Asplenium nidus*. *Annals of Botany* 104: 1373-1387
7. Apostolakos P, Livanos P, Nikolakopoulou TL, Galatis B (2010). The role of callose in stomatal opening and closure in the fern *Asplenium nidus*. *New Phytologist* 186: 623-635.

POSTER AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES

1. Nikolakopoulou T., Arvanitis N., Koraki T. and Karagouni A.D. (1999) Detection of oxytetracycline resistance *otrA* & *otrB* genes in marine environments. 11th International Symposium on the Biology of Actinomycetes (ISBA), Heraklion, Greece.
2. Nikolakopoulou T., Arvanitis N. and Karagouni A.D. (2000) PCR-based detection of oxytetracycline resistance genes *otrA* & *otrB* in environmental samples. 2nd Symposium on 'Mobile genetic elements', contribution to bacterial adaptability and diversity (MECBAD), Praha, Czech Republic.
3. Nikolakopoulou T. and Karagouni A.D. (2000) Detection of oxytetracycline resistance genes in marine environments. 3rd Workshop on In Situ Monitoring of Plasmid Transfer, Copenhagen, Denmark.
4. Nikolakopoulou T., Giannoutsou E., Smalla, K. and Karagouni A.D. (2001) "Monitoring of tetracycline resistance in marine bacteria". 2nd Balkan Conference of Microbiology, Thessaloniki, Greece.
5. Nikolakopoulou T., Giannoutsou E., Smalla K. and Karagouni A.D. (2001) Exogenous isolation of tetracycline resistance plasmids from environmental samples. 9th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology (ISME), Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
6. Nikolakopoulou T., Katsifas E.A. and Karagouni A.D. (2001) Detection of oxytetracycline resistance genes in actinomycete isolates from different environmental sites. 12th International Symposium on the Biology of Actinomycetes, (ISBA), Vancouver, Canada.
7. Nikolakopoulou T. and Karagouni A.D. (2001) Oxytetracycline resistance in actinomycete isolates from different environments. 3rd Symposium on 'Mobile genetic elements', contribution to bacterial adaptability and diversity (MECBAD) Berlin, Germany.
8. Nikolakopoulou T. and Karagouni A.D. (2003) Tetracycline resistance in marine ecosystems. International Symposium on Chemistry & Biology of Marine Organisms, Kolympari, Crete, Crece.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Experience in field work since I have been participating in sample collecting expeditions of the Hellenic Center for Marine Research and C. Venter's Institute in Global Ocean Sampling Expedition.
- Commissioned overseer during the sampling expedition of Sorcerer II in Greek waters (C. Venter's Institute, www.jcvi.org/cms/research/projects/gos)
- Member of the Hellenic Botanic Society.
- Member of the Hellenic Initiative Microbiokosmos.