



2 July 2006

## **BACTERIA LIVING TOGETHER**

**75<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference of Society for Applied Microbiology  
Apex International Hotel, Edinburgh, UK, 3-6 July 2006**

Over 180 international scientists will gather in Edinburgh for the 75<sup>th</sup> annual summer conference of the Society for Applied Microbiology (SfAM), the oldest microbiology society in the UK.

The conference is about microbes Living Together. Bacteria often rely on interaction with other species to survive and reproduce - a polymicrobial community.

This important and topical meeting will have sessions on:

- Physiology and functionality of polymicrobial communities, for example, Dr Miguel Camara, considers “How the members of the community communicate” and Dr Lambert discusses the intriguing subject of “Living together while being eaten”.
- Another area where communities are critical is the gut microbial environment (microflora). Adults have about 1kg of bacteria in their guts and they are essential to our health. Scientific experts will discuss how these populations change as we age and are affected by the use of antibiotics. Other speakers will talk about probiotics and attempts to improve our health by modifying the gut microflora.
- The final area of the conference is Bioremediation – the use of polymicrobial communities to ‘clean up’ the environment from oil, phenolics and other organic contaminants.

There will be oral presentations made by eminent scientists and 36 posters will be displayed at the conference. Trade display?

### **Notes to Editors:**

1. A full conference programme can be found at [www.sfam.org.uk/sumconf.php](http://www.sfam.org.uk/sumconf.php).
2. Additional information about the conference or speakers is available from Lucy Harper, Communications Officer at the Society for Applied Microbiology [Office: +44(0)1234326661; Mobile +44(0)7920 264596; email: [lucy@sfam.org.uk](mailto:lucy@sfam.org.uk)].