

## Final Report

**Name of BritInn Fellow:** Thomas Scheuerl

**Home Department:** Research Institute for Limnology **Home University:** University of Innsbruck

**Guest Department:** Department of Zoology **Guest University:** University of Oxford

**From:** 19.09.2021 **Until:** 23.09.2021

**Title of the Research Project:** The effect of bacterial community productivity on adaptive evolution

**Report about visit and future plans** (max. 200 words, English):

I have an exciting ongoing project which explores how complex bacterial communities evolve. From this project we published the first part (<https://rdcu.be/czvsp>), but there are many more data on my hard-drive. Prof. Barraclough is the leading expert in microbial community evolution and I am happy to be able to discuss my findings with him. During my stay we analysed these data, discussed approaches and identified a list of 12 major tasks which I should clarify so we can move on in this highly complex topic. We are very confident that this will result in a nice paper, propelling the field forward.

The Department of Zoology is also home of several world-class researchers like Prof. Craig McLean (<https://www.zoo.ox.ac.uk/people/dr-craig-maclean#/>). I was able to chat with Prof. McLean and he had interesting comments on my works that will help me to move forward. I also had an interesting chat with Dr. Chris Wilson and with a PhD candidate I didn't know before, but who wanted to talk with me. MSc Min Liu is working on the modern coexistence theory and we identified a lot of overlap in our interests. He had found out about my other works on predator prey dynamics

(<https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.8065>,

<https://doi.org/10.1002/1438-390X.1017>) and we had a detailed discussion. I am hoping that this ends up in another collaboration. Unfortunately, my planned guest lecture was limited to Prof. Barracloughs team members and was very informal. The COVID restrictions didn't allow a wider audience and if so, I had only done it virtually, which was not purpose of my in person meetings.

Even COVID put notable constrains on my journey, I consider my visit in Oxford as a great success. Oxford is an exciting place to be, and I have enjoyed these days very much. Magdalen College

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(Modlen College pronounced) is a beautiful place to stay; and would of course be for studying. It was very exciting to visit it and learn more about the College system at this world leading University. I am extremely grateful that BritInn - Academic Network Britain-Innsbruck granted me this trip! It was a fantastic experience!



**Picture Credits:** Credit Thomas Scheuerl