



We invite the submission of abstracts to the topical session:

“Determining the structuring effects of the environment on microbial community composition: approaches and strategies”

We would like to bring together scientists who try to explain or predict diversity patterns from contextual parameters on various scales, especially with regard to aquatic microbes, but results from research on other taxa are also welcome. This session will offer a platform for presenting and discussing current methods and strategies that best improve our understanding of natural ecosystems, from exploration and explanation of diversity patterns, to predictive ecological modeling. A specific emphasis will be given to ecological modeling of multispecies distribution in their environmental context and will offer examples of ecological insights obtained from complex datasets. *The session is hosted by the International Census of Marine Microbes, a Census of Marine Life project.*

For more detail on the Session descriptions, please visit the congress website at: http://aslo.org/nice2009/topical_sessions.html

Abstract submission guidelines may be found at: <http://aslo.org/nice2009/submittal.html>

Please note that the deadline for abstract submission to the ASLO meeting held in Nice in January 2009 is on **October 3rd 2008** at midnight (23:59 GMT/ 18:59 US, CDT).

We look forward to welcoming you in Nice, France!

Linda Amaral-Zettler & Alban Ramette (organizers of the topical session)

Please distribute this announcement to others who may be interested.