

## Upcoming Events

- ❑ **The fourth Annual Training Course on Viral Genomics & Bioinformatics**  
20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> August 2018 in Glasgow University, UK.  
The 5-day course consists of a series of lectures and practical exercises that directly address bioinformatics challenges posed by the current surge of sequence data, with a focus on viral data sets and analyses. The course will enable participants to understand and deal with high-throughput sequence datasets and encourage the exchange of ideas among diagnosticians, virologists, bioinformaticians and evolutionary biologists.  
**Registration deadline:** 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018  
details at <https://www.gla.ac.uk/researchinstitutes/iii/cvr/events/oietraining>
  
- ❑ **Virus genome evolution symposium of the Society for Molecular Biology & Evolution (SMBE)**  
8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> July 2018 in Yokohama, Japan.  
Viruses exhibit a unique parasitic situation that shapes the evolution of their genomes. The use of genomic approaches has transformed the field of virology. This symposium will highlight recent advances on virus genome evolution and will bring together different approaches on prokaryotic and eukaryotic virus evolution; how these viruses originated, diversified, and spread, how they change and adapt, and how they co-evolve with their hosts.  
Organized by Anne Kupczok (evbc member), Marina Escalera Zamudio, Richard Goldstein  
**Abstract deadline:** 25<sup>th</sup> of January 2018.  
details at <http://smbe2018.jp>
  
- ❑ **The Second Annual Meeting of the European Virus Bioinformatics Center**  
9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in Utrecht, Netherlands.  
The conference will broadly focus on computational approaches in virology, and we welcome any contributions within this cross-disciplinary field. Sub-topics include (but are not limited to): virus discovery, diagnostics, (meta-)genomics, modelling, molecular structure, evolution, and viral ecology.  
**Registration** is free of charge, and works on a first-come, first-serve basis.  
**Please note that a registration is required,** details at <http://evbc.uni-jena.de/2nd-evbc-meeting>

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## News and Announcements

- ❑ **Vacancy:** A postdoctoral researcher to work on the evolutionary ecology of viruses in bees within Robert Paxton's lab at the University of Halle, Germany. The overarching goal of the research is to understand the role of viral epidemiology and evolutionary change for pathogen emergence and host switching. Further details contact ([robert.paxton@zoologie-uni-halle.de](mailto:robert.paxton@zoologie-uni-halle.de)), to whom applications should be sent by 15 February 2018.

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## Recent publications by EVBC members *(you may send us your recent publications to appear here)*

- Phage Genome Annotation Using the RAST Pipeline. **PMID: 29134599**
- Viral suppressors of RNAi employ a rapid screening mode to discriminate viral RNA from cellular small RNA. **PMID: 29361053**
- Attenuation of a very virulent Marek's disease herpesvirus (MDV) by codon pair bias deoptimization **PMID: 29377958**
- seq-seq-pan: building a computational pan-genome data structure on whole genome alignment. **PMID: 29334898**
- Sweep Dynamics (SD) plots: Computational identification of selective sweeps to monitor the adaptation of influenza A viruses. **PMID: 29321538**
- Temporal dynamics of uncultured viruses: a new dimension in viral diversity. **PMID: 29027998**