

# Small molecules in a microbial theatre

#### Einladung zur Antrittsvorlesung,

Fakultät für Chemie, Carl Auer von Welsbach Hörsaal, Boltzmanngasse 1, 1090 Wien

#### **Thomas Böttcher**

Professor für Mikrobielle Biochemie an der Fakultät für Chemie und am Zentrum für Mikrobiologie und Umweltsystemwissenschaft

> Dienstag, 6. Juni 2023, 16 Uhr

# **Thomas Böttcher**



(\*1982 in Munich, Germany) is Professor of Microbial Biochemistry at the Faculty of Chemistry, Institute of Biological Chemistry and the Centre for Microbiology and Environmental Systems Science (CeMESS) at the University of Vienna.

He studied chemistry and biochemistry at the Ludwig Maximilian University (LMU) of Munich. In 2009, he completed his Ph.D. at the LMU in the group of Prof.

Stephan Sieber supported by a fellowship of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation. After a short postdoctoral stint at the Technical University of Munich, he co-founded the startup company AVIRU GmbH for preclinical drugdevelopment. In 2011, he joined the laboratory of Prof. Jon Clardy at Harvard Medical School in Boston, USA for postdoctoral research on a Leopoldina Research Fellowship. In 2014, he started his independent research career at the University of Konstanz, where he led an Emmy Noether research group and was a research fellow of the Zukunftskolleg. Since October 2020, he is full professor of Microbial Biochemistry at the University of Vienna. His interdisciplinary research bridges the Faculty of Chemistry and the Centre for Microbiology and Environmental Systems Science. He received various awards including the Manfred-Fuchs-Prize 2019 of the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and an ERC Consolidator Grant in 2020.

#### **Research Areas:**

The research of Thomas Böttcher focuses on the chemistry of microbial interactions and chemical strategies for modulating microbial growth, virulence, and coordinated behaviours such as swarming motility or biofilm formation. He and his research group are interested in elucidating the chemical structure of metabolites that mediate and control microbe-microbe, microbe-host and microbe-phage interactions and exploit these compounds by synthetic chemistry as species-specific antibiotics and anti-infectives. Furthermore, they develop chemical probes to understand virulence-related functions of human pathogens and develop customized inhibitors of pathogenesis traits. Their goal is to improve the understanding of chemical interactions of microbes and to create chemical tools for precision interventions in complex microbiomes with the ultimate vision of chemical microbiome engineering.

"With our research we will expand the basic understanding of the chemical interactions in the human microbiome and create chemical strategies for the targeted control of microbial pathogens."

# Programm

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#### 16 Uhr Begrüßung und einleitende Worte

Bernhard Keppler (Dekan der Fakultät für Chemie)

Michael Wagner (stv. Leiter des Zentrums für Mikrobiologie und Umweltsystemwissenschaft/CeMESS)

#### Antrittsvorlesung

Thomas Böttcher

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Um Anmeldung bis 31.05.2023, 12:00 Uhr wird gebeten: ursula.novak-jarolim@univie.ac.at

### Universität Wien

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