Curriculum Vitae

**Britt Marie Hermes**

Doctoral Candidate, Science Communicator, Writer

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www.brittmariehermes.com

Twitter: @naturodiaries

Objective

I seek an academic project manager position in the field of microbiome research. I am passionate about science communication, translational research, and cutting-edge discoveries. I have extensive public speaking experience for academic and general audiences for broadcast media and conferences. I offer expertise in microbiome data analysis and visualization, graphic design, website building and administration and scientific writing.

Research Foci

Mammalian skin microbiome; interactions between commensal skin microbiota; host genetic variation and its influence on skin microbiota in the context of chronic inflammation

Current Status

Ph.D. Candidate (2017 – current)

Thesis: Characterization of Skin-Resident Microbiota in Inflammatory Cutaneous Disease

Supervisors: Prof. Dr. John Baines and Prof. Dr. Saleh Ibrahim

Affiliations:

Kiel University; University Clinic Schleswig-Holstein, Kiel

Institute for Experimental Medicine and Section Evolutionary Medicine

Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Biology

Department of Evolutionary Genomics

University of Lübeck; University Clinic Schleswig-Holstein, Lübeck

Lübeck Institute for Experimental Dermatology

**Education**

Master of Science, (2015) Medical Life Sciences, University of Kiel, Germany

Thesis: *Characterization of Parabacteroides in mammalian gut microbiomes in relation to host genetic variation*

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. John Baines

Naturopathic Medical Residency, (2011-2013), Seattle, Washington, USA; Naturopathic Education and Research Consortium Resident

Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine, (2011) Bastyr University, Seattle, Washington, USA

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology (2006) San Diego State University, California, USA (cum laude)

Scientific Publications

Articles

Belheouane, M.\*, **Hermes, B. M.\*,** Van Beek, N., Benoit, S., Bernard, P., Drenovska, K., Gerdes, S., Gläser, R., Goebeler, M., Günther, C., von Georg, A., Hammers, C. M., Holtsche, M. M., Homey, B., Horváth, O. N., Hübner, F., Linnemann, B., Joly, P., Márton, D., … Baines, J. F. (2022). Characterization of the skin microbiota in bullous pemphigoid patients and controls reveals novel microbial indicators of disease. ***Journal of Advanced*** ***Research***. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jare.2022.03.019

\*Authors contributed equally to this work

Rühlemann, M. C., **Hermes, B. M.,** Bang, C., Doms, S., Moitinho-Silva, L., Thingholm, L. B., Frost, F., Degenhardt, F., Wittig, M., Kässens, J., Weiss, F. U., Peters, A., Neuhaus, K., Völker, U., Völzke, H., Homuth, G., Weiss, S., Grallert, H., Laudes, M., … Franke, A. (2021). Genome-wide association study in 8,956 German individuals identifies influence of ABO histo-blood groups on gut microbiome. ***Nature Genetics***, 53(2), 147–155. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41588-020-00747-1

Rausch, P., Rühlemann, M., **Hermes, B. M.,** Doms, S., Dagan, T., Dierking, K., Domin, H., Fraune, S., von Frieling, J., Hentschel, U., Heinsen, F.-A., Höppner, M., Jahn, M. T., Jaspers, C., Kissoyan, K. A. B., Langfeldt, D., Rehman, A., Reusch, T. B. H., Roeder, T., … Baines, J. F. (2019). Comparative analysis of amplicon and metagenomic sequencing methods reveals key features in the evolution of animal metaorganisms. ***Microbiome***, 7(1), 133. https://doi.org/10.1186/s40168-019-0743-1

Book chapters

Doms, S., **Hermes, B. M.**, & Baines, J. F. (2018). Evolutionary Perspectives on the Human Gut Microbiome. In D. Haller (Ed.), *The Gut Microbiome in Health and Disease* (pp. 67–78). Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-90545-7\_5

Manuscripts Submitted

**Hermes, B. M.**, Rademacher, F., Chung, C. J., Tiegs, G., Bendix, M. C., de Zwaan, M., Harder, J., Baines, J. F. Skin microbiota composition and correlation to antimicrobial peptides in patients with anorexia nervosa and healthy-weight controls. ***Scientific Reports.*** Submitted (under review).

Manuscripts In-Preparation

**Hermes, B. M.**, Hirose, M., Tietje, A. M., Andreani, N. A., Belheouane, M., Ibrahim, S., Baines, J. F. Characterization of skin microbiota in a murine Nell2 knockout model. Manuscript in preparation.

Chung C.J., **Hermes B. M.**, Belheouane M., Baines J. F. Novel microbial phenotyping by ddPCR for use in high-resolution QTL mapping reveals gene-microbe interactions in the mouse lung microbiota. Manuscript in preparation.

Conferences and Symposia

**Posters**

**Hermes, B. M.,** Belheouane, M., Van Beek, N., Benoit, S., Bernard, P., Drenovska, K., Gerdes, S., Gläser, R., Goebeler, M., Günther, C., von Georg, A., Hammers, C. M., Holtsche, M. M., Homey, B., Horváth, O. N., Hübner, F., Linnemann, B., Joly, P., Márton, D., … Baines, J. F. (2021). Novel microbial indicators of disease in bullous pemphigoid. Poster presented at: RTG 1743 Science Day Virtual Symposium. Kiel, Germany.

**Hermes B. M.**, Belheouane M., Hirose M., Ibrahim S., Baines J. F. (2020). Characterization of host gene-

microbe interactions in the skin microbiota. Poster presented at: International Symposium Precision Medicine in Chronic Inflammation. Cluster of Excellence “Inflammation at Interfaces.” Hamburg, Germany.

Organization and Management

2020 Environment, Nutrition, and Microbiome Symposium for RTG 1743. Kiel, Germany. Online. Moderated expert panel discussion on translational microbiome research.

2018 International RTG Symposium – Organization of “Science Day” speakers and topics. Kiel, Germany.

2017 RTG 1743 Retreat Conference Organization. Bad Segeberg, Germany. Managerial tasks included: organizing speaker schedule for doctoral candidates and expert advisory members of the research training group, curating speaking topics for advisory board members, scheduling break-out groups for doctoral student feedback sessions, arranging travel accommodations including hotel stays, international flights, and expense reimbursement, food and drink schedule and offerings within the allocated budget

Science Communication

Book Chapters

**Hermes, B. M**. (2019). Does naturopathic medicine help treat bipolar disorder? In S. Hupp (1st ed.),

*Pseudoscience in child and adolescent psychotherapy.* (pp. 115-116). Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, U.K.

**Hermes, B. M.** (2018). An Inside Look at Naturopathic Medicine: A Whistleblower’s Deconstruction of Its Core Principles. In A. B. Kaufman & J. C. Kaufman (Eds.), *Pseudoscience* (1st ed., pp. 137–159). The MIT Press. https://doi.org/10.7551/mitpress/9780262037426.003.0006

**Hermes, B. M.** (2020). Beware the Naturopathic Cancer Quack | Skeptical Inquirer. *Skeptical Inquirer*, 44(2). https://skepticalinquirer.org/2020/03/beware-the-naturopathic-cancer-quack/

Selected Popular Talks

2020 *Invited talk:* “Fake doctor. Real Harm. Confessions of a former naturopathic ‘doctor.’”

The Trottier Public Science Symposium, McGill University, Canada. Online.

2019 *Invited talk:* “Where’s the evidence?” Evidence-Based Medicine Symposium, University of Lübeck, Germany

2019 *Invited talk:*”But first, do no harm.” CSI Conference, Center for Inquiry, Las Vegas, USA

2017 *Invited talk*: The bloody work of “naturopathic doctors.”CSI Conference, Center for Inquiry, Las Vegas, USA

2017 *Invited talk*: “Naturopathic Diaries: Confessions of a former naturopath.” Skepticon, Sydney Australia

2017 *Invited talk*: “The naturopaths are coming.” Northeast Conference on Science and Skepticism, Society for Science-Based Medicine, New York, USA

2016 *Invited talk*: “The right detox.” QED: Question, Explore, Discover, Northwest Skeptical Events Ltd, Manchester, U.K.

Blogs and Online Publications

*NaturopathicDiaries.com*, Founder and Editor-in-Chief; established 2015

*Forbes.com*, Contributor

*ScienceBasedMedicine.com*, Guest contributor

*KevinMD.com*, Guest contributor

*Science2.0.com,* Guest contributor

**“**Naturopathic cancer care: Does it work? Is it safe?” (2016). *QualityCancerTreatment.com*

Awards and Honors

2018 John Maddox Prize, *Nature* and *Sense about Science*

2017 Humans of the Year, *Vice.com*

2016 Ockham Award for Best Blog, *Skeptic* *Magazine*

2002-6 Golden Key National Honor Society

2002-6 Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society

**Skills**

**Website Design and Management**

Proficient in HTML, basic website design and management. Examples include:

www.brittmariehermes.com

www.naturopathicdiaries.com

www.web.evolbio.mpg.de/evolgenomics

**Software**

Standard office productivity: Microsoft Office, Excel, Powerpoint; Adobe Acrobat

Data Analysis and Visualization: R and tidyverse, including packages for microbiome analysis: ade4, ape, vegan, phyloseq, lme4, and more; and for professional visualization: ggplot2, gghalves, cowplot, and more

Graphic Design: Adobe Illustrator, BioRender

Cloud-based platforms, including Zoom, WordPress, GitHub

**Social Media**

Proficient in popular social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, TikTok, YouTube

Volunteer work

2016 Sense About Science; USA AllTrials Campaign

“Reporting results from clinical trials is vital for science-based medicine”

Published online at *ScienceBasedMedicine.org*

2010 American Cancer Society, Seattle, Washington, USA Driver Coordinator for Road to Recovery Program

2010 Natural Doctors International, Nicaragua

Student Physician

2009Village Volunteers, Ghana

Student Physician

2006-7 San Diego Children’s Hospital, San Diego, California, USA

Emergency Department Volunteer

2006-7 Student Director; Sexual Education Teaching Program, San Diego, California, USA

Outreach program for at-risk youth