

ELENI LIKOTRAFITI

Lecturer, Food Microbiology, Department of Food Technology, School of Food Technology and Nutrition, Alexandrian Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, likotraf@food.teithe.gr

EDUCATION

2001-2004 Ph.D. 'Development of synbiotics with antimicrobial activity as functional food ingredients for the elderly', School of Food Biosciences, University of Reading, UK.

1995-1999 B.Sc. Food Technology, School of Food Technology & Nutrition, Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, Greece.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

February 2008 – present. Alexandrian Educational Institute of Thessaloniki (ATEI), Greece.

Lecturer. Teaching General Microbiology and Food Microbiology to undergraduates and postgraduates. Undertaking research work for food industry clients. Applications pending for larger research projects funded by the Greek Government.

September 2006 – October 2007. Institute of Agrobiotechnology, National Centre for Research and Technology (EKETA), Thessaloniki.

Postdoctoral Scientist. Carried out research into the acetylation of histones of barley using modern molecular techniques. Isolated phytochemicals from foods that act as inhibitors of deacetylation allowing DNA transcription. Software used for sequencing analysis included BioEdit, MEGA, OligoAnalyze.

October 2004 – December 2005 (Fixed-Term Contract). Department of Retrovirology, National Institute of Biological Standards and Control, UK.

Postdoctoral Scientist. Conducted research into genetic sequence changes of Simian Human Immunodeficiency Viruses when inoculated in animal models. Techniques used include polymerase chain reaction (PCR), sequencing of the envelope gene, cloning, Southern blotting and *in situ* hybridization using radioactive probes. Software used for sequencing analysis includes GCG, Chromas, MEGA and Staden.

July 2001 – July 2004 (Fixed-Term Contract). School of Food Biosciences, University of Reading, UK.

Research Scientist. Conducted research into the inhibitory activities of probiotic lactobacilli and bifidobacteria against pathogenic strains of *Escherichia coli*. Techniques used include 16S rRNA gene sequencing, pulsed-field gel electrophoresis, fluorescent *in situ* hybridisation, gas chromatography, high-performance liquid chromatography, fermentations, batch and chemostat culture (gut models). Presented data at

international meetings and prepared papers for publication. Lectured to health professionals on external M.Sc. course; supervised practical classes on internal M.Sc. Introductory Microbiology and M.Sc. Genetic Engineering courses.

July 1999 – June 2001. Leatherhead Food International, UK.

March 2000 – June 2001. Research Scientist, Microbiology Section, Consulting and Research Group. Responsible for research projects for industry and other customers, including antibiotic resistance studies, rapid method assessments, the survival of *Salmonella* in chocolate, probiotic stability in yoghurt and shelf-life determinations. Prepared reports and presentations for external clients.

September 1999 – March 2000. Assistant Microbiologist, TDL Microbiology. Performed a range of microbiological analyses on a variety of food products in a busy, UKAS accredited laboratory. Promoted to Research Scientist.

July 1999 – August 1999. Technical Assistant, Food Process Engineering. Undertook advanced maintenance procedures for UHT plant using neural networks, received training in retorting and homogenising techniques. Transferred to TDL Microbiology due to internal restructuring.

1995 – 1998, occasional. Union of European Parachutists.

Provided spoken and written translation service (French, Italian, Greek, and English) and organisational assistance at international conferences.

PUBLICATIONS

Papaefthimiou Dimitra, Likotrafiti Eleni, Kapazoglou Alik, Bladenopoulos Konstantinos, Tsaftaris Athanasios (2010). Epigenetic chromatin modifiers in barley: III. Isolation and characterization of the barley GNAT-MYST family of histone acetyltransferases and responses to exogenous ABA. *Plant physiology and biochemistry* **48**(2-3), 98-107.

Likotrafiti E, Manderson KS, Fava F, Tuohy KM, Gibson GR & Rastall RA (2004) . Molecular identification and antipathogenic activities of putative probiotic bacteria isolated from faeces of healthy elderly individuals. *Microbial Ecology in Health and Disease* **16**, 105-112.

Tuohy KM, Likotrafiti E, Manderson K, Gibson GR & Rastall RA (2004). Improving gut health in the elderly pp. 394-415. *In: Functional Foods, Ageing and Degenerative Disease*. Remacle C. and Reusens B. (eds.), Woodhead Publishing Limited, Cambridge, UK.

Likotrafiti E, Tuohy KM, Gibson GR & Rastall RA. *In vitro* investigations of the effects of selected pro-, pre- and synbiotics upon the gastrointestinal microflora from elderly individuals. (in preparation).

Almond N, Stebbings R, Wade-Evans A, Berry N, Hull R, Cowie J, Lines J, Elsley W, Davis G, Brown S, Harron S, Likotrafiti E, Voss G and Stott EJ. Serological responses elicited by HIV-1 rgp120 are involved in vaccine protection obtained in a SHIV model. (in preparation).

Scientific Posters:

Harron S, Likotrafiti E, Duffy L, Alden J, Sethi M, Sangster R & Almond N. The application of SHIVS to characterize protection by HIV-1 envelope. NIBSC, UK, 2005.

Likotrafiti E, Manderson K, Tuohy KM, Gibson GR & Rastall RA. Screening of probiotic strains isolated from the elderly for antimicrobial activity against gastrointestinal pathogens. Sitges, Spain, 2004.

Tuohy KM, Likotrafiti E, Manderson K, Fava F, Gibson GR & Rastall RA. Generation of a novel synbiotic specifically designed for the elderly population. Sitges, Spain, 2004.

Saunier K, Tuohy KM, Likotrafiti E, Sutren M, Rastall RA, Silvi S, Cresci A & Dore J. Culture independent molecular analysis of the elderly fecal microflora reveals an extreme complexity. Sitges, Spain, 2004.

Saunier K, Tuohy KM, Likotrafiti E, Rastall RA, Sutren M, Cresci A & Dore J. Species diversity analysis of the elderly gut microflora through cloning of whole community 16S rRNA. Society for General Microbiology, Manchester, UK, 2003.

Likotrafiti E, Tuohy KM, Gibson GR & Rastall RA. Properties of potential probiotic strains isolated from the elderly: acid tolerance, bile tolerance and oligosaccharide fermentation profile. Society for General Microbiology, Edinburgh, UK, 2003.

Likotrafiti E, Tuohy KM, Silvi S, Verdenelli MC, Casciano R, Orpianesi C, Cresci A, Gibson GR & Rastall RA. Molecular taxonomy of probiotic strains isolated from the elderly gut microflora. Taormina, Italy, 2003.

Likotrafiti E, Gibbs PA & Knight A. Evaluation of the new Oxoid S.P.R.I.N.T. *Salmonella* system and the reference ISO method in chocolate. Society for Applied Microbiology, Swansea, UK, 2001.

Scientific Talks:

National Collaboration for Ageing Research, London, UK, 28-30 July 2003.

AGENET, Reading, UK, 30 April 2002.

Oral presentations for 'Crownalife' European Union Research Programme: INRA, Paris 2001, DfE Berlin – Potsdam 2002, University of Ulster, UK 2003.

OTHER INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES

Member of Society for Applied Microbiology and Society for General Microbiology.

Member of the Evidence for Health Claims workgroup at the second meeting of the International Scientific Association for Prebiotics and Probiotics (ISAPP, Henley on Thames, July 2003).