Jena School for Microbial Communication
Graduate School of Excellence

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Microbial Pathogenicity Mechanisms
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Title PhD Project:
Elucidating different virulence strategies *in Candida albicans* clinical isolates with fluorescent reporters for host cell damage in intestinal epithelial cells

Main Research Interests
- Fungal-Host interactions
- Variety within clinical isolates of *C. albicans*
- *C. albicans* pathogenicity mechanisms

Methodological Experiences
- General cells and microbiology techniques
- Mutant creation
- Microscopy

Curriculum Vitae

Experience

Aug 2022-Current	Ph.D. Candidate, Prof. Dr. Bernard Hube, Leibniz Hans-Knöll Institut, Germany Project on elucidating different virulence strategies *in Candida albicans* clinical isolates & establishment of fluorescent reporters for host cell damage in intestinal epithelial cells
Nov 2020-May 2022	Research Intern, Prof. Dr Annemarie Meijer, Leiden University, The Netherlands Internship on “Elucidating the roles of LAP & xenophagy in eliminating mycobacterial infection”
May 2021-Jun 2021	Teaching Assistant, Prof. Dr Annemarie Meijer, Leiden University, The Netherlands Teaching Assistant in the practical of the course Immunobiology, part of the Biology Bachelor of Leiden University, under the supervision of Annemarie Meijer
Oct 2019-Mar 2020-	Research Intern, Prof. Dr Karsten Hiller, Technical University of Braunschweig, Germany

	Internship on “Metabolic crosstalk between epithelial intestinal cells & Clostridioides difficile”
Jul 2019-Aug 2019	Research Intern, 424 Military Hospital of Thessaloniki, Greece Internship on “Diagnosis of tuberculosis using laboratory techniques”

Education

Aug 2022-current	Graduate school in Biology, Jena, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Supervision of Prof.Dr. Bernahrd Hube & Dr. Sascha Brunke
Aug 2020-Jul 2022	Master of Science in Biology, Leiden, Leiden University Specialization: From Cells to Organisms
Sep 2015-Jul 2020	Bachelor of Science in Biology, Thessaloniki, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Specialization: Molecular Biology, Biotechnology & Genetics Thesis on “Tracking the evolution of cancer using bioinformatic tools” under the supervision of Ass. Prof Dr. Ilias Kappas & Prof. Dr. Theodore Abatzopoulos.

Publications

Peer-reviewed reviews and book articles

Katsipoulaki M, Stappers MHT, Malavia-Jones D, Brunke S, Hube B, Gow NAR (2024) *Candida albican*s and *Candida glabrata*: global priority pathogens. Microbiol Mol Biol Rev 88(2), e0002123. (Review)

Non-peer-reviewed articles, conference abstracts, theses

Awards

- DMM Conference travel grant (2026)- Company of Biologists
- Poster prize Candida & Candidiasis (2025)- Microbiology Society
- DMM Conference travel grant (2024)- Company of Biologists
- Erasmus+ mobility grant (2019)- European Commision

Conferences

- Katsipoulaki M, Banerjee T, Valentine M, Trümper V, Schille T, Elshafee O, Jansen M, Hube B, Brunke S (2026) Elucidating alternative virulence strategies in *Candida albicans* clinical isolates, Poster at FEBS Course “HFFP 2026”, Nice, France
- Katsipoulaki M, Banerjee T, Valentine M, Trümper V, Hube B, Brunke S (2025) Unravelling the infection dynamics of *C. albicans* clinical isolates in gut epithelial cells using fluorescent reporter cell lines, Poster at Candida & Candidiasis 2025, Berlin, Germany
- Katsipoulaki M, Trümper V, Vij R, Elshafee O, Hube B, Brunke S (2025) Multi-reporter cell lines: fluorescent reporter for detection of cell death types in infection, Presentation at DGHM 2025, Jena, Germany
- Katsipoulaki M, Trümper V, Vij R, Elshafee O, Hube B, Brunke S (2025) Multi-reporter cell lines: fluorescent reporter for detection of cell death types in infection, Poster at GRS/GRC “Immunology of fungal infections”, Ventura, USA
- Katsipoulaki M, Trümper V, Brunke S, Hube B (2024) Multi-reporter cell lines: fluorescent reporter for detection of cell death types in infection, Poster at EMBO meeting “Cell death:Friend or foe in animal and plant immunity”, Sant Feliu de Guixols, Spain
- Katsipoulaki M, Trümper V, Brunke S, Hube B (2024) Multi-reporter cell lines: fluorescent reporter for detection of cell death types in infection, Poster at EMBL meeting “Innate immunity in host-pathogen interactions”, Heidelberg, Germany
- Katsipoulaki M, Trümper V, Brunke S, Hube B (2024) Multi-reporter cell lines: fluorescent reporter for detection of cell death types in infection, Presentation at DGHM-VAAM meeting 2024, Wurzbürg, Germany
- Katsipoulaki M, Trümper V, Brunke S, Hube B (2024) Multi-reporter cell lines: fluorescent reporter for detection of cell death types in infection, Presentation at DMyKG meeting 2024, Jena, Germany
- Katsipoulaki M, Trümper V, Brunke S, Hube B (2023) Fluorescent reporter cell lines for parallel monitoring of host cell damage processes during infections, Poster at EMBL meeting “Seeing is believing” 2023, Heidelberg, Germany
- Katsipoulaki M, Trümper V, Brunke S, Hube B (2023) Fluorescent reporter cell lines for parallel monitoring of host cell damage processes during infections, Poster at EXIT meeting 2023, Brühl, Germany