

FAQs about your JSMC Membership

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Can I be a JSMC member if my research is not on “Microbial Communication”?

The broadness of the scientific scope covered by the overarching theme “Microbial Communication” is often underestimated. “Microbial Communication” radiates into many disciplines and is not limited solely to microbiological research. Investigating chemical signals, developing physical analysis technologies, systems biology approaches... all this contributes to gaining a more comprehensive view on “Microbial Communication”. Doctoral and Postdoctoral Researchers are eligible to apply for a JSMC membership (together with their advisers), if they see a contribution to gaining a holistic view of “Microbial Communication” from their project in the wide sense outlined above. The JSMC Executive Board is happy to assist in case of doubt whether the respective project fits into the overarching scope “Microbial Communication”.

What are the benefits of being a JSMC member?

Profiting from the JSMC services and network. These benefits include:

- Services by the JSMC Office (e.g., administrative and organizational support, information database, JSMC Newsletter, mailing list)
- Comprehensive course program (experimental methods, soft skills...)
- JSMC Scientific Community (access to institutes, contacts to scientists)
- Membership access to JSMC Events (e.g., ECRE seminars, MiCoCo, MiCom, Industry visits)
- Special grant programs (JSMC Career Orientation Grants; yearly travel grants of up to 1000 € for JSMC Doctoral Researchers and up to 2000 € for JSMC Postdoctoral Researchers)
- PhD certificate from a German Excellence Initiative Graduate School (if JSMC PhD Training standards are fulfilled by the student)

What is expected from JSMC Doctoral Researchers and their PhD advisers (i.e., JSMC Faculty Members)?

It is expected that the basic JSMC PhD Training Standards are met. This mainly includes dual mentorship with regular (at least annual) thesis committee meetings, striving for early publication of data and efficient completion of the doctorate, as well as commitment to the Rules of Good Scientific Practice. In addition, the JSMC Doctoral Researcher can gain the JSMC PhD Certificate if the full JSMC PhD Training standards are fulfilled at the end of the PhD. From its Faculty Members JSMC expects commitment to the JSMC PhD Training and Mentoring Programs.

How should JSMC support be acknowledged in publications, presentations, and posters?

Please note that by accepting JSMC funding (e.g., JSMC travel grants, JSMC Career Orientation Grants, ...), you agree to acknowledge the JSMC in forthcoming publications and/or conference contributions. Please acknowledge us by using the following: “We acknowledge support by the Jena School for Microbial Communication (JSMC) that is third-party funded by the Thuringian Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (TMBWK).” in your publications. For posters and talks, kindly use the JSMC and TMBWK logos following [this link](#).



Still got questions?

You've got several options to get answers:

1. Always feel free to contact the JSMC Office (jsmc@uni-jena.de; 03641 / 9-49 540)
2. Ask the JSMC community by sending an e-mail to the JSMC mailing list (jsmc@listserv.dfn.de)
3. Contact the [JSMC Doctoral and Postdoctoral Speakers](#) via email (jsmc-speakers@uni-jena.de)
4. Contact any other "experienced" [JSMC member](#). They will certainly be happy to help!
5. Let us – Jasmin Mertens (jasmin.mertens@uni-jena.de) or Rebecca Sequeira (rebecca.sequeira@uni-jena.de) – know if you still have open questions.