

人才引进系列报告(一)



Interplays in the gut jungle

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地点: 医学院综合楼701

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Dr. Wenjing Zhao has been studying interplays among pathogenic bacteria, commensal bacteria, and their hosts for almost 9 years. During her PhD study at University of Rhode Island, Dr. Zhao participated in a project aiming to develop probiotics for oyster aquaculture industry. Dr. Zhao and colleagues successfully isolated and identified a commensal Phaeobacter strain as a potent probiotic for oyster against pathogenic Vibrio infections. They further elucidated that the Phaeobacter strain probiotic mechanisms. During her post-doc training at Harvard medical school, Dr. Zhao applied her expertise in studying bacterial interactions in human. Dr. Zhao for the first time demonstrated the roles of bacterial Type VI Secretion System in antagonism against commensal microbiota. This study also opened a new avenue to study 3-way interplays among pathogenic bacteria, commensal microbiota, and host immunity. More recently, Dr. Zhao and colleagues conduct the study in how maternal antibodies shape newborn's gut microbiota and their specific roles in promoting immunity in newborns. Dr. Zhao believes that to continue studying the interplays among pathogens, commensals and host will lead to significant advancements of human health, medicine and primary industries including aquaculture and animal husbandry.