



## Life in Extreme Conditions

August 3rd - 9th, 2008

Deadline for application: June 1st, 2008

The summer school, set in the inspiring new **Mediterranean Institute for Life Sciences** at the shore of Split, intends to assemble creative students and researchers from broad scientific backgrounds to conceive creative projects at the interface with Life Sciences.

The 2008 MedILS Summer School on Life in Extreme Conditions will provide a venue to share current knowledge and develop new ideas and research projects around the topic of life in extreme conditions. The main focus of the school is on the evolution and maintenance of life in habitats such as eternal ice, hydrothermal vents, the bottom of the ocean, salt lakes, or other planets. Leading international lecturers will inform the participants about the latest developments and theories in the field. In order to foster interdisciplinary cooperation and stimulate creative ideas, the participants will work in mixed groups. The groups will work together to solve a given "grand challenge" problem. All groups will be tutored and supervised by the lecturers in order to focus on novel ideas in the field, such as: horizontal gene transfer between organisms sharing the same habitat, evolution of robustness of life, or possibilities of finding life on other planets.

### Lecturers

**Andrew Pohorille**, Biophysics, NASA Astrobiology Institute, NASA Ames Research Center, USA.

**Miroslav Radman**, Medical and Evolutionary Molecular Genetics, Mediterranean Institute for Life Sciences, Split, Croatia, and INSERM U571, Paris, France

**Eduardo Rocha**, Comparative and Evolutionary Genomics, Université P.M. Curie, Paris VI, France

**Ksenija Zahradka**, Molecular Biology, Institut Ruđer Bošković, Zagreb, Croatia

### Who can apply?

This summer school is open to PhD and Master students as well as postdoctoral fellows working in the fields of biology, ecology, astrobiology, chemistry, or physics (or any discipline combined from or related to these).

Application documents should include a 1-2 page letter of motivation (highlighting your interest and prior knowledge in the school topic), an up-to-date CV, and 2 letters of recommendation. Please send your application to: [extremelife@medils.hr](mailto:extremelife@medils.hr)

**Fee:** 300 EUR - subsidized fee (applications before June 1st)

500 EUR - full cost fee (for late registration)

The fee includes 6 days of full-board accommodation with 3 meals (+coffee/snacks) per day.

Travel fellowships are available; for details see: [www.medils.hr/summerschool2008](http://www.medils.hr/summerschool2008).

### Organiser:

Dr. Anita Kriško, Mediterranean Institute for Life Sciences (Split, Croatia) and INSERM U571 (Paris, France)

Prof. Dr. Ivo F. Sbalzarini, ETH Zürich (Zürich, Switzerland) and Mediterranean Institute for Life Sciences (Split, Croatia)