



2021 YOUNG INVESTIGATOR
WINNERS

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of 2021 Evaluation Committee, we are pleased to announce that the winners of the *JoF* 2021 Young Investigator Award are Dr. Federico Baltar, Dr. Rebecca Drummond, and Dr. Miriam Oses-Ruiz.

Dr. Federico Baltar is an associate professor in the Department of Functional and Evolutionary Ecology at the University of Vienna, Austria. Dr. Federico Baltar's research focuses on the integration of microbial ecology and biogeochemistry into biological oceanography. From coastal seas to open oceans, from Fjords to the seawater below the Antarctic ice shelves, all are large seawater environments perform crucial ecosystem services and functions driven by tiny microbial engines, including fungi.

Dr. Rebecca Drummond is a group leader at the Institute of Immunology & Immunotherapy at the University of Birmingham, UK. Dr. Drummond's research centers on antifungal immune responses, with a focus on tissue-resident macrophages of the central nervous system.

Dr. Miriam Oses-Ruiz is a Junior PI in the research institute IMAB at the Public University of Navarre, Spain. Dr. Oses-Ruiz's research emphasizes a comprehensive understanding of the biology of one of the most devastating plant diseases in the world, called rice blast disease, which is caused by *Magnaporthe oryzae*.

This is an outstanding achievement in today's competitive environment. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Federico Baltar; Dr. Rebecca Drummond, and Dr. Miriam Oses-Ruiz.

As the primary awardee, Dr. Federico Baltar will receive a prize of CHF 2000, and as runner-up awardees, Dr. Rebecca Drummond and Dr. Miriam Oses-Ruiz will each receive a prize of CHF 1000. All awardees will be given the opportunity to publish a paper free of charge before 31 December 2022 in *JoF* after completing the peer-review process and an engraved plaque.

We would like to thank all the nominators for their participation and all the Award Committee members for their efforts in the evaluation process.

Kind regards,
Prof. Dr. David S. Perlin
Editor-in-Chief, *JoF*