



Biographical Sketch: Prof. Dr. Michael Pester

General Information

Address: Leibniz Institute DSMZ - German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures GmbH
Inhoffenstrasse 7B
D-38124 Braunschweig
Germany

Curr. position: Head of the Dept. of Microorganisms, Leibniz Institute DSMZ & W2-Professor at the
Technical University of Braunschweig, Germany

Academic education and degree

1997 – 2002 Biology at the University of Konstanz, Germany, & University of North Carolina at
Wilmington, USA

2002 Diploma in Biology (equivalent to Master of Science), University of Konstanz, “Diversity
and spatial distribution of methanotrophic bacteria in lake sediments”

Academic Degrees

Dr. rer.nat. Max Planck Institute of Terrestrial Microbiology, Marburg, Germany, 2006, “Analysis of
metabolite fluxes and the responsible symbiotic microbiota in wood-feeding termites”

Habilitation University of Konstanz, Germany, 2017, “Molecular geomicrobiology of sulfur cycling and
nitrification in terrestrial and aquatic environments”

Professional career

2006 – 2007 Post-doctoral fellow at the Max Planck Institute of Terrestrial Microbiology (Marburg,
Germany) in the Dept. of Biogeochemistry

2007 – 2012 Post-doctoral fellow in the Division of Microbial Ecology, University of Vienna, Austria

2010 – 2012 Project leader in the Division of Microbial Ecology, University of Vienna, Austria

2013 – 2017 Independent group leader (equivalent to assistant professor) at the Dept. of Biology,
University of Konstanz, Germany

since 09/2017 W2-Professor and Head of the Department of Microorganisms, Leibniz Institute DSMZ &
Technical University of Braunschweig, Braunschweig, Germany

2017 – 2019 Interim head of the Dept. of Bioeconomy and Health Research, Leibniz Institute DSMZ