

**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**Dr. Alexander Sawides**

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**Date of birth** : 04 November 1970  
**Place of birth** : London UK  
**Nationality** : Cypriot, Greek  
**Marital status** : Married with two children  
**Current contact address in Greece** : Department of Biology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, University Campus, 15784, Attica Greece  
**Tel** : +30 6944532883, +30 2107274188  
**E-mail address** : alsawi@biol.uoa.gr  
**Military service** : 4/7/1988 – 4/9/1990  
**Status in the University** : **As of December 2001:** Academic and Research assistant at the Section of Botany, Department of Biology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens,  
**As of March 2000: Quality Manager** of the GMO detection Laboratory of National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Certificate Number 91-4, of the Hellenic Accreditation System for GMO detection according to the body of ISO 17025/2005).

#### **EDUCATION**

**Degree in Biology**, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens 1995. My graduation Thesis was supervised by the Prof. Karagouni A.D.  
**PhD in Biological Sciences**, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, 2004 entitled: Study of the physiology of *Zymomonas mobilis* mutant strains with biotechnological interest in batch and continuous flow cultures (<http://hdl.handle.net/10442/hedi/21378>). My Study was supervised by Prof. Karagouni A.D.

#### **MAJOR RESEARCH INTERESTS**

1. Bioreactor fermentations, biomass and ethanol production in continuous flow cultures and bioreactor modelling and technology.
2. Isolation of environmental strains producing bioactive compounds and biotechnological products. Characterization of the isolated microorganisms and chemical compounds by HPLC.
3. Study of the microbial colonization on Acropolis marbles and the establishment of methodology for the prevention of biodegradation.
4. Development of Real Time PCR methods for GMO detection (corn, soya, tomato and cotton). As of March 2002: **Quality Manager** of the GMO detection Laboratory of National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Certificate Number 91-4 of the Hellenic Accreditation System for GMO detection according to the body of ISO 17025/2005).
5. Establishment of the microbial culture collection of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (ATHUBA). The aim was the preservation of microbial strains isolated from environmental samples of Greece. The aim of the microbial bank is the research, provision and use of microbial diversity. Our laboratory was funded by Horizon 202, call H2020-INFRADEV-2018-20. The IS\_MIRRI21 aims to implement the Microbial Resource Research Infrastructure (MIRRI) and secure its long-term sustainability.

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

I contributed the teaching activities of the Department of Biology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens as follows:

**1996 - 2020:** Teaching of all laboratory sessions of the compulsory course “General Microbiology” for the Undergraduate Curriculum of the Biology Department.

**1999 - 2020:** Participating in teaching of two laboratory sessions of the elective course “Biotechnology” for the the Undergraduate Curriculum of the Biology Department.

**1999 - 2020:** Teaching of all laboratory sessions of the elective course “Advanced and Applied Microbiology” for the the Undergraduate Curriculum of the Biology Department.

**1999 - 2019 :** Teaching of all laboratory sessions of the elective course “Molecular and Applied Microbiology” for the the Undergraduate Curriculum of the Biology Department.

**2006 - 2020:** participating in teaching of the compulsory course “Microbial diversity” for the the postgraduate program “Microbial Biotechnology” of the Biology Department. Organising and teaching the laboratory workshop “Microbial and molecular techniques for the detection of culturable and non-culturable microorganisms of environmental samples”.

**2006 - 2020:** participating in teaching in the compulsory course “Genetically Modified Organisms” for the the postgraduate program “Microbial Biotechnology” of the Biology Department. Organising and teaching the laboratory workshop “GMO detection in Plants”.

**2006 - 2020:** participating in teaching in the compulsory course “Microbial cell factories” for the the postgraduate program “Microbial Biotechnology” of the Biology Department. Organising and teaching the laboratory workshop “Continuous flow-culture laboratory bioreactor – growth parameter estimation”.

**2014 - 2020:** Participating in teaching of three laboratory sessions of the compulsory course “Genetics” for the the Undergraduate Curriculum of the Biology Department.

**2014 - 2020:** Participating in teaching of the laboratory sessions of the compulsory course “Botany” for the the Undergraduate Curriculum of the Biology Department.

**2004 - 2020:** Responsible for the teaching and implementation of the diploma thesis of **30** undergraduate students.

**2006 - 2020:** Responsible for the teaching and implementation of the diploma thesis of **9** postgraduate students.

**2006 - 2020:** Responsible for the four months training of **7** postgraduate students on GMO detection. All of them became analysts of the GMO detection Laboratory of National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Certificate Number 91-4 of the Hellenic Accreditation System for GMO detection according to the body of ISO 17025/2005).

#### PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

1. **Sawides AL**, Karagouni AD (1997) Ethanol production by *Zymomonas mobilis* in continuous fermentation of sugar beet molasses. *Mededelingen-Faculteit Landbouwkundige en Toegepaste Biologische Wetenschappen, Universiteit Gent*. 62: 1909-1912
2. **Sawides AL**, Kallimanis A, Varsaki A, Koukkou AI, Drainas C, Typas MA, Karagouni AD (2000) Simultaneous ethanol and bacterial ice nuclei production from sugar beet molasses by a *Zymomonas mobilis* CP4 mutant expressing the *inaZ* gene of *Pseudomonas syringae* in continuous cultures. *J Appl Microbiol*. 89: 1002-1008.
3. **Sawides AL**, Chalkou KI, Typas MA, Karagouni AD (2001) Enzymes of Entner-Doudoroff and pyruvate decarboxylation pathway in *Zymomonas mobilis* wild type CP4 and mutant strains grown in continuous culture. *Antonie van Leeuwenhoek*. 80: 287-295.
4. **Sawides AL**, Andriopoulos CP, Kormas KK, Hatzinikolaou DG, Katsifas EA, Karagouni AD (2011) Selective isolation of indigenous *Pseudomonas syringae* strains with ice nucleation activity properties from a ski resort. *J Biol Res-Thessalon* 15: 67-73.
5. **Sawides AL**, Katsifas EA, Hatzinikolaou DG, Karagouni AD (2012) Xanthan production by *Xanthomonas campestris* using whey permeate medium. *World J Microbiol Biotechnol*. 28: 2759-2764.
6. Galanopoulou AP, Stathopoulou PM, Tserkezi EA, **Sawides AL**, Karagouni AD, Hatzinikolaou DG (2012) Production, purification and biochemical characterization of a novel thermostable  $\beta$ -xylosidase from *Geobacillus sp.* isolated from a volcanic environment. *New Biotechnology*. 29: S52
7. Kanini G, Katsifas EA, **Sawides AL**, Hatzinikolaou, DG, Karagouni AD (2013) Greek indigenous streptomycetes as biocontrol agents against the soil-borne fungal plant pathogen *Rhizoctonia solani*. *J Appl Microbiol*. 114: 1468-1479.
8. Stathopoulou PM, **Sawides AL**, Karagouni AD, Hatzinikolaou DG (2013) Unraveling the lipolytic activity of thermophilic bacteria isolated from a volcanic environment, *BioMed Research International*, Vol.2013, Article ID 703130, 13 pages.
9. Kanini G, Katsifas EA, **Sawides AL**, Karagouni AD (2013) *Streptomyces rochei* ACTA1551, an indigenous Greek isolate studied as a potential biocontrol agent against *Fusarium oxysporum sp. lycopersici*, *BioMed Research International*, vol. 2013, Article ID 387230, 10 pages.
10. Serelis J, Papaparaskevas J, Stathi A, **Sawides AL**, Karagouni AD, Tsakris AZ, Pangalis A (2013) Granulomatous infection of the hand and wrist due to *Azospirillum* spp. *Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis*. 76: 513-515.
11. **Sawides AL**, Nikolakopoulou TL, Kyratsous N, Katsifas EA, Kanini G, Karagouni AD (2014) Bacterial deterioration of marble monuments: A case study of the conservation project of Acropolis monuments *Geomicrobiology J*, DOI: 10.1080/01490451.2014.885618
12. Zerva A, **Sawides AL**, Katsifas EA, Karagouni AD, Hatzinikolaou DG (2014) Evaluation of *Paecilomyces variotii* potential in bioethanol production from lignocellulose through consolidated bioprocessing. *Bioresource Technology, Bioresource Technology*, 162:294-299.
13. Mamouha S, Kanterakis G, Boutsikaki I, **Sawides AL**, Karagouni AD (2014) Screening for bioactive compounds: Bacteria with biotechnology interest, *Achaiki Iatriki*, 33: 21-30.
14. **Sawides AL**, Moisi K, Katsifas EA, Karagouni AD, Hatzinikolaou DG (2019) Lipid production from indigenous Greek microalgae: a possible biodiesel source, *Biotechnol Lett*, 41: 533-545.
15. Meidani C, **Sawidis AL**, Lampropoulou E, Sagia A, Katsifas E, Monokrousos N, Hatzinikolaou DG, Karagouni AD, Giannoutsou E, Adamakis I-D, Ntalli NG (2020) The Nematicidal Potential of Bioactive Streptomyces Strains Isolated from Greek Rhizosphere Soils Tested on Arabidopsis Plants of Varying Susceptibility to Meloidogyne spp. *Plants* 9: 699; <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants9060699>

#### PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

I have participated as a researcher under the supervision of Prof A.D. Karagouni in the following projects:

1. NATO Science for stability program, GR-Carob project "Innovative technology for the economic and ecological valorization of carob beans", 1994-1998.
2. National grand from the Committee for the Conservation of Acropolis Monuments, Greek Ministry of Culture. Titled: "Study of the microbial colonization on Acropolis' marbles" 1995-1997.
3. National grand from General Secretariat of Research and Development of Greece (EPET I - Subprogram 1) titled: "An integrated and innovative research and technological approach of the production of biotechnological products from agricultural products and sub products", 1995-1998.
4. EU-Biotechnology project (SMT4-CT96-2072) titled: "Development of methods to identify foods produced by means of genetic engineering (DMIF-Gen)", 1996-1999. Participation in this program enabled our laboratory to perform the methods that have been established for the detection of GMO (European Committee for Standardization CEN/TC 275 'Food analysis. Horizontal Methods').
5. National grand from General Secretariat of Research and Development of Greece (EPET II - Subprogram 1) titled: "An integrated and innovative research and technological approach of the simultaneous production of high value biotechnological products (amino acids and oligo saccharides) from byproducts of sugar industry", 1998- 2001.
6. National grand from the Committee for the Conservation of Acropolis Monuments, Greek Ministry of Culture. Titled: "Study of microbial populations on the monuments of Acropolis" 2002-2005.
7. National grand from the Committee for the Conservation of Acropolis Monuments, Greek Ministry of Culture. Titled: "Microbial diversity on Acropolis' marbles; establishment of methodology for the prevention of biodegradation" 2006-2010.
8. Chipita S.A., "Isolation and molecular typing of microbial strains involved in production process" 2010-2015.
9. GMO Detection of corn, soya and derivatives, tomato and cotton. Our laboratory has been accredited (No 91-4/11-03-02) for the detection of GMO in raw and processed materials by the Hellenic Accreditation Council by the standards of ISO17025/2005. During the last 20 years our laboratory has been performing quantitative and qualitative on GMO detection on behalf of the Hellenic Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Development and companies that import seeds and animal feed. The number of samples analyzed until today are 3000. 2002-present time.
10. Horizon 2020 grand, H2020-INFRADEV-2018-2020 for the Development and long-term sustainability of new pan-European research infrastructures, acronym IS\_MIRRI21. The mission of IS\_MIRRI21 is to serve Bioscience and Bioindustry by providing (a) a broad range of high-quality biological resources and associated data, (b) long-term sustainability of microbial biodiversity, and (c) knowledge and professional IS\_MIRRI21 will set up a single-entry point portal (Collaborative Work Environmental)

#### **CONGRESSES (Publications and Presentation)**

International: 25

National: 27

#### **PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHOPS**

1. EERO (European Environmental Research Organization) ETC-course "on soil pollution and risk assessment-a course on pollution analysis and risk management." Bremen, Germany, 1994
2. EEC, DG XII Biotechnology R & D Program "on Plasmid Stability-Horizontal Gene Transfer -Environmental Implications " Ioannina, Greece, 1996
3. Development, application, monitoring and evaluation of the quality system of the GMO detection Laboratory of National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Certificate Number 91). The training was performed by M. Volotopoulos, a consultant of accredited laboratories. A four month course.
4. Training on Real Time PCR. The training was performed by AD Karagouni and K. Chalkou, director and Technical manager of the laboratory. A two months course, 2000.
5. Training on quantitative GMO detection using a Real Time PCR. Training was performed by the representative of Applied Biosystems in Athens, Vamvakas sa, 2001.
6. Training on the new edition of ISO 17025:2005. The training was performed by M. Volotopoulos, a consultant of accredited laboratories. A one month course.
7. Scientific and Training Center of Chemical Engineers "General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories according to ISO 17025:2005 - calibration, validation, Expressions of the Uncertainty of Measurements, quality control", Athens, Greece, 2010
8. "Skills Development for more efficient Management for the government Sector" Training Centre of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (UOA). A twelve month course, Athens, Greece 2012.
9. "Evaluation and Quality management in education" Training Centre of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (UOA), code no. EQUAS 4, Athens, Greece 2013.

#### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

1. 1996 Active member of the organizing committee of the international symposium BAGECO 5 (Bacteria-Genetics and Ecology).
2. 1999 Active member of the organizing committee of the international symposium ISBA 11<sup>th</sup> (International Symposium on Bacteria and Actinomyces)
3. 2011 Active member of the organizing committee of the international symposium BAGECO 11 (Bacteria-Genetics and Ecology).
4. Member of the Hellenic Initiative Microbiokosmos
5. Member of the committee of the Undergraduate Curriculum and of the Biology Department.