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Cell envelope related processes in *Bacillus subtilis*

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Document Version

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Publication date:

2018

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

van den Esker, M. H. (2018). Cell envelope related processes in *Bacillus subtilis*: Cell death, transport and cold shock. [Groningen]: Rijksuniversiteit Groningen.

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1. Although comparative genomics can result in highly accurate predictions of protein functions, classic microbial approaches are required to reach absolute certainty (chapter 2)
2. Excluding the possibility of secondary site mutations in novel mutant strains is essential to avoid ambiguity on a gene's function and essentiality (chapter 3)
3. Metabolism is at the center of all biological processes, from the regulation of cold-shock to cell death, and therefore, the value of detailed knowledge of metabolic pathways and their regulation should never be underestimated (Chapter 2; 4)
4. Working with a popular model organism like *Bacillus subtilis* is both a blessing and a curse
5. The publication of negative results can save tremendous time to colleague scientists, and should therefore be encouraged
6. Ethics becomes increasingly important in biology with the rise of genome editing techniques like CRISPR/Cas9
7. Epigenetics bridges the gap between nature and nurture
8. Humans are primates, but in western society, we often treat our babies like rabbits
9. Like life, research often takes unexpected turns and that is what makes it so interesting
10. Arguing that you don't care about the right to privacy because you have nothing to hide, is no different than saying you don't care about freedom of speech because you have nothing to say –Edward Snowden