PRESS RELEASE: for immediate release

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First article published in *Microbiology Outlooks*: integrating genomics insights with game theory

The Microbiology Society's *Microbiology Outlooks*, launched in 2025, has published its inaugural article: "When Theory Meets Genomics: Reconciling Game Dynamics and Within-Host Evolution". The new commentary explores how theoretical models and genomic data can be integrated to understand within-host evolution.

The article from Dr Damien F Meyer of CIRAD (Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement) connects within-host genomics and evolutionary theory, reframing virulence not as a fixed trait, but a context-dependent strategy. It considers the value of predictive models, with potential implications for vaccine design, antimicrobial stewardship, and epidemic control strategies.

Professor Gordon Ramage of Glasgow Caledonian University, handling Editor of the commentary, said: "This article stood out because it moved beyond a standard narrative review to offer a more in-depth philosophical and conceptual reflection on how we interpret virulence and microbial evolution in the genomic era. Rather than simply summarising current knowledge, it challenges the field of microbiology to reconsider pathogens as adaptive strategists shaped by dynamic host environments."

Microbiology Outlooks was launched to bring together ideas and experience from across disciplines to develop wider understanding of microbes, their applications and their potential impacts. The editorial team look forward to publishing further insights from experts in the community and welcome proposals for consideration, as well as complete reviews, perspectives and commentaries.

The Microbiology Society is not-for-profit: revenue raised from our publications is used to invest in microbiologists, not profits for shareholders.

Find out more about *Microbiology Outlooks* on the journal webpage.

Microbiology Society
We are a membership charity and a not-for-profit publisher. Our members are scientists interested in microbes, their effects and their practical uses. We support and invest in the microbiology community for the benefit of everyone. Our principal goal is to amplify our members' voices, wherever they are in the world.