

## Projects

- Feb 2009-Jan 2012 “Ultraviolet radiation effects on planktonic freshwater ciliates: an assessment of photoprotection and repair strategies” (Austrian Science Fund FWF P21013-B03, granted to B.S.)
- June 2007–Dec 2009 “Ciliate catalogue of Piburger See” (Tyrolian Science Fund TWF and Theodor-Körner Fund, granted to B.S.)
- Oct–Nov 2007 “Morphological description of a ciliate species (Ciliophora) from Piburger See (Tirol, Austria) including phylogenetic data of the small subunit rRNA gene sequence.” (Interim financing program “Excellentia”, Univ. of Innsbruck, granted to B.S.).
- Nov 2006-Sep 2007: „Impact of algal composition, protistan grazing and limiting nutrients on the seasonal succession, biomass distribution and grazing defence mechanisms of bacterial populations in a lake.” (Austrian Science Fund FWF P17554, 2004-2007, granted to R. Psenner, Univ. of Innsbruck)
- Nov 2003–Oct 2006: “Testing alternative benefits in symbiosis of pelagic *Chlorella*-bearing ciliates: an ecological and molecular approach.” (FWF P16559-B06, 2003-2006, granted to R. Sommaruga, Univ. of Innsbruck)
- Mar 2001–Jan 2003 (half position): “Biodiversity in alpine habitats: integration of microbial, botanical and faunistic aspects of terrestrial and aquatic habitats.” (Austrian Academy of Science ÖAW, project code ALP, 2001-2004, granted to R. Psenner)
- Jan 2001–Dec 2002 (half position): “Influence of trophic conditions on microbial predator-prey interactions studied in continuous cultivation systems.” (FWF P14637-BIO, granted to R. Psenner)
- Dec 1997–Dec 1999 & Apr 2000 (Ph.D. student position): “Effects of SOLVAY-emissions on the ecological functionalism of Traunsee – module 5: microbiology”. (Government of Upper Austria, granted to R. Schmidt, ÖAW Mondsee, Austria)

## Co-operation partners:

- Michaela Strüder-Kypke*, Univ. of Guelph, Canada (partner in the running FWF project P21013-B03, granted to B.S.)
- Thomas Weisse*, ÖAW, Mondsee, Austria (partner in the running FWF project P21013-B03, granted to B.S.)
- Bernhard Egger*, Innsbruck Univ., Austria (Sparkling Science project SPA/02 - 81/Plattwürmer: ‚Untersuchungen zur vergleichenden Regenerationsfähigkeit von freilebenden Plattwürmern des Süßwassers im Tiroler Raum‘, granted to B.E.)
- Jens Boenigk*, Essen, Germany
- Thomas Posch*, Univ. of Zürich, Switzerland

## Awards

- 2010 Forschungspreis der Stiftung Südtiroler Sparkasse an R.S. für die Publikation „Sommaruga R, Sonntag B (2009) Photobiological aspects of the mutualistic association between *Paramecium bursaria* and *Chlorella*. In: *Endosymbionts of Paramecium* (M Fujishima, Ed.), Microbiology Monographs 12, Springer Verlag, Berlin, Germany, 111-130”
- 2009 Kanadapreis des Zentrum für Kanadastudien an der Universität Innsbruck für die Publikation „*Uroleptus willii* nov. sp., a euplanktonic freshwater ciliate (Dorsomarginalia, Spirotrichea, Ciliophora) with algal symbionts: morphological description including phylogenetic data of the small subunit rRNA gene sequence and ecological notes“
- 2007 Förderungspreis aus dem „Theodor Körner Fonds zur Förderung von Wissenschaft und Kunst der Kammer für Arbeiter und Angestellte“ für das Projekt „Ciliaten im Piburger See“

2006 Spezialpreis für Wissenschaft der Vorarlberger Landesregierung

2006 Förderung der Dissertation durch das Land Vorarlberg

2005 Dr. Otto-Seibert-Preis zur Förderung wissenschaftlicher Publikationen an der LFU Innsbruck 2004 für die Publikation “*Urotricha psenneri* n. sp. and *Amphileptus piger* (Vuxanovici, 1962) n. comb., two planktonic ciliates (Protozoa, Ciliophora) from an oligotrophic lake in Austria”

### **Grants & scholarships**

Aug 2008-Jan 2009 Research grant of the University of Innsbruck (Science Department) for the project: “The microbial food web of Piburger See, Tyrol - analysis at the species level.”

Jul–Dec 2000 Research grant of the University of Innsbruck (Economy Department) for the project: “Observation of the heterotrophic and mixotrophic ciliate community in the pelagic of Piburger See, Ötztal (Tirol) during re-oligotrophication.“

Jul–Dec 2000 Grant of the Wilhelm & Ilse Foissner Stiftung (Salzburg University) for the project: “New planktonic ciliates of Traunsee.” (University of Salzburg, Austria).