This workshop aims to lay the groundwork for a mechanistic trait-based framework for different microbial taxa by combining several fundamental fields, from genomics and metabolic modeling to community ecology and ecosystem modeling. We will identify key traits that can be used in community and ecosystem models and outline ways to derive such traits from known microbial genomes and metabolic networks. We will explore several biological and computational challenges within this topic, such as linking cellular metabolism to phenotypic traits, developing multidimensional models, reducing model complexity, modeling trait evolution at different levels and expanding metabolic models to the level of microbial communities. The workshop will bring together a highly interdisciplinary and diverse group of researchers at different stages of their careers, including applied mathematicians, computational microbial biologists, community ecologists and ecosystem scientists.

Participation in the workshop is by application only. Individuals with a strong interest in the topic are encouraged to apply, and successful applicants will be notified within two weeks of the application deadline. If needed, financial support for travel, meals, and lodging is available for workshop attendees.

**Application deadline: March 26, 2017**

For more information about the workshop and a link to the online application form, go to [http://www.nimbios.org/workshops/WS_microbes](http://www.nimbios.org/workshops/WS_microbes)