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Conditions for *Faecalibacterium prausnitzii* colonization, survival and host-microbe interactions in the human host

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Propositions accompanying the thesis

‘Conditions for *Faecalibacterium prausnitzii* colonization, survival and host-microbe interactions in the human host’

1. We need to study the human gut microbiota in its wide diversity, since not all bacteria are structured in the same manner or behave the same when challenged with chemical or physical stresses (This thesis).
2. Even though butyrate is one of the main effector molecules produced by *Faecalibacterium prausnitzii*, it is presently not possible to conclude unambiguously that butyrate is solely responsible for the observed effect of this bacterium on IL18 expression by intestinal epithelial cells and its regulatory effects (Chapter 2 of this thesis).
3. The HoxBan-stool system reflects the full complexity of the gut microbiota and it can, therefore, provide a more complete view of the microbial processes that contribute to health and disease of the human host (Chapter 3 of this thesis).
4. Re-evaluating our anthropocentric view, we can now declare, with humility and with deep appreciation, that we are but one biont within the human holobiont (Gordon, J., Knowlton, N., Relman, D. A., Rohwer, F., & Youle, M. (2013). *Microbe*, 8(4), 152–153).
5. An integrated analysis of the different interaction levels within the holobiont is key for interpreting and understanding the previous and present observations in the field of gut microbial ecology (This thesis).
6. He who works with the door open gets all kinds of interruptions, but he also occasionally gets clues as to what the world is and what might be important (Richard Hamming). She will experience the same. (Gabriela Bravo-Ruiseco)
7. “Whoever teaches learns in the act of teaching, and whoever learns teaches in the act of learning” (Paulo Freire).
8. “Shit happens” (Jan Maarten van Dijl); “Life is shit” (Hermie Harmsen). It took me some time to understand these true and wise words. You can take the best out of the shit and make of it whatever you want it to be, but you better enjoy it fast because the anaerobes won’t wait forever.