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**Propositions**  
accompanying the dissertation

# **Flavobacteria across Time and Scale**

Designing for Human-Microbe Engagement

By **Clarice Risseeuw**

1. Flavobacteria's living colour offers a record that can be traced back in time. (this thesis)
2. How people engage with microorganisms reflects their personal ways of relating to the world. (this thesis)
3. Designing for human-microbe engagement requires both technical and experiential insights, gathered in the lab and beyond. (this thesis)
4. The closer we zoom in on microbial life, the more we realise how microscopic our knowledge remains.
5. The unpredictability of microbial life is both biodesign's greatest obstacle and its most powerful source of creativity.
6. All living things affect their environment by making and transforming chemicals (Godfrey-Smith). Living artefacts extend this chemistry into the human brain by inviting affective engagement.
7. We do not learn from experience. We learn from reflecting on experience. (John Dewey)
8. Iridescence and life share a truth: both shift with perspective.
9. Het leven is het meervoud van lef. (Oma Comi)  
(English: life is the plural of courage; words by my grandma)
10. With a focused mind, the last sip of coffee tends to remain untouched.

These propositions are regarded as opposable and defensible, and have been approved as such by the promotor Prof.dr. E. Karana and the copromotors Dr. H.L. McQuillan and Dr. J. Soares de Oliveira Martins.