Proposal to replace the illegitimate genus name *Bryantella* Wolin et al. 2004\(^{VP}\) with the genus name *Marvinbryantia* gen. nov. and to replace the illegitimate combination *Bryantella formatexigens* Wolin et al. 2004\(^{VP}\) with *Marvinbryantia formatexigens* comb. nov.

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The prokaryote generic name *Bryantella* Wolin et al. 2004\(^{VP}\) is illegitimate because it is a later homonym of *Bryantella* Chickering, 1946 (Animalia, Arthropoda, Arachnida, Araneae, Salticidae, Dendryphantinae, Dendryphantini) and a later homonym of *Bryantella* Britton, 1957 (Animalia, Arthropoda, Scarabaeoidea, Scarabaeidae, Melolonthinae) [Principle 2, Rule 51b(4) of the Bacteriological Code (1990 Revision)]. *Bryantella* represents a genus of jumping spiders within the family Salticidae and a genus of melolonthine scarab beetles within the family Scarabaeidae. Therefore, a new genus name, *Marvinbryantia* gen. nov., is proposed for this taxon. As a result, a new combination, *Marvinbryantia formatexigens* comb. nov., is required for the type species to replace the illegitimate combination *Bryantella formatexigens* Wolin et al. 2004\(^{VP}\).

On 14 August 1999, the Judicial Commission of the International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology (ICSB) (De Vos & Trüper, 2000) recommended that the following change in the wording of Principle 2 of the Bacteriological Code, proposed by Tindall (1999), be accepted: ‘The nomenclature of prokaryotes is not independent of botanical and zoological nomenclature. When naming new taxa in the rank of genus or higher, due consideration is to be given to avoiding names which are regulated by the Zoological Code and the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature.’

Furthermore, the addition of the following Note to Principle 2 was proposed: ‘Note. This principle takes effect with publication of acceptance of this change by the ICSB and is not retroactive.’

Later, the ICSB (now the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes; ICSP) voted unanimously in favour of this proposal (Labeda, 2000). The minutes of the meetings of the Judicial Commission and the minutes of the meetings of the ICSB were published in the November 2000 issue of the *International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology* and, for all practical purposes, the new Principle 2 applies from 1 January 2001.

Wolin et al. (2003, 2004) published the description of a new taxon, *Bryantella formatexigens* gen. nov., sp. nov., representing a separate phylogenetic line of descent within the *Clostridium cocoides* rRNA gene cluster in the *Firmicutes* group of prokaryotes. This bacterium depends on formate for growth and homoacetogenic fermentation. It was isolated from human faeces (Wolin et al. 2003).

Recently, we discovered that the name *Bryantella* was illegitimate because it is a later homonym of *Bryantella* Chickering, 1946 (Animalia, Arthropoda, Arachnida, Araneae, Salticidae, Dendryphantinae, Dendryphantini) and a later homonym of *Bryantella* Britton, 1957 (Animalia, Arthropoda, Scarabaeoidea, Scarabaeidae, Melolonthinae). See Principle 2 [index to Organism Names (Thompson BIOSIS) at http://www.organismnames.com; Australian Faunal Directory at http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/abs/online-resources/fauna/afd/search.html].

According to Principle 6 of the Bacteriological Code (1990 Revision) (Lapage et al., 1992), the correct name of a taxon is based upon valid publication, legitimacy and priority of publication. An illegitimate name cannot be a correct name, and must be replaced. The fact that the generic name is illegitimate does not affect the legitimacy of the species epithets (Rule 32b and Rule 51a). As a result, reference to the authors of the species epithet has been retained in the authorship of the resulting new combination (Rule 54).

The illegitimate genus name *Bryantella* was chosen to honour the American microbiologist Marvin P. Bryant (1925–2000) in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the
microbial ecology of anaerobic ecosystems. The replacement genus name, *Marvinbryantia*, was also chosen to honour him.

There is no indication that the genus name *Marvinbryantia* has been used previously to designate taxa of bacteria [Krieg & Holt (1984) and subsequent volumes; http://www.bacterio.cict.fr; http://www.dsmz.de], protists (Kudo, 1966; Lee et al., 1985; Adl et al., 2005), algae (Irvine & John, 1984; Krammer & Lange-Bertalot, 1991; Simonsen, 1987; Reichardt, 1995; Lange-Bertalot & Genkal, 1999; Witkowski et al., 2000; Metzeltin & Lange-Bertalot, 2002; Krammer, 2003), fungi [Ainsworth et al., 1973; Jong & Gantt, 1984; Index Fungorum (http://www.indexfungorum.org)], plants [Index Nominum Generorum (ING) (http://ravenel.si.edu/botany/ing/ingForm.cfm)] or viruses (Mayo & Horcinek, 1998). Computer searches of abstracts, titles and keywords of publication databases (BIOSIS, 1970–2004; Zoological Record, 1979–1999; SciSearch, 1975–2004; Medline, 1970–2004; ICTVdB, 2002) indicate that the genus name *Marvinbryantia* has not been used previously. The new genus name seeks to conserve the meaning of the illegitimate name as originally published.

**Description of Marvinbryantia gen. nov.**


The description of the genus is as given for *Bryantella* by Wolin et al. (2003). The type species is *Marvinbryantia formatexigens*.

**Description of Marvinbryantia formatexigens comb. nov.**

*Marvinbryantia formatexigens* (for.mat.ex’i.gens. N.L. n. formas -atis formate, L. part. adj. exigens demanding; N.L. fem. part. adj. formatexigens formate-demanding).


The description of the species is as given for *Bryantella formatexigens* by Wolin et al. (2003). The type strain is I-52T = DSM 14469T = CCUG 46960T. Isolated from human faeces.

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**References**


