Supporting Information

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Construction of pLapD and Variants. The *lapD* gene, including the preceding 24 bp, was cloned into pMQ72 downstream of the PBAD promoter. A histidine-tagged version was cloned in the same manner, with the addition of 6 codons (CAT) before the stop codon. All site-directed mutations to *lapD* were cloned in yeast using the same vector (pMQ72) and technique: *lapD* was amplified in 2 pieces, the 5' fragment ending just upstream of the codon to be changed and the 3' fragment beginning just downstream. The new codon and 21 complementary bases were added to each internal primer so that recombination in yeast would yield a single amino acid change in the translated *lapD* ORF. Deletions of *lapD* were constructed in a similar way, with fragments flanking the sequence to be deleted and primers containing 25–30 bases complementary to the adjacent fragment in the completed construct.

Diguanylate Cyclase and Phosphodiesterase Activity Assays. *E. coli* strains expressing the DGC PleD and the PDE CC3396 were obtained from Urs Jenal, and these proteins were purified as described (1, 2). In vitro activity assays were conducted as described by (3) and modified by (4) with the addition of 1% Triton X-100 to the reaction buffer and an incubation time of 5 h at room temperature. Reactions were stopped with the addition of 10 μ 1 0.5 M EDTA and an equal volume of running buffer (1:1.5 saturated NH₄SO₄ and 1.5 M KH₂PO₄), and then were resolved by TLC. Results were visualized using a phosphor storage screen [\(Fig. S1,](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/data/0808933106/DCSupplemental/Supplemental_PDF#nameddest=SF1) *C* and *D*), as previously described (4).

Construction of Strains for Testing LapD Responsiveness to DGC Overexpression. DGC overexpression experiments were not performed on in a Δ *lapD* background because of plasmid incompatibility between our DGC construct and pMQ72 and derivatives (the plasmids used in $\Delta lapD$ complementation assays). Instead, LapD alleles (WT, K446A, and E203K) were reintroduced into the native LapD locus of the $\Delta lapD$ mutant by single-crossover integration; then the DGC PA1107 was overexpressed from pMQ72 in these genetic backgrounds.

Construction of a Kanamycin (Kan)-marked integration vector: pMQ87 (5) was modified by (*i*) excision of the Gentamycin resistance gene with BsrG1 and SacII, (*ii*) end filling by Klenow DNA polymerase (New England Biolabs), and (*iii*) ligation to a blunt SacI, NheI fragment of pHRB2 containing the Kan resistance gene, generating pDN2.

Construction of *lapD* integration constructs: each *lapD* allele of interest was excised from the corresponding pMQ72-based complementation plasmid with XmnI and KpnI, leaving 48 bp of homologous sequence to pDN2 at the 3' end. Additionally, a PCR fragment containing the 756 bp immediately upstream of *lapD* was amplified from genomic DNA using primers tagged with 30 bp of sequence homologous to $pDN2$ on the 5' end and the *lapD* reading frame on the 3' end (dubbed "*lapD* upstream"). Each *lapD* restriction fragment was mixed with the *lapD* upstream amplicon and SmaI-digested pDN2 and was used to transform yeast to generate recombinant plasmids by in vivo cloning. The resultant constructs are suicide vectors in *Pseudomonas* that are Kan marked and contain *lapD* with 756 bp of chromosomal sequence upstream to target the *lapD* locus for integration.

Construction of Δ*lapD*::*lapD*, and Δ*lapD*::*K446A* strains: the pDN2-lapD construct and derivatives were introduced to the Δ lapD mutant by conjugation. Integration of these *lapD* alleles into the native *lapD* locus was confirmed by PCR and phenotypic analysis; -*lapD*::*lapD* forms biofilms comparable to those of WT (data not shown). Plasmids containing the DGC PA1107 (and vector controls) were introduced into these strains by electroporation.

Non-Linear Regression Analysis of c-di-GMP–Binding Data. To estimate the K_d of LapD for c-di-GMP, filter-binding assay data were subjected to a non-linear regression analysis (Kaleidograph, Synergy Software). Non-specific binding (the average binding by the ΔPDE protein at a given concentration of c-di-GMP, $n = 3$) was subtracted from each of 3 data sets for LapD binding to yield specific binding data for each data set. The adjusted data were plotted as the amount of c-di-GMP bound verses the $log_{10}[c\text{-di-GMP}]$. The sigmoidal curve of best fit [\(Fig.](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/data/0808933106/DCSupplemental/Supplemental_PDF#nameddest=SF2) [S2\)](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/data/0808933106/DCSupplemental/Supplemental_PDF#nameddest=SF2) and K_d were determined as described by Cushing *et al.* (6). Several additional quantitative binding assays were applied to obtain an independent estimate. However, UV crosslinking of c-di-GMP and protein, or filter-binding assays using purified LapD, reproduced data for our control (PleD) but failed to show binding for LapD comparable to our other assays (data not shown). It is possible that structural support of the Ni-silica resin or the membrane is required for LapD's in vitro activity.

Ponceau S Staining of Quantitative LapA Dot Blots. To control for any differences in the retention of cells on the nitrocellulose membrane during dot blotting, a representative blot membrane was stained for total protein using Ponceau S (Sigma). Samples were spotted onto nitrocellulose, and the membrane was washed as was done for blotting. After washing, the membrane was rinsed and stained in Ponceau S solution according to the manufacturer's instructions. The stained membrane appears in [Fig. S3](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/data/0808933106/DCSupplemental/Supplemental_PDF#nameddest=SF3)*B*.

Confirmation of the Topology of LapD in the Inner Membrane. After the method of Manoil *et al.* (7), 4 translational fusions were constructed so that *lacZ* or *phoA* was fused to *lapD* after each of the 2 predicted transmembrane helices (amino acid positions 31 and 176, respectively). We assessed the stability and activity of these constructs by enzymatic assays [\(Fig. S4\)](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/data/0808933106/DCSupplemental/Supplemental_PDF#nameddest=SF4) and Western blotting (data not shown). β -galactosidase (β -gal) and alkaline phosphatase assays were performed as previously described (8, 9). β -gal activity was assessed through cleavage of the chromogenic substrate o-nitrophenyl-β-galactoside. Phosphatase activity was assessed through cleavage of the fluorogenic substrate methyl-umberriferyl phosphate.

Assessing in Vivo Stability of LapD and Variants. All variants of LapD used in this study were constructed with and without histidine tags and were found to have identical complementation phenotypes with and without the tag (data not shown). To determine the stability of these proteins, the following regimen was applied to the *lapD* mutant carrying each histidine-tagged variant. Strains were grown as if for a LapA localization assay (described in *Materials and Methods*). After 6 h incubation in K10T-1, cells were harvested and lysed in 750 μ l of buffer (75 mM Tris pH 8, 150 mM NaCl, and 10 mM MgCl). After lysis, cell debris was pelleted by centrifugation (15 min at $13,000 \times g$). Membranes were purified from the clarified lysate by ultracentrifugation (1 h at $100,000 \times g$, 4 °C) and resuspended in fresh buffer. Western blotting was performed on membrane preparations, and densitometry was used to determine protein stability

relative to LapD6H, as described previously (4). Stability data are listed in [Table S1.](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/data/0808933106/DCSupplemental/Supplemental_PDF#nameddest=ST1)

Construction of Strains with an Inducible rapA Gene. The *rapA* gene (Pfl01–1678) was amplified with primers containing BamH1 and Acc651 restriction sites. This product and pSRK-*K*^m were digested with the appropriate enzymes, and the resulting frag-

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ments were ligated to yield a plasmid in which *rapA* is under the clontrol of LacI (10). A fragment containing *lacI*-Plac-*rapA* was excised from the resulting plasmid with NheI and EcoRI and was subcloned into SpeI-EcoRI– digested pHRB2, within the Tn*7* integration cassette. This plasmid (pHRB2-SRK-*rapA*) was used to introduce the Tn*7* cassette into the chromosome as described (4).

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Fig. S1. Testing LapD's DGC and PDE activity in vitro. An alignment of the LapD sequence with sequences of enzymatically active DGCs (*A*) and PDEs (*B*) reveals the absence of key catalytic residues, indicated by shading in the alignment and arrows underneath the LapD sequence. The enzymatic activity of LapD was tested in DGC (*C*) and PDE (*D*) assays, the products of which are shown separated by TLC. As compared with positive controls (PleD and CC3396 of *C. crescentus*), LapD lacks both DGC and PDE activity.

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Fig. S2. Non-linear regression of specific binding of c-di-GMP by LapD in filter-binding assays. The amount of radiolabeled c-di-GMP bound by LapD-containing membranes in 3 independent assays is plotted against log₁₀ of the concentration of c-di-GMP.

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Fig. S3. Biofilm formation phenotypes and surface LapA levels of control strains and additional *lapD* derivatives. (*A*) Biofilm phenotypes of additional strains described in *Results*. The *∆lapD* pLoop strain was grown in 0.2% arabinose; the overexpression of the first 30 codons of LapD from pLoop restores biofilm formation to-*lapD*. The cytoplasmic portion of the protein (pCyto) and the EAL domain alone (pEAL) do not complement-*lapD*. (*B*) Cell surface LapA from strains shown in (A) was quantified by α -LapA dot blotting ($n = 3 \pm$ SD). A Ponceau S-stained dot blot membrane and representative dot blot are shown, both treated with the same washing regimen before staining/visualization.

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A TM1: PhoA+ -Gal-IM N TM2: PhoA- β -Gal+ Activity (Miller Units) $\mathsf{\Gamma}$ **C**
β-Galactosidase
Activity (Miller Units) B -Galactosidase 2000 Phosphatase
Activity (RFU) 50 Activity (RFU) Phosphatase 1500 40 30 1000 20 500 10 0 0 TM1 TM2 TM1 TM2

Fig. S4. Testing the predicted topology of LapD in the inner membrane. (*A*) A schematic of LapD shows the location of and activity of fusions (TM1 and TM2, respectively, indicated by arrows). (*B*) Phosphatase activity of PhoA fusions to TM1 and TM2 expressed in relative fluorescence units (RFU). Fusion of PhoA to TM1 results in enzymatic activity, but fusion to TM2 does not, suggesting that residues between TM1 and TM2 are periplasmic and residues after TM2 are cytoplasmic. (C) β-Galactosidase activity of fusions to TM1 and TM2, in Miller units. Only fusion of β-galactosidase to TM2 results in enzymatic activity. This finding suggests a cytoplasmic localization of residues after TM2, consistent with the PhoA fusion data.

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Table S1. LapD stability in vivo

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aPhenotype indicates the ability of the allele to complement the Δ lapD mutant for biofilm formation, relative to the WT allele.

*^b*Stability is given as percent abundance relative to WT LapD, calculated by densitometry using scanned images of representative western blots.

Table S2. Bacterial strains and plasmids

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Table S3. Oligonucleotides used in this study

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