

# THE SCOPE



Michigan Branch- American Society for Microbiology  
Fall 2006 Conference

*"Biofilms ~ We are All in this Together"*

*Saturday, October 7, 2006*

*To be held at Lansing Community College, Lansing, MI.*



The Fall 2006 meeting of the Michigan Branch-American Society for Microbiology will be held on the West Campus of Lansing Community College, in Lansing, MI. On Saturday, October 7, 2006, three exciting seminars will be given on biofilms by Drs. Dennis Cvitkovitch (University of Toronto), Dr. Lawrence Shimkets (University of Georgia), and Dr. Marvin Whiteley (The University of Texas at Austin). There will be a student poster session and corporate sponsor exhibits. Please mark your calendars for this event!

## 2006-2007 Officers and Executive Committee Members

**President:** Donald LeBlanc,  
Retired, Pfizer Global Research and  
Development (djleblanc1@comcast.net)

**President-Elect:** Mary Ann Cardani,  
Univ. of Michigan - Flint  
(mcardani@flint.umich.edu)

**Past-President:** Daniel Clemans,  
Eastern Michigan Univ.  
(daniel.clemans@emich.edu)

**Secretary:** Silvia Rossbach,  
Western Michigan Univ.  
(Silvia.Rossbach@wmich.edu)

**Treasurer:** Debra Hanna,  
Pfizer (Debra.Hanna@pfizer.com)

**Councilor:** Judith Whittum-Hudson,  
Wayne State Univ.  
(jHUDSON@med.wayne.edu)

**Alternate Councilor:** Michael Huband,  
Pfizer (Michael.Huband@pfizer.com)

**Corporate Liaison:** Michael A. Cohen  
(mbcman@charter.net)

**Newsletter Editor:** Jim VandenBosch,  
Eastern Mich. Univ.  
(Jim.VandenBosch@emich.edu)

**Electronic Communications:**  
Ralph Gorton, Lansing Community College  
(gortonr@lcc.edu)

**Education Chair:**  
Kris Baumgarten, Delta College,  
([kbaumga@delta.edu](mailto:kbaumga@delta.edu))

**University & College Liaison:**  
Michael Ryan, Ferris State Univ.  
(ryanm@ferris.edu)

**Community College Liaison**  
Paul Pagano  
Pfizer (Paul.j.pagano@Pfizer.com)

**Archive Representative:**  
Richard Bell (rkbell129@ameritech.net)

**Fall Meeting Organizers:**  
Mary Ann Cardani and Donald LeBlanc

## GERHARDT ENDOWMENT

Through the generosity of Dr. Philipp Gerhardt and his wife Vera, the Michigan Branch provides substantial support for student research and travel. The Gerhardt Endowment is used to enhance the microbiology research training of undergraduate and early stage graduate students in Michigan.



**The Endowment funds are stipulated for: 1) Research Excellence Awards: awarded to students who demonstrate exemplary accomplishment in experimental design and results that are reported as a poster or an oral presentation at a MI-ASM meeting. 2) Travel Awards: granted to students to supplement other financial resources for travel so as to allow the awardees to attend an appropriate microbiology-related scientific meeting, or to obtain special microbiology-related research training.**

The application procedure, amount and availability of the awards is published on the **MI-ASM website (MI-ASM.org)** and distributed to Michigan educational institutions offering microbiology-related programs.

### Education Chair's report (Kris Baumgarten; kbaumga@delta.edu)

There will soon be eight student chapters of the MI-ASM. Jeffrey Ram is beginning a student chapter this fall at Wayne State University. The other student chapters include Michigan Tech, Central Michigan, Western Michigan, Michigan State, UM-Flint, Eastern Michigan, and Delta College. Of the 82 students chapters of the ASM, 7 are from Michigan. Paul Pagano is the new Community College Liaison. Paul and I will be contacting the 29 community colleges to inform them of education opportunities with the branch.

### Current MI-ASM Student Chapters

Central Michigan University Microbiology Club, Eastern Michigan University Microbiology Club, Western Michigan University Microbiology Club, University of Michigan-Flint Microbiology Club, Michigan State University Microbiology Club, Michigan Technological University Microbiology Club, & Tri-Cities Microbiology Club.

### Upcoming Meetings

The Spring Meeting of the MI-ASM will be hosted by Wayne State Univ. and is tentatively scheduled for April 21, 2007. The 107<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology will be held in Toronto, Ontario May 21-25, 2007.

## MICHIGAN BRANCH/ASM CORPORATE PARTNERS

We thank all of our **Corporate Partners** for providing financial support for the Michigan ASM Branch.

**A Special "Thank You" to Pfizer Global R&D** for its consistent and substantial level of contribution.

### Members are encouraged to support our Corporate Partners.

PFIZER GLOBAL R&D, A2 site	Michael Huband	734/622-7562	<a href="mailto:Michael.Huband@pfizer.com">Michael.Huband@pfizer.com</a>
AB BIODISK	Karen Mills	800/874-8814	<a href="mailto:etestbioldiskna@worldnet.att.net">etestbioldiskna@worldnet.att.net</a>
BECKMAN COULTER	Robert Stetler	800/392-2164 #9112	<a href="mailto:bstetler@beckman.com">bstetler@beckman.com</a>
BECTON DICKINSON	Brad Nawa	800/219-7174 #2637	<a href="mailto:brad_nawa@bd.com">brad_nawa@bd.com</a>
BIOMERIEUX VITEK	Emil Ulstrup	800/634-7656 #65001	<a href="mailto:emil.ulstrup@na.biomerieux.com">emil.ulstrup@na.biomerieux.com</a>
BRINKMAN	Steven Drayer	800/645-3950 #2734	
CLONTECH	Robert Kane	800/662-2566 #7725	<a href="mailto:bob_kane@bd.com">bob_kane@bd.com</a>
CORNING	Thomas Stapleton	734/996-4021	<a href="mailto:stapletotj@corning.com">stapletotj@corning.com</a>
COY LABORATORY PRODUCTS	Brian Coy	734/475-2200	<a href="mailto:sales@coylab.com">sales@coylab.com</a>
DOT SCIENTIFIC	Greg Kessler	800/878-1785	<a href="mailto:gkessler@dotscientific.com">gkessler@dotscientific.com</a>
EMD CHEMICALS	Mark Wagner	800/648-4827 #726	<a href="mailto:mwagner@emscience.com">mwagner@emscience.com</a>
GIANGARLO SCIENTIFIC	Don Roddy	412/922-8850	<a href="mailto:droddy@cogeco.ca">droddy@cogeco.ca</a>
HARDY DIAGNOSTICS	Christopher Catani	800/266-2222 #5696	<a href="mailto:catanic@hardydiagnostics.com">catanic@hardydiagnostics.com</a>
INVITROGEN	Holly Senter	800/955-6288 #61413	
KING PHARMACEUTICALS			<a href="http://www.kingpharm.com">www.kingpharm.com</a>
MAGER SCIENTIFIC	Janet Stanciu	734/426-3885	<a href="mailto:jstanciu@magersci.com">jstanciu@magersci.com</a>
METTLER-TOLEDO	Dennis Griffith	800/638-8537 x7098	
MIDWEST SCIENTIFIC	Renee Fishel	800/227-9997 #401	<a href="mailto:reneef@midsci.com">reneef@midsci.com</a>
NALGE NUNC	David Fiorvante	330/723-0922	<a href="mailto:dfiorvante@nalgenunc.com">dfiorvante@nalgenunc.com</a>
NSF INTERNATIONAL	Robert Donofrio	800/NSF-MARK	
OLYMPUS	Dan Kunkel	800/645-8100 #6711	<a href="mailto:dkunkel@opticalanalysis.com">dkunkel@opticalanalysis.com</a>
PALL LIFE SCIENCES	Shane VanWasshnova	800/521-1520 #6181	<a href="mailto:shane_vanwasshnova@pall.com">shane_vanwasshnova@pall.com</a>
REMEL	Megan Petrasek	800/255-6730 #4965	<a href="mailto:mpetrasek@remel.com">mpetrasek@remel.com</a>
SBI SCIENCE	Dr. Chris H. Weber	734/622-0154	<a href="mailto:chweber@sbiscience.com">chweber@sbiscience.com</a>
SIGMA-ALDRICH	Alexandra Howells	800/396-0803 #1123	<a href="mailto:ahowells@sial.com">ahowells@sial.com</a>
SIGMA-GENOSYS	Amber Witherbee	800/234-5362 #1292	
THERMO-FORMA	Dan Wilson	800/451-8306 #3139	<a href="mailto:dan.wilson@thermo.com">dan.wilson@thermo.com</a>
USA SCIENTIFIC	Wendy Robertson	800/872-3847 #530	<a href="mailto:derekandwendy@charter.net">derekandwendy@charter.net</a>
VIVA SCIENCE	Jan Pettitt	877/452-2345 #8813	<a href="mailto:Jan.pettitt@vivascience.com">Jan.pettitt@vivascience.com</a>
VWR INTERNATIONAL	Paul Mueller	800/932-5000	<a href="mailto:pmueller@vwrsp.com">pmueller@vwrsp.com</a>
WHATMAN	Gretchen Hathaway	800/332-1942 #4554	<a href="mailto:gretchen.hathaway@whatman.com">gretchen.hathaway@whatman.com</a>

Please visit <http://mi-asm.org/> for further information on our corporate partners.

\*\*\*PLEASE COPY AND POST IN YOUR DEPARTMENT!\*\*\*



## Fall 2006 MI-ASM Conference

# *"BIOFILMS - We're all in This Together"*

Saturday, October 7, 2006

To be held at the Michigan Technical Education Center (MTEC) on the  
WEST CAMPUS of Lansing Community College, Lansing, Michigan



### Friday, October 6

7:00-9:00 PM **MI-ASM Board Dinner Meeting:** Christie's Bistro Lansing Sheraton Hotel

### Saturday October 7

7:45 - 8:45 am **Registration & Continental Breakfast**, Poster & Corporate Exhibit set-up  
(main lobby of the MTEC facility)

8:45 - 9:00 am **Welcome & Opening Remarks:** Dr. Tom Deits (Chair of Science Department,  
LCC) and Dr. Don LeBlanc (MI-ASM President)

9:00 - 10:00 am **Dr. Lawrence Shimkits**, Department of Microbiology, University of Georgia

*"ALIEN GENES AND A NOVEL SENSORY TRANSDUCTION SYSTEM REQUIRED FOR BIOFILM  
FORMATION, CHEMOTAXIS, AND FRUITING BODY DEVELOPMENT IN MYXOCOCCUS XANTHUS."*

10:00 - 11:15 am **Coffee Break; Poster Viewing/Judging** with poster presenters in attendance;  
visit with corporate vendors

11:15 - 12:15 **Dr. Marvin Whitely**, Molecular Genetics & Microbiology, Univ. of Texas, Austin

*"BACTERIAL SPEECH BUBBLES."*

12:15 - 1:15 pm \* **Lunch & Business Meeting:** Awards presentation for Poster Winners

1:15 - 2:30 pm **Dr. Dennis Cvitkovitch**, Dentistry, Microbiology Department, Univ. of Toronto

*"THE MOB MENTALITY OF STREP MUTANS AND HOW TO EXPLOIT IT"*

\* Lunch is an Italian Buffet: Caesar salad, garlic breadsticks, choice of vegetarian or meat lasagna,  
cheese ravioli with basil cream sauce, Italian green beans and assorted mini cannoli.

For additional information and registration, please visit:

<http://www.mi-asm.org>.

Online registration will ensure reservations for the meeting and lunch.

## CONFERENCE LOCATION, PARKING, & MISC. INFORMATION.



### Meeting Organizers: (see Officers listing above for contact information)

Site Host: Ralph Gorton

Co-chairs: Mary Ann Cardani and Don LeBlanc

### Meeting Location:

Lansing Community College's West Campus-Michigan Technical Education Center (MTEC) is located at the junction of Sanders Drive and Cornerstone Drive near I-496 in Lansing, MI. For the meeting, enter through central, main doors just off the parking lot. Registration tables will be in the main floor lobby as you enter.

### Driving Directions:

It is easiest to approach the campus on I-496 from the west where it comes off of I-96/I-69. Exit eastbound I-496 at the first exit (Creys Road South exit) and turn right at the light (Creys). Turn left at the second light (Mt Hope Highway). Continue on Mt Hope Highway for approximately a half-mile, turn left onto Sanders Drive (Just after the David Chapman Insurance Agency). The facility is straight ahead.

Directions are also available at the meeting website or from on-line sources, using:

5708 Cornerstone Dr, Lansing, MI

### Lodging:

A limited number of rooms remain available at the Sheraton Lansing Hotel, 9255 S. Creys Rd, Lansing, MI, (517) 323-7100 with a "Lansing Community College Discount Rate" of \$86 plus tax

Other nearby hotels include:

- Country Inn and Suites ([www.countryinns.com](http://www.countryinns.com)); 6511 Centurion Drive; Lansing, MI; (517) 827-7000 has a standard rate of \$89 plus tax.
- Holiday Inn Lansing West Conference Center ([www.holidayinn.com](http://www.holidayinn.com)); 7501 W. Saginaw Highway; Lansing, MI; (517) 627-3211 has a standard rate of \$99.
- Best Western Midway ([www.midwayhotels.com](http://www.midwayhotels.com)); 7711 W. Saginaw Highway; Lansing, MI; (517) 627-8471 has a standard rate of \$94.



## POSTER PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

The Michigan ASM encourages undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and other professional microbiologists to present posters at our Fall and Spring meetings. **STUDENTS who present a poster do not pay the conference registration fee and they receive a one-year free membership in MI-ASM. STUDENT ENTRIES will be judged and the winner of the "Best Student Poster" will receive a framed certificate, a copy of Dr. Philipp Gerhardt's classic text, and a free membership to the National ASM. To be eligible, the student presenter must be at their poster to discuss the findings with the judges during the judging period.** At this meeting we will provide easels. Presenters should bring their posters on stiff material (e.g., foam board) with a recommended size of 3' by 5'. Complete guidelines are available at

[mi-asm.org/fall06meeting/posterguidelines.htm](http://mi-asm.org/fall06meeting/posterguidelines.htm)

If you have specific questions regarding posters, please contact Ralph Gorton([gortonr@lcc.edu](mailto:gortonr@lcc.edu)).