

THE SCOPE

A publication of the Michigan Branch of the American Society for Microbiology

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President's Report

Anne Spain

Michigan Microbiologists, welcome to a new academic year! Our fall meeting is approaching quickly, so be sure to register and book your hotel. This year, the fall meeting will be held in Ann Arbor on Oct 23-24 and will be hosted by the University of Michigan's Department of Microbiology and Microbiology. Dr. Harry Mobley, chair of the planning committee, and his team have lined up three exciting talks with speakers all being former University of Michigan alumni. The title "ASM Milestones in Michigan Microbiology: Spotlight on Bacterial Pathogenicity" refers to an emphasis on pathogenesis talks but also highlights the recognition of the Microbiology and Immunology department at the University of Michigan and their contributions to the field of Microbiology, as it is being designated as a "Milestone Site" by the American Society for Microbiology! So, let's all join in and show our support to Dr. Mobley and the University of Michigan! The meeting kicks off with a student mixer on Friday, October 23rd from 5:30-7:30 pm at the Slurping Turtle, and conference registration and

breakfast begins the next morning at 7:45 am. Our first plenary speaker of the day is Dr. Andy Camilli from Tufts University, presenting on the "Study of the *Vibrio cholerae*

Corporate Partners

American Proficiency Institute

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EMB Millipore

Emergent Biosolutions

Innovative Solutions

MidSci

Promega

Pearson Education

Remel Microbiology Products

USA Scientific

Whatman

Lifecycle and Developing Ways to Prevent Infection.”

Afternoon speakers are Dr. Neal Hammer from Michigan State University, talking on “*Metabolite exchange promotes virulence of antibiotic-resistant Staphylococcus aureus*” and Dr. Melody Neely of Wayne State University, who will be talking about “*Exploiting Cell Envelope Regulation of Group B Streptococcus to Increase Susceptibility to the Immune System.*” Abstract submission is now open, and students can submit an abstract for either an oral or poster presentation. Please make note that the deadline for abstract submission is Friday, October 9th.

The success of our branch depends upon the active participation of students in our conferences. As such, we are excited to announce that, starting this year, our branch will be awarding a new grant opportunity to support student travel to a national conference! Students must present at either the Fall or Spring MI-ASM meetings prior to the deadline, which is December 1st. Complete guidelines and forms can be found on our website at <http://mi-asm.org/Travel%20Award/index.htm>. We encourage all eligible students to check this out and apply! As a former Central Michigan Biology undergraduate student who presented at MI-ASM meetings, I highly encourage

undergraduates and new graduate students to submit abstracts to present. It is a great experience, an opportunity to meet and network with Microbiologists all around the state of Michigan, and can really prepare you for presenting at national conferences. With the addition of our new travel award, there is no reason not to come and present your work! Finally, I would like to thank all the Board Members of MI-ASM, especially our outgoing President, Michael Pressler, for their support in making my transition to President as easy as possible. It’s going to be a great year, and it all starts this October in Ann Arbor – we hope to see you all there!

Spring Meeting 2016

Jennifer Hess

The Spring 2016 meeting is tentatively planned to be held in Grand Rapids at Davenport University. Be on the lookout for more information early in 2016!

Introducing the ASM Speakers’ Bureau!

Sue Bagley

The ASM Speakers’ Bureau was established to educate ASM Student Chapter members about the microbiology-related career opportunities outside of academia and its goal is to attract students to the profession.

Speakers (who must be ASM members) discuss their career highlights, day-to-day responsibilities, and

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Spring 2015 Awards

Best Poster

Jonathan Hoerger, Western Michigan University, graduate

Yogesh Suryawanshi, Western Michigan University, graduate

Best Oral Presentation

Anja Williams, Western Michigan University, graduate

ASM Milestones in Michigan Microbiology: Spotlight on Bacterial Pathogenicity

October 23-24, 2015, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Friday, October 23rd

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|---|
| 5:30-7:30 pm | Student and Faculty Mixer | Slurping Turtle 608 E. Liberty Street |
| 7:30 pm | Board Dinner | Sava's 216 South State Street |

Saturday, October 24th

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 7:45-8:45 am | Breakfast and Registration | Parker Room, Michigan Union 530 S. State Street |
| 8:50 - 9:00 am | Introduction and Welcome Anne Spain, Branch President | Rogel Ballroom |
| 9:00 – 9:50 am | Plenary Session 1 Andy Camilli, Ph.D. Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences, Tufts University "Study of the <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> Lifecycle and Developing Ways to Prevent Infection" | |
| 9:50-10:50 am | Poster/Vendor viewing Coffee break | |
| 10:50-11:50 am | Student Speakers 1-4 | Rogel Ballroom |
| 11:50 - 1:05 pm | Lunch and Business Meeting | Parker Room |
| 1:05 – 1:55 pm | Plenary Session 2 Neal Hammer Ph.D. Michigan State University "Metabolite exchange promotes virulence of antibiotic-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>" | |
| 1:55-2:10 pm | Student Award Presentations and Board Announcements | Rogel Ballroom |
| 2:10-3:00 pm | Plenary Session 3 Melody Neely, Ph.D. Department of Immunology and Microbiology, School of Medicine, Wayne State University "Exploiting Cell Envelope Regulation of Group B <i>Streptococcus</i> to Increase Susceptibility to the Immune System" | Rogel Ballroom |
| 3:00 pm | Meeting Adjourns | |
| 3:00-3:45 pm | Board Meeting Planning Committee: Harry Mobley, Jeff Perry, Chelsie Armbruster, Denise Bronner, Marie-Eve Charbonneau, Darrell Cockburn, Sebastien Crepin, Kari Debbink, Jeremiah Johnson, Anna Seekatz and Yao Xiao Corporate Sponsors: Dot Scientific Inc., Promega, and Sigma-Aldrich Corporation | |

3:45 pm
3:45-4:30 pm

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acquire a job upon graduation. Presentations are expected to be about 15 minutes and can be live, for example in-person or via a system such a Google hangout or Adobe connect, or previously videotaped. Recruitment of speakers began in 2013 and a pilot launch was conducted. Based on the students' and speakers' feedback, the Speakers' Bureau was deemed a success and a larger-scale launch is now underway! There are currently 75 ASM Speakers who are available to discuss their dynamic careers in areas such as:

- Biological Safety
- Clinical Microbiology or Immunology
- Food and Dairy Microbiology
- Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices
- Public Health

Additional speakers are being sought, in particular in areas dealing with bioremediation, biotechnology, indoor air quality, industrial microbiology, policy, technical sales, and water.

ASM recently emailed Student Chapters and

Advisors within the Michigan Branch about this program. Those interested in locating speakers should go to the [Bureau's website](#) to learn more. Please feel free to contact Nicole Jackson, ASM Staff, with any questions by telephone at 202-942-9257 or by email at professionalpractice@asmusa.org.

Any ASM member outside of academia who is interested in joining the Speakers' Bureau should also contact Ms. Jackson.

To schedule in a live event with a local speaker, a recorded presentation or video call presentation, email professionalpractice@asmusa.org. ASM staff will contact the requested speaker to confirm her/his availability. Once the presentation has been scheduled, Student Chapter representatives will work directly with the speaker to finalize the event's specifics (e.g., address of where the presentation will be held, A/V need and/or or the number of expected attendees for a live event). There is no cost to the chapter but students will be asked to complete a post-presentation survey.

**See you
at
MI-ASM**

Elected Officers

PRESIDENT, Anne Spain, Ferris State University, annespain@ferris.edu
PRESIDENT- ELECT, Anne Casper, Eastern Michigan University, anne.casper@emich.edu
PAST PRESIDENT, Michael Pressler, Delta College, michaelpressler2@delta.edu
SECRETARY, Jennifer Hess, Aquinas College, hessjen@aquinas.edu
TREASURER, John Geiser, Western Michigan University, john.geiser@wmich.edu
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ALTERNATE COUNCILOR, Steve Gorsich, Central Michigan University, gorsi1sw@cmich.edu

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Student Chapters

Check them out online, <http://www.mi-asm.org>.

Most have links to their own websites.

Central Michigan University
 Eastern Michigan University Microbiology Club
 Grand Valley State University Microbiology Club
 Lake Superior State University Microbiology Club
 Michigan State University Microbiology Club
 Michigan Technological University Microbiology Club
 Tri-Cities Microbiology Club
 University of Michigan - Dearborn
 University of Michigan - Flint
 Wayne State University
 Western Michigan University

***** Student Chapters,
 remember to apply for
 funding to help defray
 costs of attending
 Meetings!**

