President’s Report
Audra Swarthout, MI-ASM Branch President

Our Spring Meeting is fast approaching! The Meeting, "Anaerobes", will be held at Ferris State University on April 5-6. We will kick off the meeting on Friday evening with an optional student mixer and reception for students and members in addition to an optional Board dinner. All members interested in participating on the Board are encouraged to attend. Saturday will feature three keynote speakers. Dr. Eric Martens from the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Michigan will present “Evolution of complex carbohydrates in human gut Bacteroidetes”. Dr. Michael J. McInerney from the Department of Botany and Microbiology at the Institute for Energy and the Environment at The University of Oklahoma will present “Not so hot and not too salty microbes and their role in biohydrogen production, corrosion and oil recovery”. Our final plenary speaker, Dr. Denise M. Akob from the United States Geological Survey will round out the day with “Linking microbes to the fate of Cold War Era heavy metal contamination.”

In addition to our three plenary speakers we will have both poster and oral presentations from our student members. Students are encouraged to participate by presenting their research efforts.

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Anaerobes
April 5-6, Ferris State University

Friday, April 5th

6:00 – 8:00 pm  Student Mixer/Reception
7:30 – 9:30 pm  Board Dinner

Saturday, April 6th

7:45-8:45 am  Breakfast and Registration
8:50 - 9:00 am  Introduction and Welcome
9:00 - 10:00 am  Plenary Session 1
  Eric Martens, Ph.D.
  Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Michigan
  "Evolution of complex carbohydrate in human gut Bacteroidetes"

10:00 - 11:00 am  Poster/Vendor viewing
  Coffee break
11:00 - 12:00 pm  Student Speakers
12:30 - 1:15 pm  Lunch and Business Meeting

1:15 – 2:15 pm  Plenary Session 2
  Michael J. McLnerney, Ph.D.
  Department of Botany and Microbiology and The Institute for Energy and the Environment, The University of Oklahoma
  "Not so hot and not too salty microbes and their role in biohydrogen production, corrosion and oil recovery"

2:30 – 3:30 pm  Plenary Session 3
  Denise M. Akob, Ph.D.
  United States Geological Survey
  "Linking microbes to the fate of Cold War Era heavy metal contamination"

3:30  Meeting adjourns
3:30 - 4:30 pm  Board Meeting

More information for the meeting including directions and hotels, can be found online at
http://www.mi-asm.org/
There will be awards for: best undergraduate poster, best graduate poster, best undergraduate oral presentation and best graduate oral presentation. Abstracts can be submitted at our website, www.mi-asm.org, and should be submitted early. As usual, our Corporate Partners will be present to answer questions and display new products. Please visit and support them. We will also have our Branch business meeting on Saturday during lunch, at which time we will be voting on a new President-Elect, Councilor and Alternate Councilor. I would like to encourage all of members to consider taking the opportunity to serve on the Board.

Your attendance and participation at these meetings is vital to the continued success of the Michigan Branch of the ASM. Please check our website, http://www.mi-asm.org, for full meeting, registration and lodging information, and be sure to check out our new "early bird" registration option. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Finally, a special thanks to the meeting planning committee, Michael Ryan and Anne Spain for all of your hard work in organizing what promises to be another great meeting.

**Fall Meeting 2013**

Plans are in the works for our Fall meeting at Delta College in University Center, MI. Stay tuned for updates at the meeting and on the website.

**Student Info.**

*John Geiser*

**Student Chapters**

Currently the branch sponsors ten student chapters. This makes us one of the most student-oriented branches that ASM has. The following Schools and Universities throughout the State have student chapters: Michigan Tech, Central Michigan, Western Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Michigan State, UM-Flint, UM-Dearborn, Wayne State, Delta College and Grand Valley State University. Student chapters are a great place to meet up with like-minded people. If you haven’t already checked yours out, please do so; you will not regret it. No chapter at your school? Then maybe you are the one to begin a new chapter! Contact any board member to learn more about starting your chapter. We would be happy to work with you to make this a possibility.

**Research and Travel awards**

Through the generosity of Dr. Philipp Gerhardt and his wife Vera, the Michigan Branch of the American Society for Microbiology is able to provide 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 within the State of Michigan. Information for applying for funding can be found on the branch website, http://www.mi-asm.org.

We encourage all of our

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**Fall 2012 Awards**

**Best Poster**

*Mary J. Thwaites, Western Michigan University, graduate*

*Katherine Dziuba, Eastern Michigan University, graduate*

**Best Talk**

*Will Fitzsimmons, Eastern Michigan University, graduate*
Elected Officers
PRESIDENT, Audra Swarthout, Delta College, audraswarthout@delta.edu
PRESIDENT-ELECT, Steve Gorsich, Central Michigan University, gorsi1sw@cmich.edu
PAST PRESIDENT, Joan B. Rose, Michigan State University, rosejo@msu.edu
SECRETARY, Jennifer Hess, Aquinas College, hessjen@aquinas.edu
TREASURER, John Geiser, Western Michigan University, john.geiser@wmich.edu
COUNCILOR, Susan Bagley, Michigan Technological University, stbagley@mtu.edu
ALTERNATE COUNCILOR, Joan B. Rose, Michigan State University, rosejo@msu.edu

Appointed Officers
EDUCATIONAL CHAIR, Kris Baumgarten, KBaum11944@aol.com
CORPORATE LIAISON, Michael A. Cohen, mbcman@charter.net
UNIVERSITY and COLLEGE LIAISON, Jeff L. Ram, Wayne State University, jeffram@med.wayne.edu
NEWSLETTER EDITOR, Jennifer Hess, Aquinas College, hessjen@aquinas.edu
WEBSITE MAINTENANCE, John Geiser, Western Michigan University, john.geiser@wmich.edu
ARCHIVE REPRESENTATIVE, Richard Bell, Macomb Community College, beller@macomb.edu
COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIAISON, Audra Swarthout, Delta College, audraswarthout@delta.edu

Board Members-at-large
Kris Baumgarten, Delta College, KBaum11944@aol.com
Mary Ann Cardani, UM-Flint (retired), mcardani@comcast.net
Dan Clemans, Eastern Michigan University, dclemans@emich.edu
Ola Olapade, Albion College, oolapade@albion.edu
Britt Ranson Olson, Lake Superior State University, branson@lssu.edu
Silvia Rossbach, Western Michigan University, Silvia.Rossbach@wmich.edu
Michael Ryan, Ferris State University, ryanm@ferris.edu
Jim VandenBosch, Eastern Michigan University, jim.vandenbosch@emich.edu
Judith Whittum-Hudson, Wayne State University, jhudson@med.wayne.edu
Anne Spain, Ferris State University, annespain@ferris.edu
Michael Pressler, Delta College, michaelpressler2@delta.edu
Sonia Tiqua, UM-Dearborn, smtiquia@umd.umich.edu

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
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!***
students to apply for these resources. Feel free to discuss it with any board member or your chapter advisor.

Finance Report

John Geiser

At last report, our current bank account balance is about $19000. We have two CD's that are currently collecting interest.

Videos from Past MI-ASM Meetings Available

Jen Hess

All videos of past meetings have been uploaded to our website. To access each video, you will need to use the following password combinations: "MI-ASM Semester Year". For example, the past fall password would be "MI-ASM Fall 2012".
# Board Officer Elections

cut off and bring with you to the Spring Meeting

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<th>Position</th>
<th>Candidate(s)</th>
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<td><strong>President-Elect</strong></td>
<td>Mike Pressler, Delta College</td>
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<td><strong>Councilor</strong></td>
<td>Joan Rose, Michigan State Univ.</td>
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<td><strong>Alternate Councilor</strong></td>
<td>Audra Swarthout, Delta College</td>
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If you are interested in nominating yourself or any other faculty/staff member for one of these positions, please contact the current board officers. If you are interested in serving as an appointed officer in one of the many service opportunities, please contact the board as well.