



# Michigan Branch of the American Society for Microbiology

Annual 2025 Spring Meeting, April 5, 2025

[The University of Michigan-Dearborn Renick University Center](#)

4901 Evergreen Road Dearborn, Michigan 48128

Time	Event
8:00 - 9:00 am	Registration & Continental Breakfast Served
9:00 - 9:10 am	Welcome and Introduction: Sonia M. Tiquia-Arashiro, Branch President
9:10 - 9:30 am	<b>Dr. Aathmaja Anandhi Rangarajan (Peggy Cotter Awardee)</b> “ <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> modulates cyclic di-GMP in response to zinc and quorum sensing via a horizontally acquired genomic island”
9:30 - 9:50 am	<b>Dr. Srishti Baid (Peggy Cotter Awardee)</b> “High throughput mapping of the interaction of Streptokinase reveals residues critical for binding to plasminogen and potentially <i>Streptococcus pathogenesis</i> ”
9:50 - 10:10 am	<b>Dr. Ritam Sinha (Peggy Cotter Awardee)</b> “Intestinal inflammation promotes <i>Campylobacter jejuni</i> growth during infection”
10:10 - 11:00 am	Morning Poster Session
11:00 - 11:15 am	<b>Emily Perez (Michigan State University)</b> “The role of a HRxxN histidine kinase in <i>Brucella ovis</i> general and detergent stress responses”
11:15 - 11:30 am	<b>Eleazar Reward (Wayne State University)</b> “Understanding the differential substrate recognition by the E3 ubiquitin ligase activity of HSV-1 immediate early protein ICP0”
11:30 - 11:45 am	<b>Bassel M. Abdalla (Michigan State University)</b> “Breaking the barrier: Discovery and profiling of novel MmpL3 inhibitors against <i>Mycobacterium abscessus</i> ”
11:45 - 12:00 pm	<b>Natalie McGinnis (Wayne State University)</b> “ <i>Sneathia</i> : An Emerging Pathogen in the Female Reproductive Tract”

<b>12:00 - 12:50 pm</b>	Lunch Students and Early Career Scientists have lunch with Dr. Wilson
<b>12:50 - 1:45 pm</b>	Afternoon Poster Session
<b>1:45 - 2:00 pm</b>	<b>Jasper B. Gomez (Michigan State University)</b> "Identification of contingency loci in phage"
<b>2:00 - 2:15 pm</b>	<b>Udayan Guha (Wayne State University)</b> "The E3 ubiquitin ligase of ICP0 blocks the hippo kinase cleavage triggered by inflammasome activation in HSV-1 infection"
<b>2:15 - 2:30 pm</b>	<b>Heather Murdoch (Michigan State University)</b> "PhoPR remodels <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> metabolism to restrict growth on propionate at acidic pH"
<b>2:30 - 2:45 pm</b>	<b>Kendall Mara (Michigan State University)</b> "Standardizing an antimicrobial susceptibility testing protocol for <i>Mycoplasma bovis</i> "
<b>2:45 - 3:00 pm</b>	Afternoon Break
<b>3:00 - 4:00 pm</b>	<b>Keynote Speaker: Dr. Brenda Wilson</b> University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign " <i>Toxins, Toxins, Everywhere: Turning Foe into Friend</i> "
<b>4:00 - 4:30 pm</b>	Student Presentation Awards, Closing Remarks
<b>4:30 pm</b>	Meeting adjourns
<b>4:30 - 5:00 pm</b>	Board Meeting
5:00 pm - onwards	Board dinner in downtown Dearborn, place TBD