



# Victorian News

The Australian Society for Microbiology VIC Branch Newsletter

April 2016, Vol 488

## **Victorian Branch ASM:**

The Australian Society for Microbiology  
Victorian Branch  
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## **Victorian Branch Committee:**

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All notices should be emailed to:  
[klwaller@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimelb.edu.au)

**Submission Deadline: 4<sup>th</sup> of the Month**

## **In this Issue:**

- **Zika Virus News – Call for audience members**
- **Southern News – Call for Speakers**
- **History Column and Visiting Speakers Program (VSP)**
- **ASM Annual Scientific Meeting and Trade Exhibition – Perth 2016**
- **ASM EduCon – Microbiology Educators' Conference**
- **ASM VIC Calendar**

**Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/250340155042466/>**



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**ASM Victorian Branch  
in conjunction with the  
Doherty Institute presents**

# **Zika Virus News**

Join us for an evening of presentations by Doherty Scientists covering many facets of the Zika Virus epidemic.

**Venue:** Ground floor auditorium  
The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity  
Corner Grattan and Elizabeth Streets, Melbourne

**Date:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2016  
6:15 pm for finger food & refreshments, presentations commence 7:00pm

**Chair:** A/Prof. Jason Mackenzie (DMI)

**Presenters:**

- Jason Mackenzie (DMI) - *The Virus and Immunity*
- Mike Catton (VIDRL) - *History and Ecology*
- Kylie Carville (VIRDL) – *Epidemiology*
- Julian Druce (VIDRL) – *Diagnosis*
- Irani Thevarajan (VIDS) - *Clinical*
- Cameron Simmons (DMI) - *Interventions*

**Cost:** This is a free event for ASM members (student or full members), or

- \$40 non-ASM member
- \$15 student non-ASM member

**For catering purposes, please RSVP for this event by 5pm Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016, by registering at: <https://www.trybooking.com/LBDL>**

For further details, please contact **Mary Valcanis** ([valcanis@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:valcanis@unimelb.edu.au)) or **Karena Waller** ([klwaller@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimelb.edu.au)).

# Southern News

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S C I E N T I F I C

## Call for Abstracts

**Apply NOW to participate in Southern News 2016**

Do you have interesting microbial discoveries to share? If so, then you should apply to present at this year's Southern News!

**Where:** Lecture Theatre 1, Monash Medical Centre, Clayton

**When:** Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016

**Presentations:** Each speaker will deliver a 12 minute presentation and receive 3 minutes of questions from the audience

**Prize:** A prize will be awarded for the best presentation by a Medical Scientist (up to Grade 1 Yr 4). The prize will consist of a 1 year membership to the ASM and a certificate

**Applications:** Will include the submission of a 250 word abstract

**Application forms and instructions** can be obtained from Karena Waller ([klwaller@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimelb.edu.au))

Please see future newsletters for full event and registration information, or contact Karena Waller ([klwaller@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimelb.edu.au))

**Abstracts submission closes: 5pm Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

# AGM of the ASM VICTORIAN BRANCH COMMITTEE

The Victorian Branch will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at Monash Medical Center in conjunction with Southern News, and is calling for nominations or re-nominations to the committee. The commitment includes attending a regular meeting once a month and assisting with the organization of Branch activities.

If you are interested in becoming involved, contact Karena Waller (Chair) at [klwaller@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimelb.edu.au) or [asmvicbranch@gmail.com](mailto:asmvicbranch@gmail.com)

Karena Waller  
Victorian Branch Chair

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## I wish to nominate for the ASM Victorian Branch Committee

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT DETAILS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

### Proposed by

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ (MASM or FASM)  
SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

### Seconded by

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ (MASM or FASM)  
SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Please scan and email to: Karena Waller (ASM VIC Branch) at: [klwaller@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimelb.edu.au)



# ASM History SIG – Column

## **ASM memorabilia:**

If any ASM members have significant ASM memorabilia that they would like to donate to the ASM archives or would like to suggest topics suitable for possible symposia at future ASM Annual Scientific Meetings, please send details of the memorabilia or suggested symposia topics to:

History SIG convener  
c/o Australian Society for Microbiology Office  
9/397 Smith Street  
Fitzroy VIC 3068

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## **Visiting Speakers Program**

**Do you know of an outstanding speaker coming to Australia?**

**If so, consider them for the Visiting Speakers Program (VSP).**

**Further information about the VSP and the speaker recommendation form can be found at:**

**<http://www.theasm.org.au/events/visiting-speakers-program/>**

**Alternatively, contact Catherine Satzke ([catherine.satzke@mcri.edu.au](mailto:catherine.satzke@mcri.edu.au)), who is the VSP Coordinator for the ASM VIC Branch.**

# NEW FRONTIERS

3-6 July 2016  
PERTH CONVENTION  
& EXHIBITION CENTRE

**Antimicrobial resistance:  
Impact, Mechanisms and Solutions to a growing public health risk!**



**Professor Peter Hawkey**  
University of Birmingham  
*"The flow of antibiotic resistance genes from the environment to the patient and back!"*

Dr Hawkey will explain the importance of antimicrobial resistance in clinical diagnostics and public health. He heads a symposium session with our colleagues from the Australian Society of Antimicrobials on policies of antimicrobial stewardship and surveillance.



**Professor Dan Andersson**  
Uppsala University  
*"Reversibility of antibiotic resistance"*

Dr Andersson provides an analysis of the factors that influence the dynamics of the evolution of antibiotic resistance development. He heads a symposium session on the mechanisms of antibiotic resistance.



**Dr Brian Conlon**  
Northeastern University, Boston  
*"Staphylococcus aureus persists - How they form and how to kill them"*

Dr Conlon leads our discussion on how an improvement of our knowledge of bacterial physiology can improve drug discovery. He leads a symposium session on new drug discovery.

Visit the conference website for details on the scientific program, awards, new initiatives, student activities, workshops and more!

**IMPORTANT DATES**  
**Oral Abstract deadline April 1<sup>st</sup>**

[www.theasm.org.au](http://www.theasm.org.au)



## Perth, WA

*A vibrant and beautiful city located on the banks of the majestic Swan river. Come stay with us in WA and experience our world class wineries and restaurants, stunning national parks, beaches and much more..*



3-6 July 2016  
PERTH CONVENTION  
& EXHIBITION CENTRE

## The Good, the Bad and the Useful: Microbes in healthy ecologies, disease and industry



**Assoc Prof Susan Lynch**  
University of California San Francisco  
*“Early-life exposures, the gut microbiome and allergic asthma development in childhood “*

Assoc Prof Lynch explores the role of the human microbiome in shaping a healthy life. She leads the symposium session “Ecology of the gut and healthy living”. Further sessions investigate the theme of a healthy ecosystem, climate change and industrial applications!



**Professor Victor Nizet**  
University of California San Diego  
*“Unexpected functions of three classical Group A streptococcal virulence factors to modulate host immunity”*

Professor Nizet has extensively assessed the pathogenic mechanisms of Streptococcus and leads a discussion on microbial pathogenesis, physiology and infection and immunity.



**Assoc Professor Anna Durbin**  
Johns Hopkins  
*“Vaccines for Dengue: Where are we and where do we need to go?”*

Assoc Prof Durbin focusses on evaluating experimental vaccines in human clinical trials. She heads the themes of infectious diseases, treatment and vaccine discovery.

Visit the conference website for details on the scientific program, awards, new initiatives, student activities, workshops and more!

**IMPORTANT DATES**  
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[www.theasm.org.au](http://www.theasm.org.au)



### Perth, WA

*A vibrant and beautiful city located on the banks of the majestic Swan river. Come stay with us in WA and experience our world class wineries and restaurants, stunning national parks, beaches and much more..*





July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016  
University of Western  
Australia

As with previous years, ASM 2016 will be co-run with  
EduCon 2016: Microbiology Educators' Conference

**ASM EduCon** brings together Microbiology educators from across Australia who share a common goal to advance the teaching and learning of Microbiology. This year's conference will focus on new technologies and interactive learning. See over-page for registration details and the EduCon Program.

**VIC Branch Educators' Award:** As part of an initiative to support Victorian based Microbiology educators ASM VIC Branch would like to announce a VIC Branch Educators Award of \$500 to support travel/registration costs of attending the 2016 meeting. For an application form or more information on the conference or how to apply for the travel award please contact A/Prof Priscilla Johanesen ([priscilla.johanesen@monash.edu](mailto:priscilla.johanesen@monash.edu)). Closing date for applications – April 29<sup>th</sup> 2016.

**Call for Poster Presentations at EduCon:** Would you like to present your educational research at EduCon? If so, please contact Dr Karena Waller ([klwaller@unimleb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimleb.edu.au)) for abstract and application instructions. Abstract submissions close: April 29<sup>th</sup> 2016.







**2<sup>nd</sup> July 2016**

**(Preceding the ASM Annual Scientific Meeting)**

**Venue:** E-Technology Suite, School of Pathology and Laboratory  
Medicine, Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre, Western Australia

**Conference program:** please see below

**Registration:**

- ASM Members: \$100
- Non Members: \$150
- Speaker and Students registration: \$50

Inclusive for registrants are afternoon tea and lunch.

*EduCon registrants will be able to attend the opening session the ASM Annual Scientific Meeting and the welcome reception.*

**Poster Presentations at EduCon:** A poster presentation will be held as part of the program in 2016. If you would like to present your educational research at EduCon, please contact Dr Karena Waller ([klwaller@unimleeb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimleeb.edu.au)) for abstract and application instructions.

Abstract submissions close: April 29<sup>th</sup> 2016.

To register, please go to: <http://www.trybooking.com/KLEO>

For conference information contact Assoc. Professor Priscilla Johanesen ([priscilla.johanesen@monash.edu](mailto:priscilla.johanesen@monash.edu))

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## Conference Agenda - 2016

**Saturday, July 02, 2016**

10:00 am to 10.30 am	Registration and Welcome (School of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, UWA, Ground floor, M Block, QEII Medical Centre; includes Coffee/Tea)
10:30 am to 12.00 pm	<p><b>Session 1: Teaching Large Class Sizes</b></p> <p>Chair: Priscilla Johanesen (Monash University)</p> <p>Gail Dixon and Megan Lloyd (University of Western Australia) – <i>New technologies - the esuite for engaging large class sizes</i></p> <p>Jack Wang (University of Queensland) – <i>Developing a hands-on practical exam for large-scale Microbiology course</i></p>
12.00 pm to 1:30 pm	Lunch and Poster Session, Chair: Karena Waller (University of Melbourne)
1.30 pm to 3:00 pm	<p><b>Session 2: Interactive Learning in the Classroom</b></p> <p>Chair: Helen Cain (The University of Melbourne)</p> <p>Kirsten Schliephake (Monash University) – <i>Flipping the Classroom</i> <i>This session will be interactive and will involve discussion and brainstorming of strategies used to engage students in the classroom</i></p>
3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	Break: Afternoon Tea
3:30 pm to 4:00 pm	<p><b>Session 3: Employability</b></p> <p>Chair: Josie Lategan (University of the Sunshine Coast)</p> <p>Ipek Kurtboke (University of the Sunshine Coast) – <i>Designing laboratory practicals in line with the needs of regional industries to enhance graduate employability</i></p>
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm	<p><b>Session 4: Active learning and technologies in teaching</b></p> <p>Chair: Meredith Hughes (Monash University)</p> <p>Danilla Grando (RMIT University) – <i>Active learning strategies in the lecture space</i></p> <p>Helen Agus (University of Sydney) – <i>Teaching medical microbiology in the biosafety laboratory using electronic notebooks.</i></p>

# **Advertise in the ASM VIC Branch Newsletter!**

Would you like to advertise your event, job vacancy or other news item in our newsletter?

Advertising rates are:

Not-for-profit adverts: free of charge

For-profit adverts: \$50 per advert

If so, please contact Karena Waller  
([klwaller@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimelb.edu.au))

# ASM VIC CALENDAR 2015

When planning meetings, please book dates with Karena Waller  
(Phone: (03) 8344 0045, Email: [klwaller@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimelb.edu.au))

- **Zika Virus News – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016, The Doherty Institute, Melbourne**
- **Southern News and AGM – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016, Monash Medical Centre, Clayton**
- **ASM EduCon Microbiology Educators' Conference, Perth 2016 – 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2016, Perth**
- **ASM Annual Scientific Meeting and Trade Exhibition, Perth 2016 – 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Perth**

**Submission Deadline for May ASM Victorian News:  
May 4<sup>th</sup> 2016**

Email submissions to: [klwaller@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:klwaller@unimelb.edu.au) or  
[asmvicbranch@gmail.com](mailto:asmvicbranch@gmail.com)