



Victorian News

The Australian Society for Microbiology VIC Branch Newsletter

March 2018, Vol 509

In this Issue:

- **ASM Contact Details**
- **Student Careers Night – Building your Career as a PhD Graduate – event flyer**
- **ASM Student Travel Award – Event Report**
- **ASM Vic Branch – Microbial Art Prize – Apply Now**
- **ASM Annual Scientific Meeting and Trade Exhibition – Save the Dates**
- **ASM EduCon Microbiology Educators' Meeting – Save the Dates**
- **Become a member**
- **ASM Member Awards – Apply Now**
- **ASM History SIG – Column**
- **Visiting Speakers Program (VSP)**
- **Micro News and Views**
- **ASM VIC Calendar**

Submission Deadline: 4th of the Month

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

Contact Details

Victorian Branch ASM:

The Australian Society for Microbiology
Victorian Branch
c/o: 9/397 Smith Street, Fitzroy VIC 3065
Weblink: <http://victoria.theasm.org.au/>
Email: klwaller@unimelb.edu.au or
asmvicbranch@gmail.com

ASM National Office:

9/397 Smith Street, Fitzroy VIC 3065
Tel: 1300 656 423
Fax: 1300 655 841
Email: admin@theasm.com.au
Weblink: www.theasm.org.au
ABN 24 065 463 274

Victorian Branch Committee:

Chair: Karena Waller
Email: klwaller@unimelb.edu.au
Tel: +61 3 8344 0045

Deputy Chair: Catherine Satzke
Email: catherine.satzke@mcri.edu.au

Secretary: Christine Seers
Email: caseers@unimelb.edu.au

Treasurer: Priscilla Johanesen
Email: priscilla.johanesen@monash.edu
Tel: + 61 3 9902 9153

VSP Coordinator: Catherine Satzke
Email: catherine.satzke@mcri.edu.au

Newsletter Editors:
Jacqueline Heath
Email: jhea@unimelb.edu.au
Catherine Butler
Email: cbutler@unimelb.edu.au

Student Affairs: Karena Waller
Email: klwaller@unimelb.edu.au
Tel: +61 3 8344 0045

Mary Valcanis
Email: valcanis@unimelb.edu.au

Edward Fox
Email: Edward.Fox@csiro.au

Seema Kanade
Email: seema.kanade@dorevitch.com.au

Jaelyne Birrell
Email: jaelyne.birrell@gmail.com

Neil O'Brien-Simpson
Email: neil.obs@unimelb.edu.au

Sarah Baines
Email: bainess@unimelb.edu.au

All notices should be emailed to: jhea@unimelb.edu.au or cbutler@unimelb.edu.au



Attention PhD Students and Early Career Researchers!

Building your Career as a PhD graduate

Dr Richard Huysmans

The evidence is in – career pathways post PhD are diverse, but not always clear. We know the traditional pathway to established researcher or academic is fraught. But what are the alternatives? And how do we find them?

Dr Richard Huysmans has designed and delivered training and mentoring programs to support those with a PhD (or undertaking a PhD) to build outstanding careers.

He has delivered programs that help people identify, recruit and retain industry partners, write grants or build centres and institutes. He has also assisted more than 200 PhD students, early career researchers and established academics build their careers in new or different ways.



Dr Huysmans has over 10 years' experience in delivering high quality business analytics and management consulting to the health, university and research sectors. He's made the transition from PhD to industry and now works at the interface between the two - Building outstanding careers for PhD students and academics.

In this presentation, Dr Huysmans will talk about his transition from PhD student to entrepreneur. He will highlight some of the major challenges individuals face in building a career as a PhD graduate and how they can be overcome. Dr Huysmans will also discuss the similarities between research and the real world and value of research to life as a whole.

Where: The Clyde Hotel (upstairs function room), 385 Cardigan St, Carlton

When: 6.30pm to 9.00pm on Tuesday 20th March, 2018

Cost: \$10 for ASM members, \$20 for non-members.

Includes a Parma (vegetarian option available) and a beer/cider/soft-drink. Non-members will have the opportunity to join the ASM on the night at a reduced rate.

This session is **limited** so please RSVP by 5pm Friday 16th March 2018

via: <https://www.trybooking.com/UIQL>

Please contact Priscilla Johanesen (priscilla.johanesen@monash.edu), Catherine Stazke (catherine.satzke@mcri.edu.au) or Jacqueline Heath (jhea@unimelb.edu.au) for further information.

ASM Vic Branch Student Travel Awards



- Event Report -



Left to right: Jarryd Boath (RMIT University), Emily Matejin (University of Melbourne), Jordan Thompson (Monash University), Karena Waller (Chair, ASM VIC Branch), Tomas Sadauskas (University of Melbourne), Joshua Zhang (University of Melbourne), Charlotte Grazebrook (Monash University) and Will Lehmann (RMIT University).

The annual ASM Student Travel Awards were held at The Doherty Institute / University of Melbourne on Tuesday 20 February 2018. The evening was chaired by Dr Karena Waller (University of Melbourne and Chair, ASM VIC Branch). The evening commenced with light refreshments before the presentation of fourteen undergraduate prizes for top achieving microbiology student studying at various Victorian Universities, including Monash University, RMIT University, La Trobe University (Bundoora and Bendigo campuses) and The University of Melbourne.

Each of the undergraduate prizes consisted of a certificate, a cheque and a year's student membership to the ASM.

The evening then continued with five research presentations from research students competing in the categories of the: ASM VIC Branch Award (for Honours and Masters by Coursework students) and ASM Student Travel Award (for PhD or Masters by Research students). Stephanie Lynch (La Trobe University) presented "*Characterisation of a novel bacteriophage and its use in therapies against bacteria associated with bovine mastitis*" in the category of ASM VIC Branch Award. As the winner of this prize, Stephanie will receive a prize consisting of registration at the Annual Meeting in Brisbane (July 2018), plus \$200 towards the costs of attending the meeting.

Four speakers, Janye Manning (MCRI / University of Melbourne), Emily Gulliver (Monash University), Pramod Subedi (La Trobe University) and Mwila Kabwe (La Trobe University) competed for a the ASM Student Travel Award, and a prize consisting of registration at the ASM Annual Meeting in Brisbane (July 2018), an airfare and \$300 towards the cost of attending the meeting. The winner of this prize was Pramod Subedi (pictured at below) who presented "*Elucidating the Scs redox pathways and its role in copper tolerance in Salmonella*".

The evening concluded with supper and drinks prepared by Dr Dax / Ecco Hospitality (University of Melbourne). Overall, it was a great night for Microbiology! Over 70 people enjoyed the evening's activities.

Congratulations must be extended to all students who competed for prizes on the night – their research presentations were excellent!



Left to right: Pramod Subedi and Karena Waller

Contributed by: Karena Waller

START PLANNING NOW!

ASM Victorian Branch

Microbial Art Prize

Calling all artistic individuals! The 2018 Microbial Art Prize will be up for grabs mid-year. Start planning now if you want to be in to win and have your eye-catching scientific image displayed at ASM events.

Image Details:

All types of scientific images are welcome

- Images - must have a microbiological theme
- should be high resolution and suitable for printing on a 1x2m banner
 - must be accompanied with a description of what the image illustrates and how it was generated

Prize:

The 2018 Microbial Art Prize winner will have their image printed on ASM banners to be displayed at events and used in ASM promotional material.
Plus more!

Competition Entry Conditions:

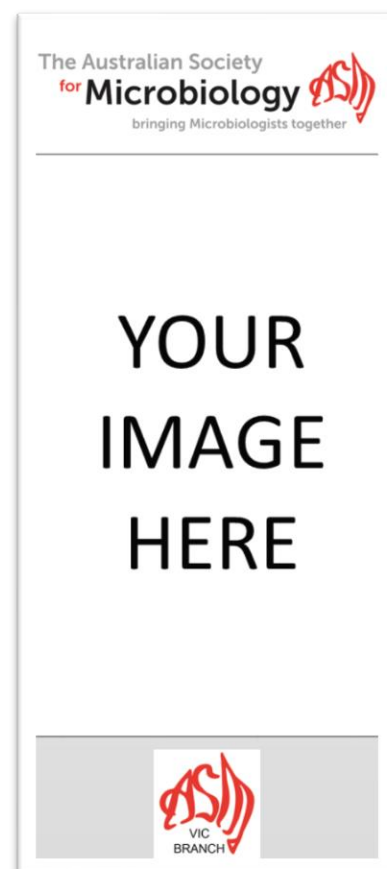
- Maximum 2 entries per person
 - Submitter must be the owner of the image
 - Submitter must be a member of ASM
- A complete entry consists of:
- (1) Image, (2) a description of the image (<100 words), and
 - (3) the submitter's details (name, position, institution)

Winners will be selected by the ASM Vic Branch committee

Competition date will be released closer to the time

Please send all entries (and questions) to: **Sarah Baines** bainess@unimelb.edu.au

Please note that by submitting an entry you agree that if your image is selected the ASM Victorian Branch Committee reserves the right to use the image as promotional material at ASM-organised and ASM-sponsored events. The image may be edited at the discretion of the ASM Victorian Branch Committee. The submitter's name will always be included with the image when used.



asm 2018
QUEENSLAND



1-4 July

Brisbane Convention
& Exhibition Centre

www.theasm.org.au

The Australian Society
for **Microbiology**

bringing Microbiologists together



Come for the science

Bazely Oratlon

Prof. Dennis R. Burton - Scripps Research Institute

Rubbo Oratlon

Prof. Paul R. Young - University of Queensland

Plenary *Speakers Include...*

Prof. Karl Kuchler - Medical University Vienna

Prof. Fitnat H. Yildiz - University of California

Prof. Michael P. Jennings - Griffith University

A/Prof. Victor J. Torres - New York University

Stay for the sand, surf & sunshine





Save the Dates

When: 4th July (afternoon) and 5th July (all day) 2018
In 2018, EduCon will commence immediately following the conclusion of the main ASM Annual Scientific Meeting, and will run for 1.5 days.

Venue: To be Confirmed

Speakers Include:



Dr Terrence Mulhern, University of Melbourne

Learn from your mistakes. How to use misconceptions to trigger student learning



Dr Raina Mason, Southern Cross University (Gold Coast)

'This assessment makes my brain hurt!' – accounting for cognitive load in assessment



Assoc Prof Kelly Matthews, University of Queensland

Challenging and expanding our beliefs about the role of students in scholarly learning and teaching practices



Ms Lyris Snowden, University of the Sunshine Coast

The pros, cons and diversity of Work Integrated Learning (WIL): the experience of putting WIL into practice.

Registration: Details to be released shortly

For all enquiries: contact Dr Karena Waller (klwaller@unimelb.edu.au)



How to join the Australian Society for Microbiology at a reduced rate!

Did you know that non-members can join the Australian Society for Microbiology at a reduced rate? Well, you can!

As a non-member, by paying the fee to attend an event hosted by ASM VIC Branch, you can use this amount to put towards an annual membership of the Australian Society for Microbiology.

To do so, please follow these instructions:

1. Register to attend the event hosted by ASM VIC Branch via the advertised trybooking link, and pay the attendance fee.
2. Attend the event, and then within 2 weeks after the event, go to the ASM membership area at <http://www.theasm.org.au/membership/>
3. Choose the appropriate membership for you and then click on:
[Click here to join or update your details](#)
4. Click 'Begin here' and create a Currinda membership profile for yourself. Then, pay the membership full fee.
5. Following payment, download the paid receipt (showing your payment) and email it along with your postal address to:
Priscilla Johanesen, Treasurer VIC Branch priscilla.johanesen@monash.edu
6. A cheque refunding the event fee will be posted to you.

Please note: you must complete the above process within 2 weeks following an event to take advantage of this offer. After this time, the event fee cannot be used to pay membership fees.

ASM Member Awards Apply Now

The ASM offers a variety of awards to its members. Take full advantage of your membership by applying now for one of the awards listed below with deadlines approaching. For more details and additional awards please refer to the National webpage <http://www.theasm.org.au/awards/>

The deadlines for all award applications are now **March 31st** of each year.



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

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), who is the VSP Coordinator for the ASM VIC Branch.

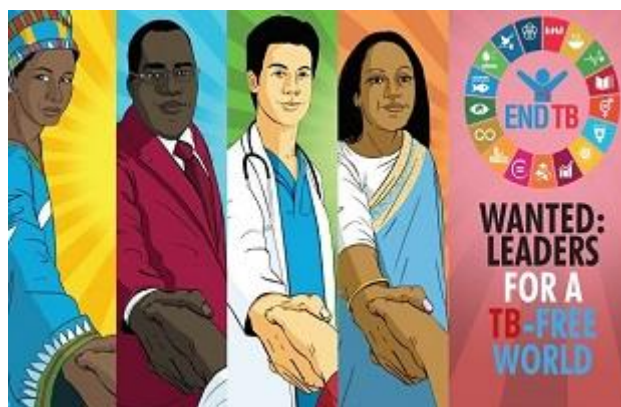
MICRO NEWS and VIEWS

- These Bacteria Digest Toxic Metals And Poop Out Tiny Gold Nuggets
<https://www.sciencealert.com/bacteria-produce-gold-nuggets-cupriavidus-metallidurans>
- These Viruses Found in Brazil Are So Huge They're Challenging What We Think a 'Virus' Is
<https://www.sciencealert.com/giants-viruses-discovered-brazil-among-largest-most-complex-ever-found-tupanvirus-mimivirus>
- Molecular weapons of the plant microbiome
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180205154151.htm>
- Viruses -- lots of them -- are falling from the sky
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180206090650.htm>
- Tracking microbial diversity through the terrestrial subsurface
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180201123322.htm>
- New weakness discovered in the sleeping sickness pathogen
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180221092125.htm>
- Oil-eating microbes are challenged in the Arctic
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180220104112.htm>
- Zika virus could help combat brain cancer
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180221122930.htm>

World Tuberculosis Day

24th March 2018

Each year we commemorate World TB Day on March 24 to raise public awareness about the devastating health, social and economic consequences of tuberculosis (TB) and to step up efforts to end the global TB epidemic. The date marks the day in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced that he had discovered the bacterium that causes TB, which opened the way towards diagnosing and curing this disease. Despite significant progress over the last decades, TB continues to be the top infectious killer worldwide, claiming over 4 500 lives a day. The emergence of multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) poses a major health security threat and could risk gains made in the fight against TB.



The theme: "Wanted: Leaders for a TB-free world"

The theme of World TB Day 2018 - "Wanted: Leaders for a TB-free world"- focuses on building commitment to end TB, not only at the political level with Heads of State and Ministers of Health, but at all levels from Mayors, Governors, parliamentarians and community leaders, to people affected with TB, civil society advocates, health workers, doctors or nurses, NGOs and other partners. All can be leaders of efforts to end TB in their own work or terrain. This is a critical theme, given the political importance of the upcoming UN General Assembly high-level meeting on TB this year, which will bring together Heads of State in New York. It follows on from a very successful Ministerial Conference on Ending TB in Moscow on 16-17 November, 2017 which resulted in high-level commitments from Ministers and other leaders from 120 countries to accelerate progress to end TB. World TB Day provides the opportunity to shine the spotlight on the disease and mobilize political and social commitment for accelerate progress to end TB.

Background

Last year, WHO reported that 10.4 million people fell ill with TB and there were 1.8 million TB deaths in 2016, making it the top infectious killer worldwide. This disease is deeply rooted in populations where human rights and dignity are limited. While anyone can contract TB, the disease thrives among people living in poverty, communities and groups that are marginalized, and other vulnerable populations. These include: migrants, refugees, ethnic minorities, miners and others working and living in risk-prone settings, the elderly, marginalized women and children in many settings etc. Factors such as malnutrition, poor housing and sanitation, compounded by other risk factors such as tobacco and alcohol use and diabetes, affect vulnerability to TB and access to care. Furthermore, this access is often hindered by catastrophic costs associated with illness, seeking and staying in care, and lack of social protection, resulting in a vicious cycle of poverty and ill-health. The transmission of multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) adds great urgency to these concerns.

Reproduced from the WHO <http://www.who.int/campaigns/tb-day/2018/event/en/>

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)

ASM VIC CALENDAR 2018

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

- **Student Careers Night – Building your Career as a PhD Graduate – 20th March 2018, The Clyde Hotel Carlton VIC**
- **ASM Annual Scientific Meeting and Trade Exhibition – 1st to 4th July 2018, Brisbane Convention Center, Brisbane QLD**
- **ASM EduCon Microbiology Educators' Meeting – 4th & 5th July 2018, Venue to be confirmed, Brisbane QLD**
- **Bi-State Conference 2018 (VIC / TAS) – 16th & 17th November 2018, Hobart TAS**



Save the date
1-4 July
Brisbane Convention
& Exhibition Centre
www.theasm.org.au

The Australian Society
for Microbiology 
bringing Microbiologists together

**Submission Deadline for April ASM Victorian
News:
April 4th 2018**

Email submissions to: jhea@unimelb.edu.au or
cbutler@unimelb.edu.au