



Victorian News

The Australian Society for Microbiology VIC Branch Newsletter

May 2018, Vol 511

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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

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

& Southern News VIC Branch AGM

Tuesday 22nd May 2018

Proudly sponsored by:

ThermoFisher
S C I E N T I F I C

Call for Audience Members

Come along to hear interesting microbial discoveries from the hospitals! Speakers will each deliver a 12 minute presentation and receive 3 minutes of questions from the audience. A prize for the best presentation by a Medical Scientist (up to Grade 1 Year 4) will be awarded.

Speakers confirmed -

- **Pei Vern Fong** *Phantom of the Operating Theatre* - Monash Health
- **Sarah Knowler** *The Effect of Antidepressants on the Gut Microbiota* - Latrobe University
- **Kylie Hui** *Your Best Friend's Saliva* - Royal Children's Hospital
- **Louise Sonneveld** *The Two-Faced Fun Guy* - Alfred Health
- **Fungai Mukungunurwa** *Congratulations, You Have Been Acquitted!* - RCH
- **Asteway Hailemariam** *Cat's Eye* - Alfred Health
- **Cuc Trieu** *A rare cause of Endocarditis* - Cabrini Pathology

Chairperson: Dr Denis Spelman

Where: AMREP Seminar Room, Education Precinct, Alfred Hospital,
55 Commercial Road, Melbourne VIC 3004

When: Tuesday 22nd May 2018

Time: 6.30pm to 9.00pm onwards

- Food/drinks from 6.30pm
- VIC Branch AGM from 7.00pm
- Presentations from 7.30pm

Cost: Free event for ASM Members (Student or Full Members)
\$40 - Non-ASM Member
\$15 - Student Non-ASM Member

For catering purposes please RSVP for this event by 5pm Friday 18th May 2018 at

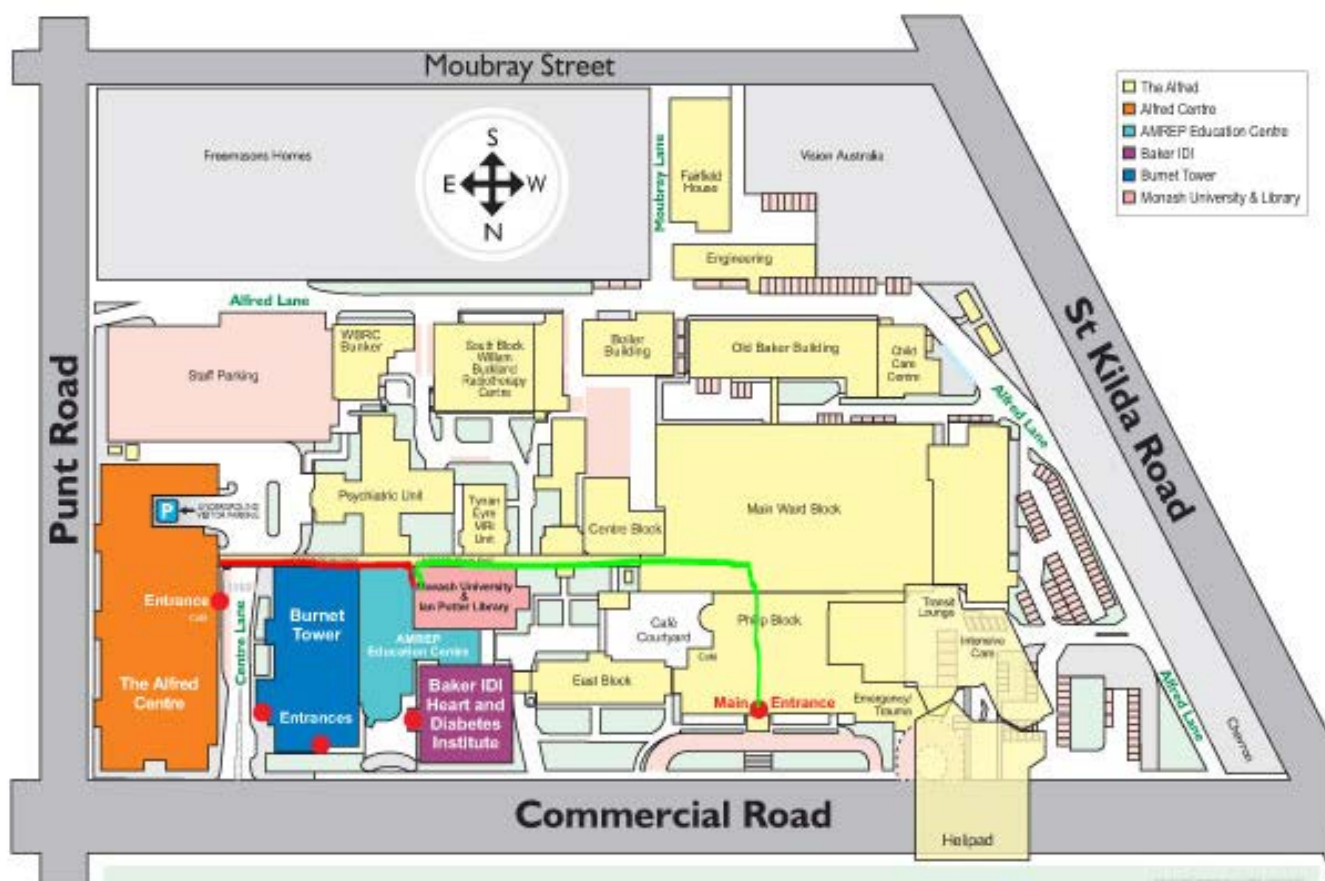
<https://www.trybooking.com/UYMG>

For further details contact Seema Kanade seema.kanade@dorevitch.com.au or
Jaelyne Birrell jaelyne.birrell@gmail.com

Please see next page for venue directions, transport and parking information.

AMREP (Alfred Medical Research & Education Precinct) is located at the site of The Alfred Hospital on Commercial Road in Melbourne. The AMREP Education Centre is shown in light blue on the map below situated between the Burnet Tower and Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute.

Entry to AMREP is via the covered walkway leading from the visitor's carpark (route in red) or through the main hospital entrance (route in green). The venue will need to be accessed via these routes rather than from Commercial Rd directly. Entry to the visitor's carpark is via Centre Lane off Commercial Rd.



<https://www.amrep.org.au/contacts/how-to-find-us/#>

For transport options to the Alfred, please visit:

<http://www.amrep.org.au/contacts/public-transport/>

For information on parking at or near the Alfred (including parking fees), please visit:

<https://www.alfredhealth.org.au/the-alfred/patients-families-friends/before-you-arrive/parking-at-the-alfred/>

AGM of the ASM VICTORIAN BRANCH COMMITTEE

Call for Nominations

The Victorian Branch will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 22nd May 2018 at the Alfred Hospital 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 or asmvicbranch@gmail.com

Karena Waller
Victorian Branch Chair

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

Nomination applications must be submitted by Tuesday the 15th of May 2018.

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:

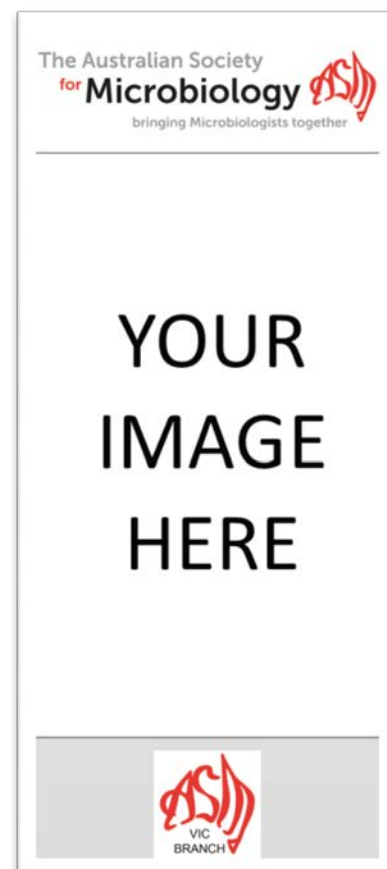
Maximum 2 entries per person
Submitter must be the owner of the image
Submitter must be a member of ASM
A complete entry consists of:
(1) Image, (2) a description of the image (<100 words), and (3) the submitter's details (name, position, institution)

Winners will be selected by the ASM Vic Branch committee

Entries will be accepted from 4th June - 27th July 2018

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.



asm2018
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

Prof. Michael P. Jennings - Griffith University

Prof. Karl Kuchler - Medical University Vienna

Dr Susan E. Sharp - Kaiser Permanente

Dr Anja Spang - Royal Netherlands Inst. for Sea Research

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

Prof. Fitnat H. Yildiz - University of California

Public Lecture

Prof. Nicholas Graves - AusHSI

Stay for the sand, surf & sunshine



key dates

19 Feb Registration / Abstracts open

Earlybird registration now closed

Oral abstract submission now closed

18 May Poster Abstract deadline



Registration is NOW OPEN

When: Wednesday 4 July 2018* (from 2.30pm - 5.30pm), AND Thursday 5 July 2018 (from 8.30am - 4.00pm)

Venue: Mantra South Bank (Conference Meeting Room), 161 Grey Street, South Brisbane QLD

Speakers Include: for the full Conference program, see the following pages



Dr Terrence Mulhern, University of Melbourne

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



Assoc Prof Tracey Bretag, University of South Australia

Contract cheating in Australian higher education: Results from a nation-wide survey of students and staff



Dr Raina Mason, Southern Cross University (Gold Coast)

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



Dr Karena Waller, University of Melbourne

*ASM David White Excellence in Teaching – 2017 Award Winner
Reaching out in Microbiology*



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.

EduCon is proudly sponsored by:



MONASH
University



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Would you like to present a poster at EduCon?

A poster session will be held during lunch on Thursday 5 July 2018. If you would like to present your educational research at EduCon during this session, please contact Dr Karena Waller (klwaller@unimelb.edu.au) for abstract and application instructions.

Abstract submissions close: 5pm Friday 1 June 2018

Conference Registration:

Registration is required for all attendees, and is inclusive of all morning and afternoon teas, and lunch on Thursday 5 July 2018.

- ASM Members - \$120
- Non-ASM Members - \$170
- Student ASM Members - \$60
- Student non-ASM Members - \$120

EduCon 2018 Dinner:

This year's EduCon Conference Dinner will be a 3-course meal (set menu) held at a local chic, Queenslander-style gastro-pub, within walking distance of our conference venue.

- The Fox Hotel (Veranda Room), 71-73 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane QLD

Each dinner ticket costs \$57. Dinner tickets, including extra ones for partners, are to be pre-purchased at the time of registration.

Register to attend and purchase your dinner tickets at: <https://www.trybooking.com/UZOA>

Accommodation:

EduCon attendees can access a discounted room rate (10% off best available room rate) at Mantra South Bank for accommodation from Saturday 30 June 2018 till Thursday 5 July 2018 by booking using the attached instructions (see following pages).

For all enquiries:

Contact Dr Karena Waller (klwaller@unimelb.edu.au)

Conference Agenda - 2018

Wednesday 4 July 2018	
2.30 – 3.00pm	Registration and Welcome Venue: Mantra South Bank (Conference Meeting Room), 161 Grey Street, South Brisbane QLD Light refreshments on arrival
3.00pm – 4.00pm	Session 1: <i>Contract cheating in Australian higher education: Results from a nation-wide survey of students and staff</i> Presenter: Assoc Prof Tracey Bretag, University of South Australia Chair: Dr Karena Waller, University of Melbourne
4.00pm – 5.00pm	Session 2: <i>Learn from your mistakes. How to use misconceptions to trigger student learning</i> Presenter: Dr Terrence Mulhern, University of Melbourne Chair: Ms Helen Cain, University of Melbourne
7.00pm – 9.00pm	EduCon Dinner: tickets to be purchased separately at time of conference registration Venue: The Fox Hotel (Veranda Room), 71-73 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane QLD
Thursday 5 July 2018	
8.30am – 9.00am	Registration and Welcome Venue: Mantra South Bank (Conference Meeting Room), 161 Grey Street, South Brisbane QLD Light refreshments on arrival
9.00am – 10.00am	Session 3: <i>'This assessment makes my brain hurt!' – accounting for cognitive load in assessment</i> Presenter: Dr Raina Mason, Southern Cross University (Gold Coast) Chair: Assoc Prof Priscilla Johanesen, Monash University
10.00am – 10.30am	Morning Tea
11.30am – 12.30pm	Session 4: <i>Reaching out in Microbiology</i> Presenter: Dr Karena Waller, University of Melbourne ASM David White Excellence in Teaching – 2017 Award Winner Chair: Dr Meredith Hughes, Monash University
12.30pm – 1.30pm	Session 5: <i>Challenging and expanding our beliefs about the role of students in scholarly learning and teaching practices</i> Presenter: Assoc Prof Kelly Matthews, University of Queensland Chair: Dr Jack Wang, University of Queensland
1.30pm – 2.30pm	Lunch and Poster Session / Networking Chair: Dr. Karena Waller, University of Melbourne
2.30pm – 3.30pm	Session 6: <i>The pros, cons and diversity of Work Integrated Learning (WIL): the experience of putting WIL into practice.</i> Presenter: Ms Lyris Snowden, University of the Sunshine Coast Chair: Dr Megan Lloyd, Edith Cowan University
3.30pm – 4.00pm	Close and Afternoon Tea Light refreshments before departure

EduCon is proudly sponsored by:





Mantra South Bank welcomes members and attendees of Australian Society of Microbiology Conference to enjoy 10% discount off accommodation at Mantra South Bank

Visit: <http://www.mantrahotels.com/> and follow the below simple steps:

1. Search for your hotel, dates of travel, number of guests & click on **SEARCH**
2. Once you have selected the room type you wish to book, click on **BOOK NOW**
3. In the payment screen, input Promo Code **ASM** in the Promotional Code box and click **APPLY**
4. Input contact and payment details and your room will be booked at the discounted rate.
5. You will receive an email confirmation once all details have been processed.

**** PLEASE NOTE: **** Promo codes are only valid for bookings made online; rooms are subject to availability & will require full prepayment. Bookings will also be subject to any minimum night stay restrictions as listed on the website. Online Terms and Conditions apply to these bookings.

For full terms & conditions please visit <http://www.mantrahotels.com/terms-and-conditions/>

Once booking is confirmed, it can be accessed via My Bookings on the same website by logging in using the **Reservation number on your confirmation** and the **Surname on the booking**.



Culture Media SIG

Australian Society for Microbiology, Inc.

ASM 2018 Workshop

ASM Guidelines for the Quality Control and Quality Assurance of Microbiological Media

Medical; mycology; solid TB; Food & Water microbiology.

An interactive discussion session on the above documents that affect ALL laboratories involved in microbiological testing using microbiological media.

This is an opportunity for attendees to bring forward their experiences, their concerns, their delights! with the above documents. There will be opportunity to propose suggested changes and amendments that can be incorporated into revisions and/or amendments to these documents. How these documents will be used in future ISO17025/ISO15189 assessments will be addressed.

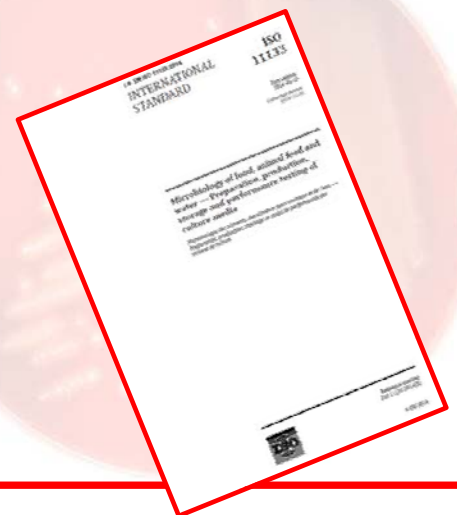
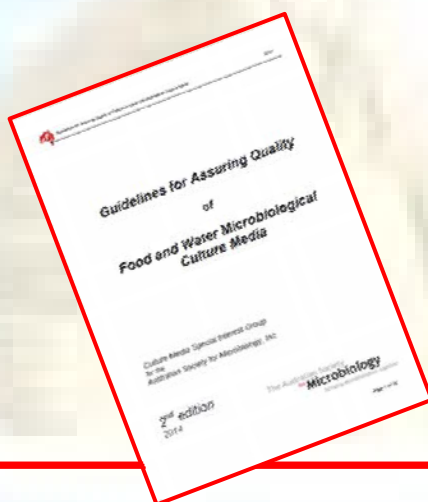
The workshop will be chaired by the National Convenor of the Culture Media SIG, Peter Traynor.

To register, go to

<https://members.asnevents.com.au/register/event/1564>

Venue: tbc, in conjunction with the ASM 2018 National Scientific conference, Brisbane, July 2018.

Price: please visit the ASM conference website for details



Culture Media SIG

Australian Society for Microbiology, Inc.

ASM 2018 Workshop

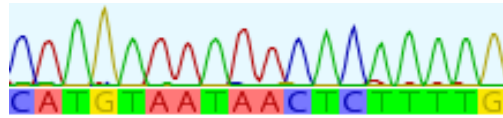
ASM Guidelines for the Quality Control and Quality Assurance of Microbiological Media

Medical; mycology; solid TB; Food & Water microbiology.

AGENDA

1. Welcome registrants (Peter) (7min)
2. Housekeeping matters (Peter) (3min)
3. Background briefing (Peter) (10min)
4. ASM medical/mycology/solid TB media Guidelines 2nd editions 2012 (Peter) (~30min)
 - a. WDCM numbering explanation
 - b. Feedback from the floor (ALL):
 - i. what works well,
 - ii. what doesn't (and why)
 - iii. what needs improving or changing (and why)
 - iv. discussion on the above
 - c. Guidelines moving forward – 3rd edition (or amendments to the second edition)
6. AS5140 (ISO11133) (Peter) (~30min)
 - a. History of ISO11133 (brief)
 - b. Stds Australia adoption of ISO11133 as Australian Standard AS5140: 2017
 - c. Current work of ISO JWG5 related to ISO11133: amendments 1 and 2
 - d. General discussion (ALL)
7. Summary of the day's workshop (10min)
8. Close the workshop

The ASM Culture Media SIG AGM will take place immediately after the close of the workshop (15min)



Genomics Workshop

ASM National Meeting, Brisbane 2018

(Bioinformatics/Public Health & Food Microbiology SIGs)

This workshop presents practical guidelines for interpreting whole genome sequence (WGS) data from bacterial pathogens. We will focus on how WGS can be applied to investigate suspected outbreaks, especially those caused by food-borne disease-causing bacteria. Strategies for using Illumina, PacBio and Nanopore platforms will be introduced along with direct metagenomic sequencing of clinical samples. We will include an interactive session on using freely available cloud-based platforms for undertaking applied bacterial genomics analysis. Although targeted at Food Safety, Public Health or Clinical microbiologists this workshop will be of interest to anyone seeking practical strategies and tools that they can use to investigate their own bacterial WGS data.

- Laptop computer is recommended but not required.
- Details of how to access Galaxy cloud server and tutorials will be provided to all registered participants prior to the workshop.
- No previous bioinformatic experience required.

For more information including registration:

<http://asmmeeting.theasm.org.au/>

The Tasmanian and Victorian branches of the ASM are pleased to invite you to the biennial

2018 Tasmania & Victoria Bi-State Conference

The Conference will be held in Hobart city on **Friday the 16th and Saturday the 17th of November**. Please join us for what is always, an engaging event featuring cutting edge microbiology and excellent networking opportunities.

What to Expect:

- ◆ A diverse and engaging scientific program featuring leading local and national microbiologists
- ◆ Poster presentations showcasing current research
- ◆ Great networking opportunities
- ◆ A conference dinner at Frank Restaurant (<http://frankrestaurant.com.au/>)

Enquiries:

Please contact Lou Roddam
(lfroddam@utas.edu.au) for further details.





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.

Congratulations to our 2018 Award Winners:

Jim Pittard Award - Sam Manna

Lyn Gilbert Award - Pat Blackall

David White Excellence in Teaching Award - Prue Bramwell

Frank Fenner Award - Anton Peleg

Frank Fenner Award - Makrina Totsika

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.**



ASM History SIG – Column

Since this is the centenary year of the Spanish Influenza pandemic [Spanish Flu] it is timely to note the impact of the flu pandemic on Australia.

Various State Quarantine Stations [e.g. Tasmanian, Western Australian and Victorian] were used for the returning soldiers from WWI who had Spanish Flu.

In Victoria the Point Nepean Quarantine Station had an Isolation Treatment Building, which in 1916 – 1921 included an isolation hospital, a morgue plus a mortuary and 10 timber huts used to house WWI influenza pandemic patients. Thus, highlighting the issue of Quarantine which is still highly relevant today.

C. Morwood's book, *Death of a Spanish Woman*, set in Melbourne, describes the Exhibition Building becoming a hospital to treat patients with Spanish Flu [flu pandemic in 1919]. At the time there were two other hospitals in Melbourne: the Melbourne Hospital established in 1848 and later renamed the Royal Melbourne hospital, and the Queens Memorial Hospital [1904] which later became known as Fairfield Hospital.

Column contributed by Di Lightfoot

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

**[http://www.theasm.org.au/events/visiting-speakers-
program/](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

- A new giant virus found in the waters of Oahu, Hawaii
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/05/180503101643.htm>
- Swamp microbe has pollution-munching power
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/04/180411161307.htm>
- Honeybees are struggling to get enough good bacteria
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/04/180417115706.htm>
- Bacteria therapy for eczema shows promise
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/05/180503101703.htm>
- Fungi in fashion: Mushrooms, feathers combine in biodegradable shoes
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/04/180411174157.htm>
- First US death due to romaine lettuce as E. coli outbreak widens
<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2167998-first-us-death-due-to-romaine-lettuce-as-e-coli-outbreak-widens/>
- Does Gut Microbiota Manipulate Our Minds?
<http://www.sci-news.com/biology/gut-microbiota-manipulate-our-minds-05956.html>
- Your computer keyboard is probably dirtier than a toilet seat
<https://www.businessinsider.com.au/how-often-to-clean-a-computer-keyboard-2018-4?r=US&IR=T>
- Flesh-eating bacteria cases on the rise and we need an urgent response
<http://theconversation.com/flesh-eating-bacteria-cases-on-the-rise-and-we-need-an-urgent-response-94975>
- Large Candida auris outbreak linked to multi-use thermometers in UK ICU
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/04/180421085739.htm>
- With 'Super Gonorrhoea' a Threat, Many Still Getting Wrong Antibiotics
<http://www.health.com/healthday/super-gonorrhoea-threat-many-still-getting-wrong-antibiotics>
- Environmental Changes Affect Pathogen Dynamics
<https://www.technologynetworks.com/applied-sciences/news/environmental-changes-affect-pathogen-dynamics-300256>

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)

- **ASM Vic Branch - Southern News and AGM – 22nd May 2018, Alfred Hospital VIC**
- **ASM Vic Branch Microbial Art Prize - 4th June - 27th July 2018**
- **ASM Annual Scientific Meeting and Trade Exhibition – 1st to 4th July 2018, Brisbane Convention Center, Brisbane QLD**
 - **Culture Media SIG and Genomics Workshops – 4th July 2018**
- **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 June
ASM Victorian News:
June 4th 2018**

Email submissions to: jhea@unimelb.edu.au