



Victorian News

The Australian Society for Microbiology VIC Branch Newsletter

June 2018, Vol 512

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Submission Deadline: 4th of the Month

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

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A warm welcome to our new committee members Sangeeta Singh, Steve Petrovski, Maria Liaskos and Lauren Zavan

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

Southern News & VIC Branch AGM

Event Report

Proudly sponsored by:

ThermoFisher
S C I E N T I F I C

Southern News was presented by the Australian Society for Microbiology (ASM) Victorian Branch at the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, on Tuesday 22nd May 2018. The evening began with the VIC Branch Annual General Meeting (AGM) conducted by Victorian Chair Karena Waller. The AGM was followed by seven presentations chaired by Dr Denis Spelman, Head of Microbiology at Alfred Health. Speakers ranged from Alfred Health, Royal Children's Hospital, Monash Health, Cabrini Pathology and La Trobe University. Presentations featured a range of fascinating case studies encountered in the medical microbiology laboratory highlighting the pathogenic role of diverse and rare bacteria and fungi in human infections, and current microbiology research relating to human health and the effect of antidepressants on gut microbiota. Over 100 attendees came to enjoy the very interesting talks which were preceded by finger food, drinks and networking.

Congratulations to Kylie Hui from the Royal Children's Hospital who was the winner of the ASM membership prize for a medical scientist up to Grade 1 Year 4 for her presentation on zoonotic pathogen *Bergeyella zoohelcum*.

A special thank you to Dr Spelman for chairing the event and to all the speakers for their informative talks which informed, delighted and challenged the audience. A warm thank you is extended to ThermoFisher for their generous sponsorship of the evening, to Alfred Hospital for use of their lecture theatre, and to the organisers of the event.

Abstracts submitted by each of the presenters can be found on the following pages in order of appearance on the night.

Report contributed by: Jaelyne Birrell

Phantom of the Operating Theatre **Pei Vern Fong** Monash Health

A 45 year old male patient was diagnosed with *Mycobacterium chimaera* infection 19 months following aortic valve replacement. Blood cultures and aortic valve vegetation grew *M. chimaera*. The patient was treated with rifampicin, ethambutol, azithromycin and amikacin post aortic valve replacement for infective endocarditis. This is the first case report of *M. chimaera* endocarditis linked to cardiothoracic surgery in Victoria, Australia, and highlights the difficulties in diagnosis of this infection.

The effect of antidepressants on the gut microbiota

Sarah Knowler¹, Prof. Maarten van den Buuse², Dr Emily Jaehne², Corinne Celestina¹, Assoc. Prof Ashley Franks¹

Department of Microbiology, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Victoria, 3086, Australia
School of Psychology and Public Health, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Victoria, 3086, Australia

Changes to the structure of the gut bacterial community have been attributed to a range of factors including environment, diet, age, sex, mental health status and medication. However, in human studies it is difficult to adequately control these factors.

In this study, a mouse model of depression was utilised to investigate the effect of antidepressants on the gut microbiota, controlling for variables such as diet and environmental factors. Two classes of antidepressants were administered to adolescent mice over a three week period. Faecal samples were collected pre, peri and post administration of antidepressants. Analysis of bacterial communities was completed using automated ribosomal intergenic spacer analysis (ARISA) and quantitative PCR (qPCR).

There were no differences in bacterial community structure and overall abundance in depressed mice compared to control counterparts. As a main effect, sex had the most significant impact on diversity in the bacterial community in faecal samples. Sampling time-point was seen to effect both community structure and overall bacterial abundance. As these differences were observed in mice that did not receive antidepressants, it is likely that a change in developmental stage from adolescence to adulthood was the factor driving these results. Whilst there were some differences in antidepressant treatment groups, these were not consistent across depression status, sex and sampling time-point. Overall, sex and sampling time-point were the underlying factors in any apparent differences between groups.

Your Best Friend's Saliva

Kylie Hui, Gena Gonis, Usha Dewan, Michelle Lim, Cassandra Gatt, The Royal Children's Hospital

Bergeyella zoohelcum is an aerobic, gram negative bacilli that is found in 38-90% of oral fluid in dogs and cats. It is a zoonotic pathogen causing infection in humans by foodborne route and also as a result of close contact with dogs or cats. Infection is mainly associated with animal bites and a large majority of these present in the form of abscesses or cellulitis. If these infections are not managed appropriately, more invasive disease may occur leading to complications such as meningitis and septicaemia. Accurate and rapid pathogen identification is therefore crucial in ensuring timely and appropriate treatment.

This organism is difficult to identify as its reaction to simple biochemical tests closely resemble other potentially pathogenic oral flora from dogs, such as *Pasturella species*. There are many scholarly articles suggesting that due to *B.zoohecum's* fastidious nature, the lack of exposure of this organism to scientists and without the help of modern day technology (such as the Matrix Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization Time-Of-Flight Mass Spectrometry) *B.zoohecum* is generally underreported.

In this presentation we explore how to identify this pathogen, its similarities to other zoonotic pathogens and how we can differentiate them to provide better patient management and care.

The Two-Faced Fun Guy

Louise Sonneveld

Bacteriology Department, The Alfred Hospital

Anatomical Pathology Department, The Alfred Hospital

Department of Infectious Diseases, The Alfred Hospital

A 41-year old Australian resident of Thai origin presented with a 3-week history of dry cough, fatigue, dyspnoea, fevers, night sweats, intermittent diarrhoea, unintentional weight-loss (18-kilograms) and a mildly pruritic rash. He recently tested positive for HIV and was referred to the Alfred Hospital by his general practitioner for management.

On examination at the Alfred he was cachectic, febrile (40.0C), tachypnoeic and hypotensive (85/60 mmHg). He had a violaceous-brown papulosquamous rash with central umbilication, involving his face, neck, chest, abdomen and arms. Examination was otherwise unremarkable. Initial investigations revealed a high HIV viral load and a low CD4+ T-cell count, multi-resistant *Salmonella spp.* on blood cultures, bilateral diffuse ground-glass opacification chest x-ray and positive *Pneumocystis jiroveci* PCR on sputum. He was treated with meropenem and trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole with significant improvement.

However, his rash persisted warranting further investigation. Punch biopsies of skin lesions showed scattered non-septate ovoid fungal elements, some showing schizogony without true budding, within the dermis. The clinical concern was for penicilliosis, and treatment was commenced with conventional itraconazole.

The final diagnosis of the patient's rash was made using bacterial culture and gram stain, various fungal stains and confirmed with histopathological findings.

Congratulations, you have been acquitted!

Fungai Mukungunurwa The Royal Children's Hospital

Microbial conjunctivitis involves inflammation of the thin lining of the inner eyelid and front of the eyeball, caused by bacteria, viruses, fungi, or parasites. Neonatal conjunctivitis may be caused by a blocked tear duct, irritation produced by the topical antimicrobials given at birth or infection with a virus or bacteria passed from the mother to her baby during childbirth. Asymptomatic mothers at the time of delivery can carry and pass bacteria or viruses to babies at delivery. The most common causes of infection related neonatal conjunctivitis are *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and some viruses. The symptoms include itching, increased ocular secretions, swelling of the conjunctiva and/or eyelids, pink colour in the white of the eyes, and light sensitivity. Bacterial conjunctivitis is diagnosed by direct culture of a conjunctiva sample onto horse blood agar and chocolate agar media in a routine bacteriology laboratory. *Chlamydia trachomatis* infection is diagnosed by molecular methods.

In this presentation we will be looking at a case of a healthy 4 day old baby girl, a preliminary laboratory result and how relationships can be impacted by a laboratory report. The case study also reflects the important role played by laboratory staff and clinicians in the mental and social wellbeing of patients.

References

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/std/gonorrhea/lab/ncin.htm>
2. Infectious disease Essentials. John E Bennett, Raphael Dolin and Martin J Blaser
3. Manual of Clinical Microbiology. 10th edition, Volume 1. James Versalovic, Karen C Carroll, Guido Funke, James H Jorgensen, Marie Louise Landry, David W Warnock.

Cat's Eye

Asteway Hailemariam The Alfred Hospital

Sporotrichosis is a fungal infection that is rare in Australia. It is caused by a fungus called *Sporothrix* which is a thermally dimorphic fungus largely confined to tropical and subtropical areas. We present a case of a 24-year-old woman who had subcutaneous sporotrichosis after a cat scratch to the right lower eyelid. After few weeks of the injury, the nodules around the right eyelid became increasingly swollen spreading to the right temple and right cheek with a sign of sporotrichoid pattern. For a short period, she developed fever and systemic symptoms. While visiting outpatient clinic, a biopsy of the lesion was obtained and sent to Histopathology, Microbiology and other analysis. After two weeks, the fungal culture grew *Sporothrix schenckii*. The patient has commenced medication of Itraconazole, 100 mg daily, which has improved the eyelid lesion and decreased the swelling and nodules.

A rare cause of endocarditis

Cuc Trieu Cabrini Pathology

Up to 85% of infective endocarditis cases are attributed to Staphylococci, Streptococci and Enterococci. However we should also be aware of other organisms which can cause infective endocarditis (IE). We report a recent case in a 44 year old female with *Rothia dentocariosa* isolated from blood cultures.

Rothia dentocariosa is a normal commensal of the oral cavity and rarely causes disease. It is usually associated with dental plaques and periodontal disease. It has been associated with endocarditis involving in both native and prosthetic valves. Often formation of large vegetations on the heart valves can result in complications such as intracranial mycotic aneurysms, pulmonary infarcts, intracerebral haemorrhages and brain abscesses.

It is an aerobic Gram positive coccoid to rod shaped, non-spore forming, non-acid-fast and non-motile bacterium. The colonies are smooth, convex with entire edges or in older cultures may appear convoluted and may adhere to the agar surface. Cultures may appear to look mixed due to the occurrence of different colony types. The organism is catalase positive but can be variable, oxidase negative, urease negative, esculin hydrolysis positive and reduce nitrate. It also ferments glucose, maltose, fructose and sucrose but not lactose, xylose or mannitol. *Rothia dentocariosa* (including *Rothia mucilaginosa*) is in the database of Vitek (bioMerieux) GP (Gram positive) identification card, RapID CB Plus (Remel) and API Coryne.

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

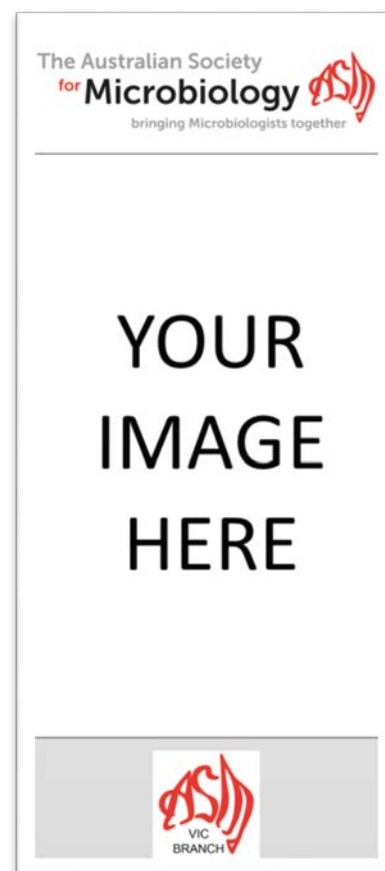
Prize:

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

Poster abstract submission now closed

**Registration is still open.
Don't miss out!**

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.

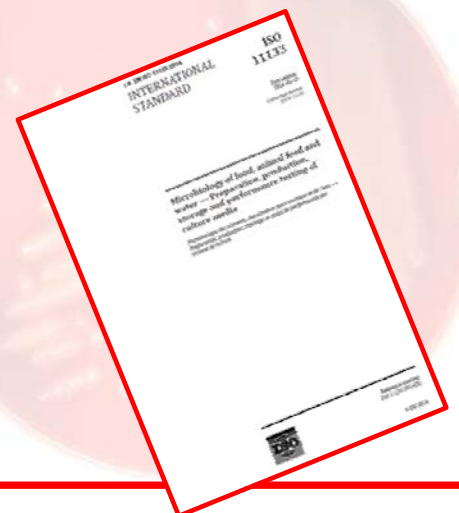
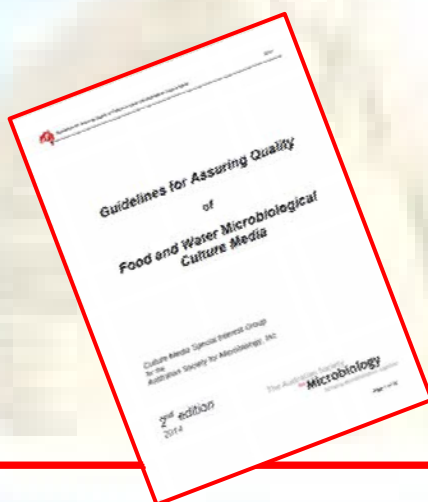
The workshop will be chaired by the National Convenor of the Culture Media SIG, Peter Traynor.

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

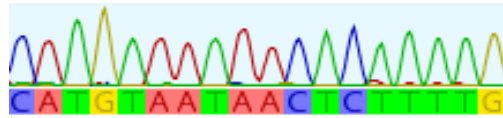
ASM Guidelines for the Quality Control and Quality Assurance of Microbiological Media

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/>



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>

Registration CLOSES – 5pm Thursday 14 June 2018

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 Jack Wang, University of Queensland
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**.



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.



ASM History SIG

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/](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

- To regulate fecal transplants, FDA has to first answer a serious question: What is poop?
<https://www.sciencenews.org/blog/scicurious/fecal-transplants-regulation>
- Bacteria and viruses ejected from the ocean
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/05/180525095420.htm>
- The CDC advises: Don't swallow the water in a hotel swimming pool
<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/cdc-water-hotel-swimming-pool>
- A new giant virus found in the waters of Oahu, Hawaii
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/05/180503101643.htm>
- With a little convincing, rats can detect tuberculosis
<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/little-convincing-rats-can-detect-tuberculosis>
- What does the future hold for the children of the Zika virus outbreak in Brazil?
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/06/180606143727.htm>
- Multi-drug-resistant (MDR), colistin-resistant E. coli bacteria pervasive in Vietnam village
<http://outbreaknewstoday.com/multi-drug-resistant-mdr-colistin-resistant-e-coli-bacteria-pervasive-vietnam-village-22159>
- Dogs carry a surprising variety of flu viruses
<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/dogs-carry-surprising-variety-flu-viruses>
- Ingestible 'bacteria on a chip' could help diagnose disease
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/05/180524141712.htm>
- Scientists use dietary seaweed to manipulate gut bacteria in mice
<https://med.stanford.edu/news/all-news/2018/05/scientists-use-dietary-seaweed-to-manipulate-gut-bacteria.html>
- Stone Age hepatitis B virus decoded
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/05/180510081546.htm>
- Bacteria Survive in NASA's Clean Rooms by Eating Cleaning Products
<https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2018/06/bacteria-can-eat-the-cleaning-products-nasa-uses-to-sterilize-its-spaceships/562016/>
- Pollution hits the fungi that nourish European trees
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/06/180606132709.htm>

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(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 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
- Parasitology and Tropical Medicine SIG Vic Branch Event – 27th September, Doherty Institute, Melbourne VIC
- Bi-State Conference 2018 (VIC / TAS) – 16th & 17th November 2018, Hobart TAS



Save the date
1-4 July
Brisbane Convention
& Exhibition Centre
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**Submission Deadline for July
ASM Victorian News:
July 4th 2018**

Email submissions to: jhea@unimelb.edu.au