

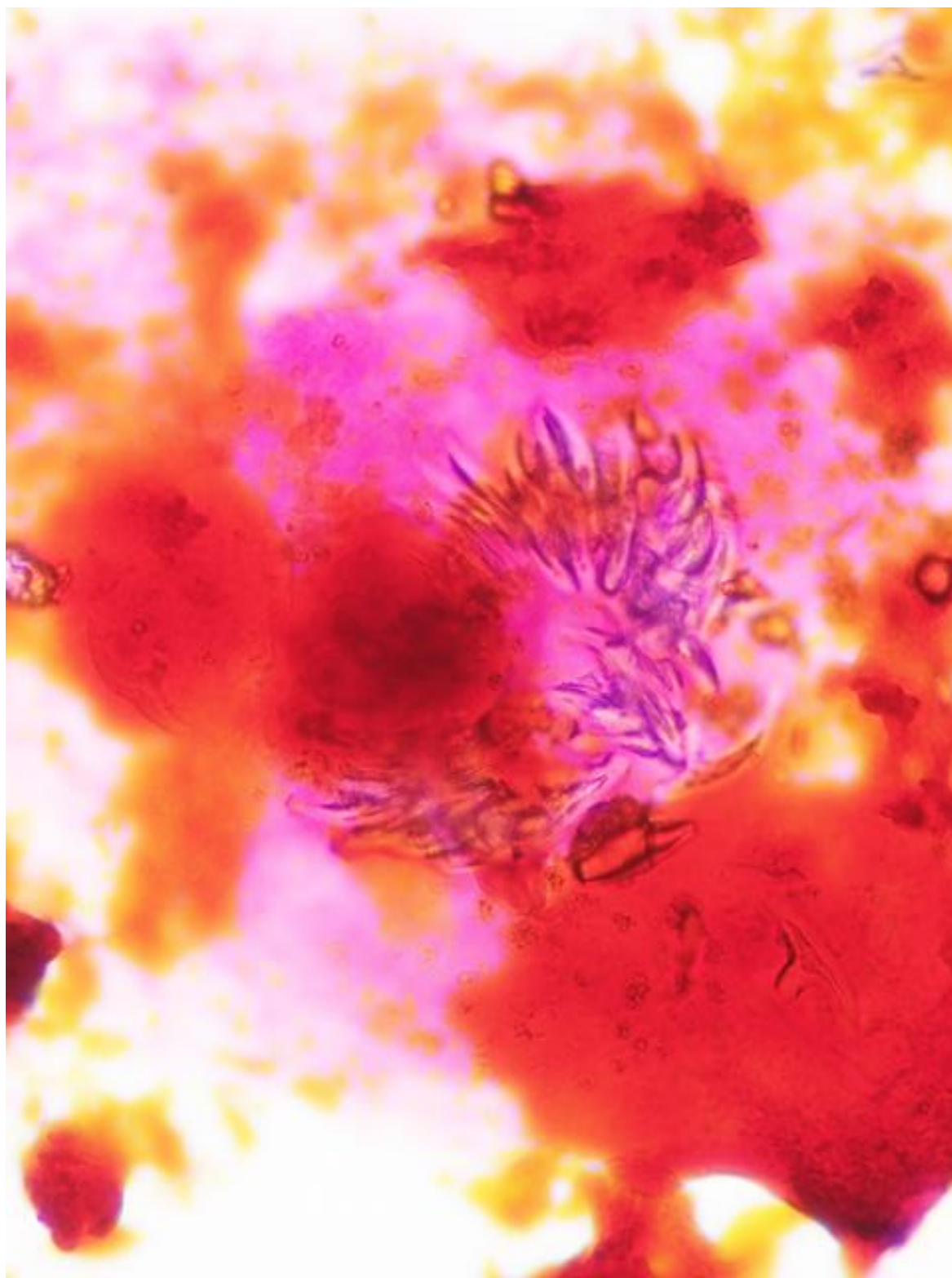
The Australian Society
for **Microbiology** 



Victorian News

The Australian Society for Microbiology VIC Branch Newsletter

September 2021, Vol 542



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2020-2021 Calendar

Event	Date
Microbial Art Prize	Due 1 st October 2021
Public Health Night	7 th October 2021
Trivia Night	Late October 2021
News from the Hospitals	10 th November 2021
Genomics Workshop	November 2021
ASM2022	11 th July – 14 th July 2022

Events

Save the Date ASM2022

11th-14th July 2022



PROF JILL BANFIELD
University of California, USA
Rubbo Orator



PROF NEIL GOW
University of Exeter, UK



PROF DENISE MONACK
Stanford University, USA



PROF TRACY PALMER
Newcastle University, UK



DR REBECCA VEGA THURBER
Oregon State University, USA

Registrations & Submissions open in February 2022

Public Health Night

Thursday 6th October 2021 – 6pm

Please join us in an exciting night of online presentations by The Doherty Institute as the scientists talk all things COVID-19.

When: Thursday 7th October 2021 - 6pm start

Cost: Free for ASM members, \$5 donation for non-ASM members

Registration: Please register for this Zoom event by 5pm Wednesday 6th October, 2021. Registration: <https://www.trybooking.com/BUFSN>

Presentations:

- COVID-19 Update
- How has genomics helped during the COVID-19 pandemic? - **Courtney Lane**
- Supporting the Australian COVID-19 response through model-based situational assessment - **Dr. David Price**
- Lab in a Van: Taking testing to the people - **Dr. Susan Ballard**

Microbial Art Prize

Lockdown 6.0 Edition

Submissions due by 1st October, 2021

Tired of lockdowns? Need a distraction? Get back in touch with your creative side and submit an entry for 2021 Microbial Art Prize!

This year's theme is HYBRID. All types of entries are welcome as well as any interpretation on the theme! Multiple prizes are up for grabs!

To be considered for a prize, entries must be received by **1st October 2021**

Send all entries and enquiries to:

Sarah Baines (baines@unimelb.edu.au) and Jake Lacey (jake.lacey@unimelb.edu.au)

Submitter must be the owner of the image and a current member of ASM. A complete entry consists of: a high-resolution image, a short description (<100w) and the submitters name and affiliation. A maximum of two entries per submitter will be accepted. All entries may be posted on the branch's website and social media accounts, and in the newsletter.



Winner of the Microbial Art Prize 2020 - 'Lysis of a Blockeria by Polydron-phase' @JW_likedirt from the @FranksMicrolab

Microbial Genomics Workshop Series

November

Has Covid-19 affected your ability to complete all your lab work for that important project? Do you want to add some value to your lab work, or learn some new techniques? Then we have something for you.

The ASMVic Branch will be running a Microbial Genomics workshop towards the end of the year under the theme “**Improving your lab work with microbial genomics/bioinformatics**”. This workshop is aimed at laboratory researchers at all levels who would like to complement their laboratory work with some bioinformatics/microbial genomics, and there will be no command-line/coding used so it's a fantastic entry point if you have little to no experience.

This workshop provides an overview of:

- Strategies used to enhance laboratory work with bioinformatics/Microbial genomics
- Methods used to investigate the diversity and characterise a protein or gene of interest
- Methods for validating and confirming mutants and unexpected phenotypes.

More information to come soon. If you have any questions for this upcoming event, please contact Jake Lacey at jake.lacey@unimelb.edu.au

Upcoming events with details to come soon

News from the Hospitals – 10th November

Trivia Night – Late October.

News and Views

Renew and Update your ASM Membership

The main objective of the Australian Society for Microbiology (ASM) is to advance the science of microbiology in Australia.

The society does this through the production and promotion of reading material, lectures, seminars, symposia and demonstrations on topics relevant to microbiology, as well as establishing and maintaining suitable standards for the practice of microbiology as a profession.

The ASM also promotes the awareness of microbiology and its role in everyday life, and actively liaises with governments and other professional bodies at both State and Federal levels in support of its members and the profession.

It's that time of year when your membership is due for renewal. Don't forget to update your details so you don't miss out on all the members benefits including:

- Reduced conference registration,
- Free entry to many of our Victorian branch events
- Access to the new online community
- Professional development opportunities
- Eligibility for many ASM awards

Don't forget to recommend your friends and colleagues to join us.

If you have finished your PhD and have been working for the last two years in the field of microbiology you should consider applying for a professional membership MASM.

Professional membership eligibility criteria:

- Completed an academic qualification in microbiology at degree level or alternative qualifications acceptable to the Council; and
- Have satisfactorily completed two years of postgraduate work to advance the discipline of microbiology.

If you meet these criteria, all you need to do is obtain a declaration form from a referee who is a MASM or FASM member of the society, your curriculum vitae and academic record/copy of degree and submit online.

For more information see.

<https://www.theasm.org.au/professional-membership-masm>

If you have 10 years or more experience in the field of microbiology and are a ASM MASM you should consider applying to become a Fellow of the Australian Society of Microbiology (FASM)

Fellows of the Society are those microbiologists who, through a process of peer assessment, are determined to be either specialists in their field, or scientists who have made a significant contribution to the profession.

Fellowship is the higher qualification of the ASM which is granted by the Council on the recommendation of the National Examinations & Qualifications Board.

Fellowship eligibility criteria:

- A financial MASM member of ASM at the time of applying for the fellowship.
- At least 10 years' experience in the field of microbiology.

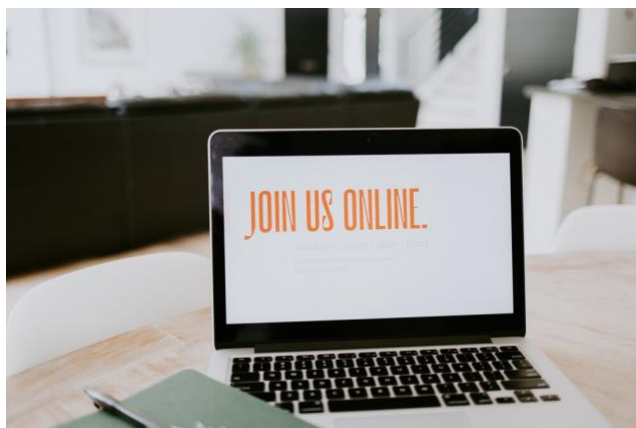
Required Supporting Documents:

- Curriculum Vitae, including details of your tertiary and other relevant qualifications, a list of your major publications.
- Completion of a FASM Referee Declaration (form downloadable below).

Further details can be found on the ASM National Website

<https://www.theasm.org.au/fellowship-fasm-1>

The ASM online community



We are excited to launch the ASM online community to members. A space where you can communicate to individuals or your special interest groups, share branch events, post announcements such as employment opportunities and scholarships, or request protocols and strains.

Now you don't have to wait for the next meet-up to connect with other members.

Please log in, explore, set up your profile and introduce yourself in one of our forums.

To login:

- Go to: <https://community.theasm.org.au/>
 - Click the "Sign in" button located at the top right corner.
 - The first time you login you will need to set up your password. Click the "Can't access your account?" link.
 - Enter the email address on file with ASM and then click the "Send Password Link" button.
 - Check your email for the link to set up your password.
-

How to Book your COVID-19 Vaccine

Victoria's vaccination centres are offering all healthcare workers the Pfizer vaccine, regardless of your age. To book your priority appointment, call 1800 675 398 and mention you work in the healthcare sector.

Please note: People who have already received a first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine should receive a second dose of AstraZeneca. Thank you for your continued support of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout



For people yet to receive their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, the following groups are eligible to receive Pfizer vaccine, regardless of age:

- all health care workers (i.e. eligible under [Phase 1A and 1B](#)).
 - all hotel quarantine and red zone airport and marine port border workers
 - household contacts (those living in the same primary residence) aged 16 years and over of hotel quarantine and border workers
 - residential aged and disability care workers (nursing, personal care, allied health, and kitchen, cleaning, laundry, garden and office staff) and residents.
-

Contact and Society Details



Vic Branch Committee

Chair: Catherine Satzke

(catherine.satzke@mcri.edu.au)

Deputy Chair/Public Health: Andrew Greenhill

(Andrew.greenhill@federation.edu.au)

Secretary: Sarah Baines (bainess@unimelb.edu.au)

Treasurer: Chris Stubenrauch

(christopher.stubenrauch@monash.edu)

Immediate Past Chair: Karena Waller

(klwaller@unimelb.edu.au)

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Medical Microbiology: Sarah Baines, Seema

Kanade, Louise Miles, Sam Manna, Harshini

Weerasinghe, Jake Lacey

Regional Engagement: Andrew Greenhill, Catherine Satzke, Steve Petrovski

Skills, Education, Engagement and

Communications: Sam Manna, Priscilla Johanesen,

Karena Waller, Seema Kanade, Lauren Zavan,

Harshini Weerasinghe, Maria Liaskos, Harshini

Weerasinghe.

Submissions: Deadlines for ASM Victorian News is the 5th of the Month. All notices should be emailed to Jake Lacey (jake.lacey@unimelb.edu.au).

Find us on:

Website: <http://victoria.theasm.org.au/>

Twitter: [@ASM_VicBranch](https://twitter.com/ASM_VicBranch)

Facebook: [The Australian Society for Microbiology \(ASM\) - Victorian Branch](https://www.facebook.com/TheAustralianSocietyforMicrobiology(ASM)-VictorianBranch)



Becoming a Member: 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 <https://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: Christine Seers, Treasurer VIC Branch caseers@unimelb.edu.au
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.

Upgrade to a professional membership (MASM):

to be eligible for MASM, you must have: Completed an academic qualification in microbiology at degree level or alternative qualifications acceptable to the Council; and have satisfactorily completed two years of postgraduate work to advance the discipline of microbiology. If you meet these criteria, all you need to do is obtain a declaration form from a referee who is a MASM or FASM financial member of the society, your curriculum vitae and academic record/copy of degree and submit online. For more information see.

<https://www.theasm.org.au/professional-membership-masm>

Visiting speakers' program (VSP): Do you know of an outstanding speaker coming to Australia? If so, consider them for the Visiting Speakers Program (VSP). This program is now coordinated by the ASM Executive standing committee and the National Office in consultation with State branches. For more information, please contact Lauren Zavan (l.zavan@latrobe.edu.au), who is the VSP Coordinator for the ASM VIC Branch.

Organising events: The main objective of the Australian Society for Microbiology is to advance the science of microbiology in Australia. The ASM Victorian Branch is keen to support local initiatives, with the potential to advertise or co-organise events. If you are organising a microbiology-focussed event or have an idea for a type of event that would appeal to the broader microbiology, please contact us to discuss the ASM Vic Branch may be able to assist. Please contact Catherine Satzke (catherine.satzke@mcri.edu.au) for more information

Advertisements: Would you like to advertise your event, job vacancy or other news item in our newsletter? If so, please contact Jake Lacey (jake.lacey@unimelb.edu.au) Advertising rates are: Not-for-profit adverts: free of charge and For-profit adverts: \$50 per advert.

ASM History SIG: 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

ASM National Office:

9/397 Smith Street, Fitzroy VIC 3065
Tel: 1300 656 423
Fax: 1300 655 841
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Email: catherine.satzke@mcri.edu.au or
asmvicbranch@gmail.com

A list of the other ASM branches can be found online at <http://www.theasm.org.au/>