

MMG 30th Anniversary Celebration

Friday, November 8, 2019

Onstead Auditorium

6767 Bertner Avenue, Mitchell BSRB

10:00 am -10:20 am

Welcome

Theresa M. Koehler, Ph.D.

Professor & Chair, Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
McGovern Medical School

10:20 am – 12.00 pm

Session 1

“Functional genomics and signal transduction in multicellular fungi”

Katherine Borkovich, Ph.D.

Professor & Chair, Microbiology & Plant Pathology
University of California, Riverside

“EASy evolution: Metabolic alteration for biotechnology”

Ellen Neidle, Ph.D. (S. Kaplan)

Professor, Microbiology
University of Georgia

“Studying phage inhibition of bacterial cell division and shape at a small college”

Daniel Haeusser, Ph.D. (Margolin)

Assistant Professor, Biology
Canisius College

“C. difficile and Carbon Utilization Phenotypes in Emerging Clinical and Environmental Ribotypes”

Heather Danhof, Ph.D. (Lorenz)

Postdoctoral Associate, Molecular Virology & Microbiology
Baylor College of Medicine

“Teaching at an Urban College”

M. Gabriela Bowden, Ph.D. (H. Kaplan)

Associate Professor, Natural Sciences
University of Houston - Downtown

12:00 pm – 12:10 pm

Group Photo

12:10 pm – 1:20 pm

Lunch and Lab Posters

1:20 pm – 3:00 pm

Session 2

“Dynamics of Peptidoglycan Cell Wall Synthesis in the Superbug *Streptococcus pneumoniae*”

Malcolm Winkler, Ph.D.

Professor, Biology
Indiana University Bloomington

“Development of scientific programs, initiatives, and funding opportunities at the NIH”

Alicia Dombroski, Ph.D.

Director, Extramural Activities
National Institute of Dental and Cranial Research

“The Matrix Reloaded 3.0: Heterogeneity in pathogenic E. coli biofilms controls architecture and protection from antibiotics”

Maria Hadjifrangiskou, Ph.D. (Koehler)

Assistant Professor, Pathology, Microbiology & Immunology
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

“The electron transport chain regulates yeast starvation survival”

Patrick Gibney, Ph.D. (Morano)

Assistant Professor, Food Science
Cornell University

“Induction of an effector-triggered immune response by mitis group streptococci”

Ransome van der Hoeven, Ph.D. (Garsin)

Assistant Professor, Diagnostic & Biomedical Sciences
UTHealth School of Dentistry

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Coffee Break

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Session 3

“I never met a genome I didn't like”

George Weinstock, Ph.D.

Professor, Evnin Family Chair, Director, Microbial Genomics
The Jackson Laboratory

“Understanding the Link between Doctoral Student Admissions and Outcomes”

Marenda Wilson-Pham, Ph.D. (van Hoof)

Associate Dean and Assistant Professor
Rush University Graduate College

“The University of Texas Microbiology & Molecular Genetics and my research career”

Jing-Ren Zhang, Ph.D. (Norris)

Professor, Center for Infectious Disease Research
Tsinghua University, China

“Influence of medical devices on host susceptibility to staphylococci”

Jennifer Walker, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, MMG, Internal Medicine and SPH
UTHealth

4:50 pm - 6:15 pm

Lab Tours

Microbiology and
Molecular Genetics

6:15 pm

Mixer
Memorial Hermann Hospital Conference Center
Ground Floor, Hermann Pavilion

7:00 pm

Dinner and Keynote Address
"In the beginning..."
Samuel Kaplan, Ph.D.
Chair Emeritus, MMG