

International Conference on Gram-Positive Pathogens Omaha, Nebraska

Sunday, October 10th

- 6:00 - 7:00** Buffet Dinner at Embassy Suites Hotel
- 7:00 - 7:15** Opening Remarks: Paul Dunman and Eric Skaar, Co-Chairs
- 7:15 - 8:15** **Featured Speaker # 1: Olaf Schneewind, University of Chicago**
Dr. Schneewind will discuss advances in the use of Gram-positive virulence factors as targets for antibiotic drug discovery and vaccine development.
- 8:15 -** Social Hour

Monday, October 11th

Pathogenesis I

Moderator: Lara Mrak / Les Shaw

- 8:30 - 8:50** Yoann LeBreton. University of Maryland, College Park.
"Towards the analysis of gene essentiality in the Group A Streptococcus M1T1 invasive serotype."
- 8:50 - 9:10** Ashley DuMont. New York University School of Medicine.
"Identification of a novel cytotoxin that contributes to *Staphylococcus aureus* pathogenesis."
- 9:10 - 9:30** James Vergis. Uniformed Services University.
"Virulence studies of *Bacillus cereus* G9241."
- 9:30 - 9:50** Ho Seong Seo. University of California San Francisco.
"Bacteriophage lysine mediates the binding of *Streptococcus mitis* to human platelets through interaction with fibrinogen."
- 9:50 - 10:20** Coffee break

Pathogenesis II

Moderator: Lakshmi Rajagopal / Brett Hanson

- 10:20 - 10:40** Kristie Connolly. Wake Forest University School of Medicine.
"Dispersal of Group A Streptococcal biofilms by the cysteine protease SpeB leads to increased disease severity in a murine model."
- 10:40 - 11:00** Thomas Kehl-Fie. Vanderbilt University Medical School.
"Mechanisms of vertebrate manganese chelation and its effects on microbial pathogenesis."

- 11:00 - 11:20** Jeffrey Hall. University of Minnesota.
"Identification of SNPs associated with hyperproduction of alpha-toxin."
- 11:20 - 11:40** Theodor Chitlaru. Israel Institute for Biological Research.
"*Bacillus anthracis* extracellular proteases; pathogenicity determinants and targets for diagnostics."
- 11:40 - 1:30** Lunch break

Gram positive biofilms I

Moderator: Dev Ranjit / Paul Fey

- 1:30 - 1:50** Erin McNeil. University of Florida.
"Role of the *Staphylococcus aureus* nitric oxide synthase (*nos*) gene in biofilm development."
- 1:50 - 2:10** Brian Peters. University of Maryland Baltimore.
"*Candida albicans*-*Staphylococcus aureus* dual species biofilms mediate invasive staphylococcal infection."
- 2:10 - 2:30** Cassandra Quave. University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.
"Biofilm inhibitors for *S. aureus* from elmleaf blackberry root extract."
- 2:30 - 2:50** Carlos Sanchez Jr. University of Texas Health Sciences Center.
"Microarray characterization of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* during growth in a hyperadhesive biofilm state."
- 2:50 - 3:20** Coffee break

Gram positive biofilms II

Moderator: Michelle Reniere / Michael Federle

- 3:20 - 3:40** Amity Roberts. Wake Forest University School of Medicine.
"*Streptococcus pyogenes* biofilm communities are detected within the tonsillar crypts of pediatric patients who have undergone tonsillectomy for adenotonsillar hypertrophy obstructive sleep apnea and recurrent *Streptococcus pyogenes* infections."
- 3:40 - 4:00** Lance Thurlow. University of Nebraska Medical Center.
"*Staphylococcus aureus* biofilms and innate immune evasion."
- 4:00 - 4:20** Jeffrey Bose. University of Nebraska Medical Center.
"Defining the role of murein hydrolase activity in *Staphylococcus aureus* biofilm formation."
- 4:20 - 5:20** **Featured Speaker # 2: Victor Nizet, University of California, San Diego**
Dr. Nizet will discuss Streptococcal disease, virulence factors and strategies to augment the host's immune response to combat infection.
- 7:30 - 9:30** **Poster Session # 1** and cash bar

Tuesday, October 12th

Immune Evasion

Moderator: Tess Eidem / Victor Torres

- 8:00 - 8:30** Dr. Clayton Huntley. National Institutes of Health
Dr. Huntley will provide a short update on the state of NIH funding.
- 8:30 - 8:50** Jonathan Allen. Wayne State University School of Medicine.
"The CpsY regulon protects *Streptococcus iniae* from PMN phagocytic killing."
- 8:50 - 9:10** Pierre Kyme. Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and University of California Los Angeles.
"C/EBPe (CCATT/enhancer binding protein epsilon) mediates vitamin B3-enhanced clearance of *Staphylococcus aureus* infection."
- 9:10 - 9:30** Edward Morgan. San Diego State University Biosciences Center.
"Innate Immunity in the control of *Staphylococcus aureus* infections."
- 9:30 - 9:50** Jason Rosch. St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.
"Interaction between *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and the host: implications for novel therapeutic strategies."
- 9:50 - 10:10** Joseph Duncan. University of North Carolina.
"The role of alpha hemolysin activation of the NLRP3 inflammasome in *Staphylococcus aureus* pneumonia."
- 10:10 - 10:40** Coffee break
- 10:40 - 11:40** **Featured Speaker # 3: Barbara Murray, University of Texas Health Science Center**
Dr. Murray will discuss Enterococcus pathogenesis, mechanisms of antibiotic resistance and ideas regarding circumventing these resistance determinants.
- 11:40 - 2:30** **Poster Session # 2** and lunch break

Metabolism and Physiology

Moderator: Neal Hammer / Kevin McIver

- 2:30 - 2:50** Sruti DebRoy. University of Texas Health Science Center.
"Multiple post-transcriptional mechanisms control ethanolamine utilization in *Enterococcus faecalis*."
- 2:50 - 3:10** Anthony Richardson. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
"Lactate metabolism in the physiology and virulence of *Staphylococcus aureus*."
- 3:10 - 3:30** Laura Anzaldi. Vanderbilt University.
"A small molecule activator of heme biosynthesis triggers the heme stress response of *Staphylococcus aureus*."

3:30 - 3:50 Ravin Seepersaud. University of San Francisco.
"Asp3 is a central player mediating export within the accessory *sec* system of *Streptococcus gordonii*."

3:50 - 4:20 Coffee break

Structural Pathogenesis

Moderator: John Morrison / Borden Lacy

4:20 - 4:40 Blaise Boles. University of Michigan.
"Characterization of an extracellular structure produced by *Staphylococcus aureus*."

4:40 - 5:00 Brian Thompson. University of Missouri.
"A molecular model for the assembly of the exosporium layer of *Bacillus anthracis* spores."

5:00 - 5:20 Kelly Doran. San Diego State University.
"Group B streptococcal PilA promotes activation and penetration of the blood-brain barrier."

5:20 - 5:40 Rory Pruitt. Vanderbilt University.
"Structural analysis of *Clostridium difficile* toxin A."

5:40 - 6:00 Shandee Dixon. University of Michigan Medical School.
"Genetic analysis of the *Bacillus anthracis* petrobactin transport system."

6:30 - 9:00 Banquet Dinner at the Western Heritage Museum

Wednesday, October 13th

8:00 - 9:00 **Featured Speaker # 4: Richard Novick, New York University Medical Center**
Dr. Novick will discuss his ground breaking research on S. aureus virulence factor regulatory networks and approaches to abate their expression properties.

Genetic Regulation 1

Moderator: Liming Weng / Yinduo Ji

9:00 - 9:20 Srivishnypriya Anbalagan. University of South Dakota.
"Genome-wide DNA binding characteristics of Rgg in *Streptococcus pyogenes*."

9:20 - 9:40 Kellie Burnside. University of Washington.
"Identifying novel regulators of toxin expression in *Staphylococcus aureus*."

9:40 -10:00 Lauren Warren. University of Chicago at Illinois.
"A novel double tryptophan heptapeptide pheromone is required for competence regulation in *Streptococcus mutans* and *pyogenes*."

10:00 -10:30 Coffee break

Genetic Regulation II

Moderator: Vinai Thomas / Ken Bayles

- 10:30 - 10:50** Lara Hause. University of Maryland, College Park.
“Transcriptional activation by the group A streptococcal Mga regulator occurs through DNA binding and protein-protein interactions.”
- 10:50 - 11:10** Vijay Pancholi. The Ohio State University.
“The role of streptococcal surface dehydrogenase as a novel transcription factor.”
- 11:10 - 11:30** Craig Ellermeier. University of Iowa.
“Role of PrsW in regulation of ECG sigma factors and virulence of *Clostridium difficile*.”
- 11:30 - 11:50** Meredith Benson. New York University Medical Center.
“*Staphylococcus aureus* compensates for *agr* dysfunction by coordinating an anti-immunomodulatory response.”
- 11:50 - 12:10** Fei Sun. The University of Chicago.
“Novel ROS (RNS) signaling pathways in *Staphylococcus aureus*.”
- 12:10** Lunch break

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Omaha, NE
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Poster session 1

1. Amanda Angle
2. Nabil Abraham
3. Jonathan Allen
4. Amy Aldrich
5. Haritha Adhikarla
6. Shivangi Agarwal
7. Shivani Agarwal
8. Francis Alonzo
9. Chaitanya Aggarwal
10. Barry Bochner
11. Cassandra Brinkman
12. Karen Beenken
13. Kendall Bryant
14. Roberta Cozzi
15. Michael Chaussee
16. Jennifer Chang
17. Bagram Chatuev
18. Xin Deng
19. Tess Eidem
20. Teresa Fritz
21. Margot Grinwis
22. Shawna Graves
23. Hattie Gresham
24. Kanika Gera
25. Lynn Hancock
26. Richa Hanamsagar
27. Hsin-Yeh Hsieh
28. Indriati Hood
29. Neal Hammer
30. Kathryn Haley
31. Sara Holman
32. Pam Hall
33. Vijayalakshmi Iyer
34. Jennifer Junecko
35. Blythe Janowiak
36. Megan Kiedrowski
37. Stacey Kolar
38. Jill Lindgren
39. Benfang Lei
40. Breah LaSarre
41. Sarit Lilo
42. Han Li
43. Anel Lizcano
44. Fu Chen
45. Brett Hanson
46. Victor Huber
47. Konstantin Shatalin
48. Yinduo Ji

Poster session 2

49. Andrea Lucas
50. Ting Lei
51. Annalisa Lembo
52. Joe Mootz
53. Lara Mrak
54. Natalia Malachowa
55. Edward Morgan
56. John Morrison
57. Emily McDowell
58. Halie Miller
59. Adhar Manna
60. Tyler nygaard
61. Austin Nuxoll
62. Annalisa Nuccitelli
63. Graeme O'May
64. Carlos Orihuela
65. Michael Olson
66. Kyler Pallister
67. Gleb Pishchany
68. Scott Reiling
69. Cana Ross
70. Christelle Roux
71. Melissa Ray
72. Michelle Reniere
73. Kevin Rigby
74. Tiffany Robison
75. Carolyn Schaeffer
76. Jessica Snowden
77. April Sapp
78. Erin Sully
79. Krista Spreng
80. Tamsin Sheen
81. Jeffrey Spontak
82. Sam Sanderson
83. Christian Theilacker
84. Brian Thompson
85. Matthew Thoendel
86. Jovanka Voyich
87. Katie Wilcox
88. Ian Windham
89. Galia Zaide
90. Liming Weng
91. Debbie Vidlak
92. Dev Ranjit
93. Gus Wang
94. Kevin Mclver
95. Michael Federle
96. Lakshmi Rajagopal
97. Sean Reid
98. Keith Weaver