



**ASM Washington, D.C. Branch & George Mason University Student
Chapter
Spring 2018 Meeting**

AGENDA

6:00-6:30 **Check-In (setup posters) and Refreshments**

6:30-6:40 **Welcoming Remarks**

Amit Mukherjee, Ph.D.

ASM Washington D.C. Branch President and Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA

Short Oral Presentations

6:40-7:00 **Estela C. Monge**

University of Maryland Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD

*"Characterization of Chitin Degrading Enzymes in *Cellvibrio japonicas*"*

7:00-7:20 **Ranjan K. Behera**

Georgetown University, Georgetown, Washington, D.C.

*"Examining the role of *Staphylococcus aureus* CodY activity during systemic infection"*

7:20-7:30 **Break**

Branch Lecture

7:30-8:15 **Kathleen M. Morrow, Ph.D.**

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

"Role of Diazotrophy in Coral Holobiont Equilibrium"

8:15-9:00 **Poster Presentations, Awards, and Refreshments**

Poster Presentations

1. **Emerging Evidence for BAX-Inhibitor-1 (BI-1) in Regulating Cell Death susceptibility in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Fibroblasts**

A.J. Doane, S. Bui, and G.M. Grant
George Mason University, Manassas, VA, USA

2. **Survival and Growth of *Salmonella* Newport in Amended and Unamended Soil Extracts**

Manoj K. Shah¹, Rhodel Bradshaw², Eric T. Handy², Cheryl East², Esmond Nyarko², Patricia D. Millner², Deborah Neher³, Thomas Weicht³, Teresa M. Bergholz¹, and Manan Sharma²

¹Department of Microbiological Sciences, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND

²Environmental Microbial Food Safety Laboratory, USDA-Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, MD

³Department of Plant and Soil Science, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

3. **Functional Analysis of Enzymes Implicated in Starch Degradation by *Cellvibrio japonicas***

Cecelia Garcia*, Jeffrey G. Gardner
University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland

4. **Non- Culture Based Approach for Taxonomic and Resistome Profiling of 'Kitfo', an Ethiopian Beef Steak Tartar**

B. B. Eshetea*, N. Addy, L. Ewing, J. J. G. Beaubrun, B. Eribo
Howard University, Washington D.C.

5. **Inhibition of Extreme Drug-Resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* by *Lactobacilli* species from Yogurt and Cheese.**

R. S. Allen-McFarlane*, G. Bansal, S. O. Anosike, A. D. Allen, B. E. Eribo
Howard University, Washington D.C.

6. **Clonality, Virulence and Integron Characterization of VIM Metallo- β -lactamase Producing Isolates of *Acinetobacter baumannii* From Washington D.C. Hospitals**

Garima Bansal, Rachelle S. Allen-McFarlane, Junia J.G. Beaubrun, Broderick E. Eribo
Howard University, Washington D.C.

7. **DNA Sequences and Protein Structures of Target Genes *Prot6e* and *Sefa* for Detecting *Salmonella* Enteritidis**

Lijun Hu¹, Robert Stones², Eric W. Brown¹, Marc W. Allard¹, Li M. Ma³, and Guodong Zhang^{1*}

¹ Division of Microbiology, Office of Regulatory Science, Center for Food Safety and Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, College Park, Maryland, USA

²Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

³National Institute for Microbial Forensics & Food and Agricultural Biosecurity, Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA

8. **Characterization of Plant-Associated *Cronobacter sakazakii* Strains Using Molecular, Whole Genome, and Pan-Genome Sequence Analyses, and Zebrafish Infectivity Studies Identifies Clinically Relevant and Virulent Sequence Types**

Hyein Jang¹, Athmanya Eshwar², Gopal R. Gopinath¹, Jayanthi Gangiredla¹, Isha R. Patel¹, Junia Jean Gilles Beaubrun¹, Hannah R. Chase¹, Nicole Addy¹, Laura Ewing¹, Flavia Negrete¹, Samantha Finkelstein¹, JungHa Woo¹, YouYoung Lee¹, Séamus Fanning³, Roger Stephan², Angelika Lehner² and Ben D. Tall¹

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