



**Texas**  **Branch**

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY

## **Program**

**2022 Spring Virtual Meeting**

**March 24 – 25, 2022**



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## Opening Keynote

### **Seth Bordenstein, Ph.D.**

Vanderbilt University  
Centennial Endowed Professor of Biological Sciences  
Director, Vanderbilt Microbiome Innovation Center  
Associate Director of the Vanderbilt Institute for  
Infection, Immunology, and Inflammation  
Professor of Biological Sciences and Pathology,  
Microbiology, & Immunology



Dr. Seth Bordenstein is the founding director of the Vanderbilt Microbiome Innovation Center and associate director of the Vanderbilt Institute for Infection, Immunology and Inflammation. His lab investigates the evolutionary genetic and functional principles that shape the rules of engagement between animals, microbes, and bacteriophages.

His lab employs hypothesis-driven approaches to (i) decipher the genetics and mechanisms of host-microbe symbioses that impact animal reproduction, evolution, and vector control and (ii) unravel the major rules, if any, that shape host-microbiome associations within and between animal species.

Together with his partner Sarah Bordenstein, he also leads the worldwide outreach program *Discover the Microbes Within! The Wolbachia Project* to bring student-based discoveries on bacteria and biotechnology to classrooms and citizen scientists.

Bordenstein was recently elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology in 2021 and received the Elizabeth W. Jones Award for Excellence in Education from the Genetics Society of America in 2020.

## Spring 2022 Goldschmidt Lecturer

### **Kristin Parent, Ph.D.**

Michigan State University  
JK Billman, Jr., MD Endowed Research Professor  
Director, MSU Cryo-EM  
Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular  
Biology

Kristin N. Parent, Ph.D. did her graduate work at the University of Connecticut in Dr. Carol Teschke's laboratory, where she applied protein biochemistry, genetics and biophysical approaches to the assembly of bacteriophages. As a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Timothy S. Baker at the University of California, San Diego, she trained in cryo-electron microscopy techniques including classic single particle analysis as well as cryo-electron tomography.



In her own laboratory, Parent employs an integrated, interdisciplinary approach. She established her independent laboratory at Michigan State University in 2013 and has published extensively, secured extramural funding, and established a track record as a researcher, educator, and mentor. She also established the first cryo-EM facilities at MSU and serves as the founding Director of the newly established Talos Arctica cryo-EM facility on campus.

Parent was recently honored to receive the American Society for Microbiology Young Investigator award, and was appointed the JK Billman, Jr., MD Endowed Research Professorship.

# Texas Branch ASM Spring Meeting 2022

## Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

- 7:00 PM -7:15 PM Welcome and Opening Remarks  
Kelli Palmer, PhD  
President of ASM Texas Branch  
University of Texas at Dallas
- 7:15 PM -8:15 PM Seth Bordenstein, PhD  
Centennial Endowed Professor of Biological Sciences  
Vanderbilt University  
  
*The Battleground of Sexual Reproduction: How Symbionts Selectively Kill Animal Embryos*
- 8:30 PM-9:30 PM State-wide Virtual Lab Game Night *hosted by Texas State University Microbiology Club*
- 8:30 PM-9:30 PM Texas ASM Business Meeting

## Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00 AM -10:00 AM Undergraduate Student Oral Presentations  
(in competition for Orville Wyss award)  
*Chair: Jolene Ramsey, PhD, Texas A&M University*
- 10:00 AM-10:30 AM Goldschmidt Awardee Alumna Presentation  
*Chair: Patricia Baynham, PhD, St. Edwards*  
  
Holly Huse, PhD, D(ABMM), M(ASCP)CM, PHM  
Director, Microbiology, Dept. of Pathology  
Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
  
*From Bench to Bedside: A Day in the Life of a Clinical Microbiologist*
- 10:30 AM-10:45 AM BREAK
- 10:45 AM- 11:45 AM Graduate Student Oral Presentations  
(in competition for Charlie Gauntt award)  
*Chair: Jolene Ramsey, PhD, Texas A&M University*
- 11:45 AM-12:00 PM Postdoctoral Oral Presentation  
*Chair: Jolene Ramsey, PhD, Texas A&M University*

12:00 PM -1:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK

1:00 PM -2:30 PM

Concurrent Sessions: Careers Panel  
and Education Session

*Careers Panel  
and Student Networking*

*Stepping Stones to a Biomedical Career  
Chair: Faith Cox, University of Texas Medical Branch*

*Undergraduate/Graduate/ Post-doc Networking Event  
hosted by Texas Medical Center Graduate Student  
and Postdoc ASM Chapter*

*Education Session*

*Chair: Stacy Vasquez, PhD, Dallas College*

Karla Fuller, PhD  
Associate Professor of Biology and Founding Faculty  
Program Coordinator, Science  
Stella and Charles Guttman Community College

*Mama knows best: Affirming cultural knowledge using  
the scientific process*

David Smyth, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Texas A&M San Antonio

*Waste not want not*

Quang To  
Paul L. Foster School of Medicine  
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

*Manga as a fun way to teach host-pathogen  
interactions in microbiology*

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM

BREAK/ GATHER SCAVENGER HUNT

3:00 PM -5:00 PM

Student Poster Presentations and Judging

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

DINNER BREAK

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Goldschmidt Lecture

Kristin Parent, PhD

ASM Distinguished Lecturer  
Michigan State University

*Structure and Evolution of Shigella Phages: From a  
Neighborhood Near You*

8:00 PM - 8:30 PM  
8:30 PM - 8:35 PM

Awards Presentation  
Closing Remarks and Announcements

Front image: *A Sunset on a Texas Farm* by Trey Ratclif, CC BY-NC-SA 4.0