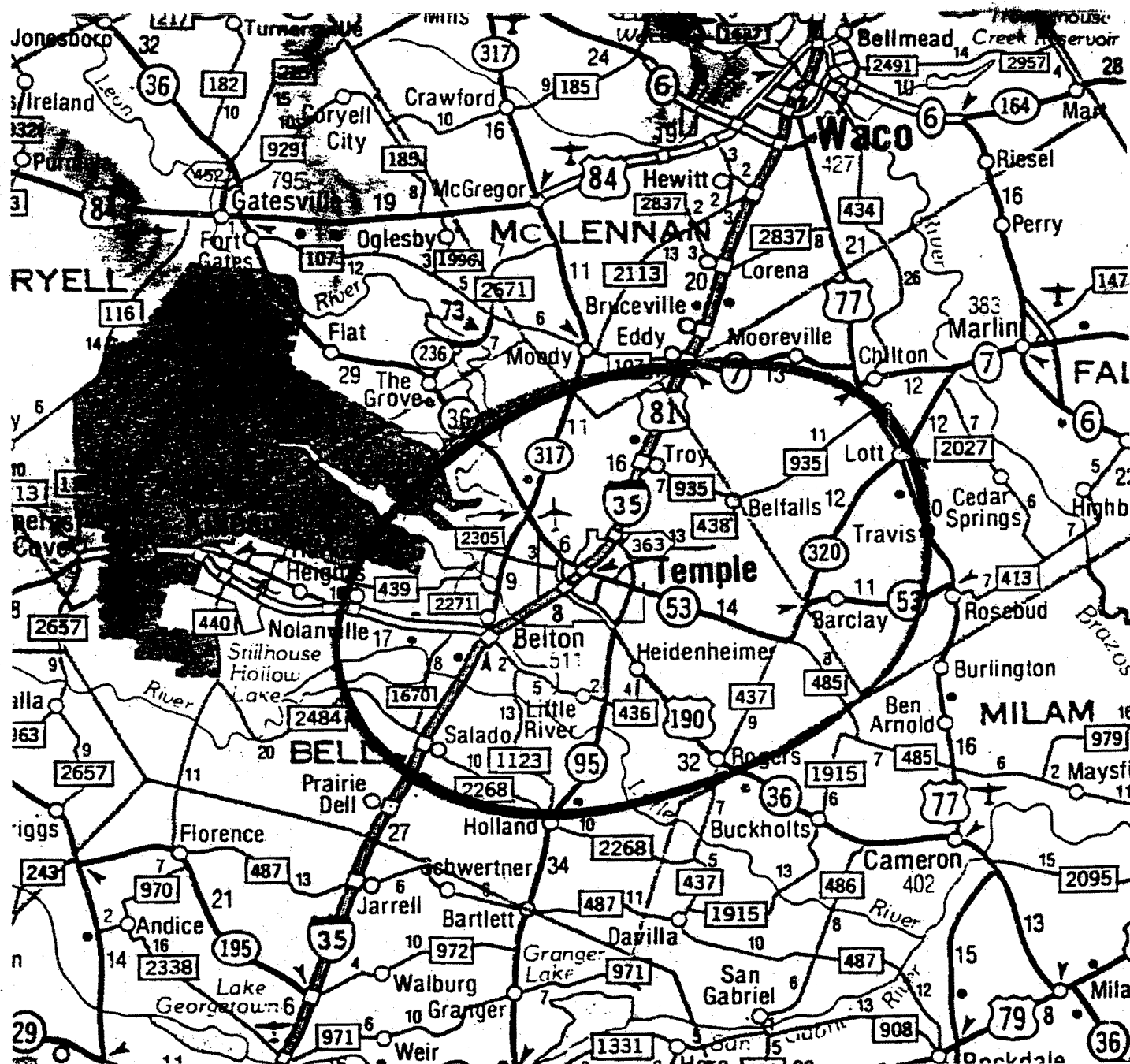


Newsletter

TEXAS BRANCH

American Society For Microbiology

FALL MEETING 1988 TEMPLE, TEXAS



1988-1989

ASM
TEXAS BRANCH OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Dr. Thomas W. Huber (817)778-4811
(term ends at
Spring Meeting
or 880630) Laboratory Services
Olin Teague Veterans' Center
Temple, TX 76501

VICE PRESIDENT: Dr. A. Joanne Bednarz-Prashad (713)792-4705
(President Elect) Program in Infectious Diseases
UT Medical School
Houston, TX 77030

SECRETARY-TREASURER: Dr. Tom Matney (713)792-4595
(two year term
ends 890630) UTGSBS
P.O.Box 20334
Houston, TX 77225

COUNCILORS: Dr. Shelley Payne (512)471-5204
(term ends 880630) Microbiology Department
University of Texas
Austin, TX 78712

(term ends 890630) Dr. Elizabeth F. Harris (817)735-2107
Microbiology Dpt, TCOM
Camp Bowie at Montgomery
Fort Worth, TX 76107

EDUCATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Dr. Mary Pat Moyer (512)567-5737
Dpt Surgery UTHSC-SA
7703 Floyd Curl Dr
San Antonio, TX 78284

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Roland Vela 817-565-2497
Biological Sci.
Univ. of North Texas
Denton, Texas

SUSTAINING MEMBERS: Mr. Walter Gilchrist (214)688-2275
Department of Microbiology
UT Health Science Center
Dallas, TX 75235

PAST PRESIDENT: Dr. Charles J. Gauntt (512)567-3972
Department of Microbiology
Univ Texas Health Science Center
7703 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78284

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OLIN E. TEAGUE VETERANS' CENTER
LABORATORY SERVICES
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July 30, 1988

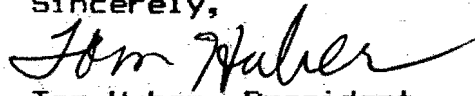
Roland Vela, Ph.D.
Biology Department
The University of North Texas
Denton, Texas 76203

Dear Dr. Vela:

Letter from the incoming President per your request:

Speaking for the officers of The Texas Branch ASM, we'll do whatever you want. What we think you want now is more student involvement, at least one informal meeting in a retreat setting, financially reasonable meetings, symposia with continuing education credit, student and member papers and posters, financial support for students presenting papers, workshops, joint meetings with sister organizations, and continued fostering of interest of microbiology in Texas. The current trends of the Branch are reflections of the influence of the membership. We pledge to be flexible enough to change directions or add new facets as dictated by you, the membership. The Texas Branch ASM is your organization and its effectiveness depends on the input and support of its members. Look for ways you can serve to improve the Branch and help me to make the Texas Branch ASM home for anyone interested in microbiology in the state of Texas.

Sincerely,



Tom Huber, President
Texas Branch ASM

TEXAS BRANCH

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY

ANNOUNCEMENT OF 1988 FALL MEETING of the TEXAS BRANCH ASM Tom Huber, Chairman (817)778-4811

The Fall Meeting will be held in the Frank Mayborn Civic and Convention Center in Temple, Texas from Wednesday September 28th through Friday 30th. Wednesday will consist of workshops. Four symposia will be scheduled from 8-11 a.m. and 2-5 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. Short papers will be scheduled from 11-12 a.m. and 1-2 p.m. each day and poster exhibits are planned so their authors are present from 12-1 noon on Thursday and Friday. This schedule permits the members to attend all symposia and papers since there are no concurrent sessions. There may be workshops on Thursday and Friday in which case if the topic is medical microbiology it would be scheduled opposite a general microbiology symposium, and visa versa. The business session will be held on Friday afternoon at the close of the symposium. Dr. James Walker is in charge of setting up one symposium in the area of "Developmental biology of simple organisms" and also in arranging for workshops in molecular biology to be given by sustaining members. These workshops will be scheduled on Thursday and Friday. Other symposium topics being considered include: "Microbial tropisms" and "Evolution of bacterial taxonomy". Clinical workshops include: All day workshop by Dr. Glenn Roberts of the Mayo Clinic on "Mycology", and half day workshops on "Rapid diagnosis of G.I. diseases", "Diagnosis of autoimmune diseases" and "Diagnosis of viral and Chlamydia diseases" (from Dr. Peter Bartel's Company).

Students presenting papers will be presented with a \$20.00 cash stipend to help defray meeting costs. They should be members of the Texas Branch or preferably student members of the National ASM. Copies of the National ASM student application form are enclosed. Students joining the National ASM should send a copy of their completed application to Dr. Matney so they may be automatically registered as student members of the Texas Branch.

The Holiday Inn has given us special rates of \$37.00 per night (\$41.81 with tax) for up to four people. Since this arrangement was made locally, reservations should be made by calling the Temple number (817)778-4411.

Motel 6 in Temple has singles for \$22.54, doubles \$29.32, for three \$36.10 and for four people \$42.89 (tax included). Reserve by calling (817)778-0272.

REPORT OF SPRING MEETING of the TEXAS BRANCH ASM in JUNCTION, TEXAS March 24, 25, and 26, 1988

The meeting was so successful that it was decided on the spot to have a repeat performance next Spring. The dates have been set as Thursday March 23, through Saturday March 25, 1989. An added attraction for the emeritus members and spouses will be a geology work shop and field trip. The next Newsletter will contain more details and lots of pictures, so be watching for it in early September.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. National ASM invited the Texas Branch to submit names of 2 students for complimentary national ASM student memberships. Dr. Joanne Bednarz Prashad as the newly elected Vice President is in charge of student affairs and will develop a method for selecting the recipients.
2. Drs. Tom Huber and Mollie McBride were nominated as lecturers for the 1988-89 Foundation for Microbiology Lecturers Program.
3. Dr. Huber announced that the Fall meeting will be held in Temple on September 28-30, 1988 (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday). Dr. Huber is the local arrangement committee chairman.
4. Dr. Roland Vela was appointed as the new editor of the Newsletter. Patricia Byers was appointed associate editor for advertising
5. Student awards were made. The abstracts of the winners are printed
6. A motion to provide subsidies for technicians to attend Branch meetings was not approved.
7. Result of the Teller's Committee was given. Dr. Joanne Bednarz Prashad was elected Vice President/President Elect.
8. President Gauntt handed the gavel over to President Elect Huber who adjourned the meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Republic Bank Spring Branch | \$2,245.53 |
| Mills County State Bank | 96.00 |
| UTHSC-H | <u>1,501.66</u> |
| Total operating funds | \$3,843.19 |

Merrill Lynch Fed. Secur. Tr (as of Feb. 26, 1988)

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| O. B. Williams Memorial Fund | 6,376.00 |
| S.E. Sulkin Memorial Fund | 6,355.00 |
| E. P. Goldschmidt Memorial Fund | <u>3,241.00</u> |
| Total in Memorial Funds | 15,972.00 |
| Total in all accounts | 19,815.19 |

The United States will face a shortage of 560,000 technically trained workers by the year 2010 unless its colleges and universities educate more minority-group and female engineers and scientists, according to a report to be released this month by a Congressionally appointed panel.

The report says the shortage of such workers would threaten the nation's economic strength and security.

The traditionally low rates of participation in technical fields by blacks, Hispanics, and American Indians are of particular concern, the report says, because those groups will represent more than a third of the country's college-age population in 2010.

by Thomas J. DeLoughry
The Chronicle of Higher Education
June 15, 1988

MEETING INCOME

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Preregistration | \$110.00 |
| Prepaid Exhibit Fees | 225.00 |
| Registration | 310.00 |
| Exhibit Fees | 75.00 |
| Late Exhibit Fees | 50.00 |
| | <u>\$770.00</u> |

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Room charges & linen | \$433.00 |
| Meals | 1446.60 |
| | <u>\$1879.60</u> |

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Dues collected | \$252.00 |
| Continuing Education | 20.00 |

MEETING EXPENSES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Travel Expenses, 4 speakers @ \$50.00 | \$200.00 |
| Honoraria, 2 speakers @ \$100.00 | 200.00 |
| Beverage | 57.82 |
| Poster Board | 25.45 |
| Trophies (sports) | 30.50 |
| Film | 5.92 |
| Misc | 12.71 |
| Food | 182.10 |
| | <u>\$714.50</u> |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Room & Board to Texas Tech Center | |
| Amount collected at Meeting | \$1879.60 |
| Additional for food | 182.10 |
| Total Paid to Center | <u>\$2061.70</u> |

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Student Awards, 2 @ \$50.00 | \$100.00 |
|-----------------------------|----------|

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

| | |
|------------|-------------------|
| Members | 500 (33 emeritus) |
| Students | 252 |
| Sustaining | 52 |
| Total | <u>804</u> |

"It was his firm conviction that the teacher had failed in his intentions if at the end of his discourse he was not mentally exhilarated and physically exhausted."

Noah Morris
University of Glasgow

ASM Council Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the ASM Council was held on May 11, 1988 at the Hilton Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved, and the Council took action on a number of items as described below.

Mission statement. President Iglewski presented the mission statement and goals which were formulated by the Council Policy Committee during strategic planning sessions. The following statement was approved by the Council:

"The mission of the American Society for Microbiology is to promote the microbiological sciences and their applications for the common good. The Society will accomplish its mission by stimulating research in the microbiological sciences, disseminating information in the microbiological sciences, promoting education in the microbiological sciences, advancing the profession in the microbiological sciences, and promoting the application of the microbiological sciences."

New headquarters. An internal audit indicated that ASM is financially healthy and a new headquarters is feasible without jeopardizing current programs or requiring a dues increase. A site selection committee has been established to determine the criteria for the new headquarters site. The Council unanimously approved a resolution directing the President and Executive Director to identify new headquarters which will provide sufficient space for anticipated growth of the Society through the year 2000. Purchase of equity is not to exceed \$7.5 million and the site should be readily accessible to the legislative and executive branches of the national government. This authorization expires June 30, 1989.

Bylaws amendments. The following amendments were approved:

- 1) The procedure for amending bylaws has been revised to allow for a mail vote of all members of the Society.
- 2) The ASM Foundation was made a subcommittee of the Finance Committee rather than remaining a committee. This change reflects a need for the Foundation to be more integrated into the Finance Committee. Additionally, new guidelines for the Foundation were approved. The emphasis of the Foundation will be on fund-raising and solicitation.
- 3) An annual Biotechnology Conference is established as a free-standing meeting.

A proposed amendment to allow for formation of a non-scientific division for microbiology educators was denied. Alternative ways to respond to these groups, e.g. through the Board of Education and Training Committee, were considered more appropriate than the divisional structure. A motion to establish a Board of Education and Training Committee for Annual Meeting planning was approved to address the needs of microbiology educators at the Annual Meeting.

Treasurer and Finance committee. The 1988 operating budget was reviewed and requires no increase in dues. A motion to hold dues at current levels for the next year was approved. A resolution to allow officers to open and close bank accounts at meeting sites was also approved.

Meetings. Authorization was approved for the fourth Annual Conference on Biotechnology. The ASM will work with the American Society for Virology to organize an International Congress on Virology meeting in the U.S. in 1996. A reduction in the length of next year's Annual Meeting to four days was also announced, and St. Louis, Missouri was approved as the site of the 1992 Annual Meeting.

The Meetings Board presented nominations for new Committee Chairmen as follows: Josephine Morello, Annual Meeting Program Committee; Robert Hammill, Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy Committee; Ralph Slepecky, ASM Conferences Committee; and Paul Came, ASM Biotechnology Conference Committee. Dr. Came discussed the policies regarding Conferences, and it was agreed that a policy regarding speaker reimbursements be strictly enforced. Commitments cannot be made by Conference

organizers until funding is assured. Conference fees will now be variable depending on meeting organization and style.

The Board recognized Harry Gooder's efforts on behalf of the Meeting Board, and the appointment of Paul Hartman as his successor was approved.

Publications. Chairman Whitely reported that 4,384 manuscripts were published in ASM journals in 1987. Effective with the 1988 issues, page charges for the journals were lowered. A new journal, Clinical Microbiology Reviews, has been established and currently has 4200 subscribers.

As a prerequisite for publishing the DNA sequence of a gene or functional unit, authors are now required to obtain an acquisition number from GenBank or EMBL.

Public and Scientific Affairs. The Council approved a letter to Congressman John Dingell (D-Mich.) expressing willingness of the ASM to cooperate in a constructive fashion with his committee in its inquiries on dishonesty in scientific research. The letter also expresses concern that the committee hearings did not allow sufficient opportunity for testimony by the scientific community.

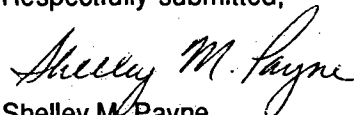
Membership and membership services. The Council approved the nomination of the following Honorary Members: C. D. Cox, Albert Balows, Sidney Rittenberg, Howard Gest, and Viola Mae Young-Horvath. Membership numbers were reviewed and Millicent Goldschmidt expressed concern over the drop in student membership. The Membership Services Committee reported that the Foundation for Microbiology Lectures program continues to be an important service to the Branches, and Secretary Lago indicated that funding would be continued in the 1988-89 program year.

Committees. Several new committees were established. An Ethical Practices Committee was established and the revision of the Code of Ethics and Canons was approved. A Public Relations Committee was established and charged with developing a public relations program for ASM. A Committee on Divisions is charged with examining the role of the divisions in both governance and program planning.

In other business, the Council approved the recommendation of the Secretary and Branch Organizations Committee that the name and boundary of the Florida Branch remain unchanged, since there was no evidence that either change was necessary or of benefit. A policy statement on branch affiliations and resolution of disputes was approved. The formation of a new student chapter at the University of Arecebo, Puerto Rico was approved. Also approved was a revision of the constitution of the Northeastern Branch. A request to merge Divisions N and Q was tabled due to problems with the ballot.

I would like to thank the members of the Texas Branch for giving me the opportunity to represent the Branch at the Council meetings.

Respectfully submitted,



Shelley M. Payne
Councilor, Texas Branch ASM

START

Gene Expression in a Baculovirus Host Range System Defective for Polyhedrin and Other Late Viral Proteins. A.J. REINISCH** and S.L. BILIMORIA. Texas Tech University. Lubbock, Tx.

Baculoviruses are promising biological control agents, and an important aspect of the development of these viruses as pesticides is the regulation of their target specificity. The virus must not affect beneficial insects or other non-target organisms. Thus an understanding of the genetic and molecular basis of baculovirus specificity is critical.

Growth characteristics and protein synthesis in *Autographa californica* multicapsid nuclear polyhedrosis virus (AcMNPV) was examined in cultured permissive *Spodoptera frugiperda* (SF) and semipermissive *Bombyx mori* (BM) insect cells. While early cytopathic effect (CPE) was similar in both cell lines, late in infection polyhedral inclusion bodies (PIBs) which are virion-containing protein crystals typical of productive infections, were not produced in BM cells. To determine if the difference in CPE might reflect different patterns of virus production, virus infection kinetics were compared. Although the virus titer was lower than that in SF cells, high titers of infectious virus were produced in the BM infection. Because PIBs were not made in BM cells, gel electrophoresis was performed to determine whether polyhedrin, the major constituent protein of the PIB, was made. Polyhedrin was not produced. In addition, the other major late protein, p10, and several other late polypeptides were not observed. We conclude that BM cells do not produce PIBs upon infection with AcMNPV because polyhedrin is not synthesized.



O. B. Williams

Award presented by Ron Humphrey

Sulkin Award

presented by Molly McBride



START

ANTIGENIC VARIATION IN AN OUTER SURFACE PROTEIN OF *Borrelia burgdorferi*. Virgilio G. Bundoc² and Alan G. Barbour, M.D.,

Dept. of Microbiology, UTHSC at San Antonio.

Lyme disease is the most common tick-borne disease in the United States today. Its causative agent, the spirochete *Borrelia burgdorferi* expresses two outer surface proteins OspA (31kd) and OspB (33-34kd). The two genes encoding these proteins are located on a 49kb linear plasmid and are cotranscribed from a single promoter.

Among the North American strains of *B. burgdorferi*, OspB is more variable than OspA in apparent molecular weight and reactivity with monoclonal antibodies. Studies of infected animals have suggested that antigenic variation of *B. burgdorferi* occurs. To look for antigenic variation occurring *in vitro*, strain HB19, a human blood isolate, was cloned by limiting dilution. The progeny were examined by SDS-PAGE and with a battery of monoclonal antibodies. Three distinct variants, V1, V7 and V10 were recovered. They produced OspB proteins of 33,000, 33,250 and 33,500 daltons respectively when examined by SDS-PAGE. Whereas V1 and V10 were bound by four monoclonal antibodies specific for OspB of the parental strain, V7 reacted with only three of the four. V1 differed from V10 in producing a 21kd protein, which on a Western blot was bound by one of the OspB-specific monoclonal antibodies.

This is the first definitive evidence of clonal polymorphisms in a major surface antigen in *Borrelia burgdorferi*. This might play a role in host pathogenesis and the spirochete's evasion of the immune response. Also this variation should be considered in serotyping and epidemiologic studies.

"Release of genetically engineered
microorganisms to the environment"



Dr. Monica Riley
ASM Foundation
Lecturer

"Role of HN neutralizing
influenza antibodies in AIDS"



Dr. Maryse Robert-Jung
ASM Foundation
Lecturer



How do you do
that?



It's got the 10
in the corner -



How are you from
everything is 10° off
the perpendicular



Am glad we're only
playing for fun





— *Johnson*

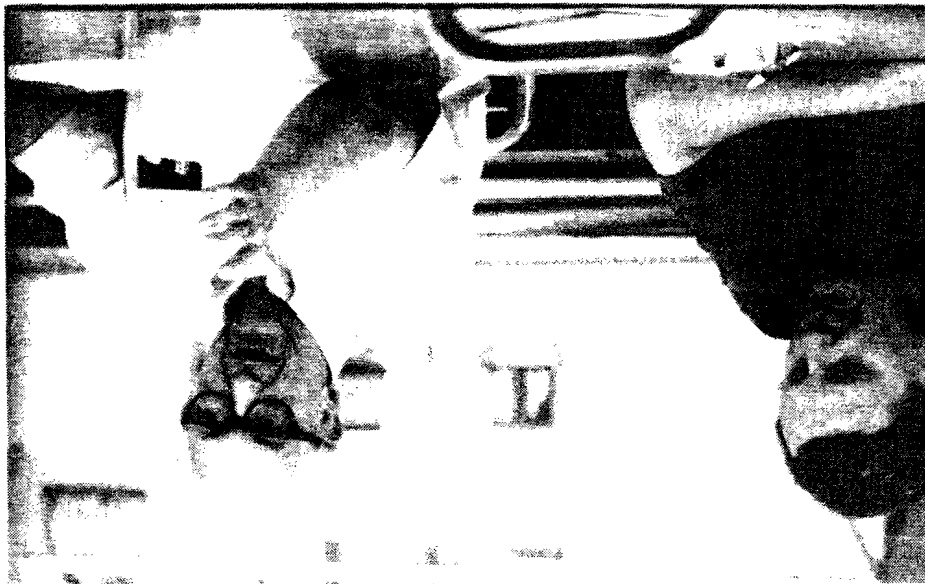
Good students all!



Sold!



*your
after,
my
don't --*



And not
a comb
in sight

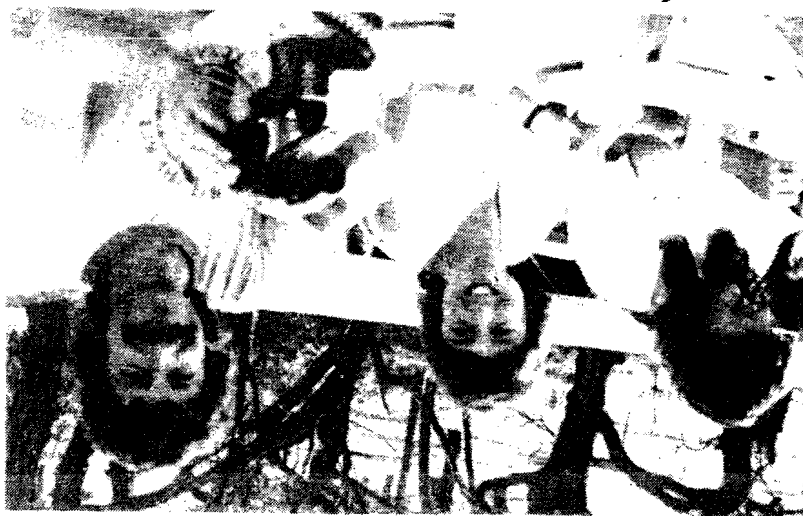


It is my duty to be beautiful ...



They're all
crazy!

What's all the fuss?



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Associate Editor,
Texas Branch ASM Newsletter

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792-4705 (message)

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news

JAPANESE FIRMS EXAMINING HOUSTON FOR NEW BIOTECH OPPORTUNITIES

Houston's status as a biotechnology center received international exposure in June of 1988, when 14 Japanese companies visited the city in search of partners for biotech ventures. Houston is one of three American cities that hosted the Japanese trade mission. The trade mission also visited Hartford, Connecticut and Los Angeles, California.

Two Houston biotechnology firms have joint ventures with Japanese companies at present - Houston Biotechnology and Houston Biomedical.

During the June 23rd conference, representatives of the Japanese companies made presentations to the conference, then met individually with participants to discuss potential joint ventures.

The conference was co-sponsored by the Japanese External Trade Organization (JETRO) and the Houston Economic Development Council (HEDC). HEDC president, Lee Hogan, said, "The fact that JETRO picked Houston as one of only three stops for this trade mission indicates the potential the Japanese see for Houston to emerge as a major biotechnology center.

News Release from Houston Economic Development Council, June 15, 1988, Ray Viator (713) 651-7231.

Microbiology Research Position

Microbiologist to join research team conducting field studies of diarrheal diseases in rural Egypt. Applicant must be familiar with the isolation and identification of enteric pathogens and be willing to live and work in a rural setting in a developing country. This is a two year position located at the Epidemiology Study Center near Bilbeis, Egypt. Housing and transportation will be furnished. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Contact Dr. John J. Mathewson, The University of Texas Health Science Center, Program in Infectious Diseases, P.O. Box 20708, Houston, TX 77225. (713) 792-4705

The Microbiology Faculty of the:
Instituto Tecnológico de Durango
Durango, Mexico

wishes to invite all Texas
Microbiologists to the:

II COLOQUIO INTERNACIONAL DE MICROBIOLOGIA
(the first colloquium took
place in Monterey in 1987)

at some time in 1989 propitious
to the Texas Microbiologists

more information at the Temple meeting

THE ASOCIACION MEXICANA DE BIOTECNOLOGIA

announces its

III REUNION NACIONAL

to be held the first week of September 1989 1989 1989
in Monterrey, Mexico *

*personal observation:

Monterrey is a great place for conventions, ie,
great food at modest prices, good hotels at
modest prices, great shopping at modest prices
AND Mexican Microbiologists appreciate the
presence of their Texas compadres at their meetings

ALSO, as some of us have come to know, they are
doing some good microbiology in Old Mexico

WANTED PRE-DOCTORAL STUDENT 12 month stipend

BACTERIAL PHYSIOLOGY ... PREFERABLY nitrogen fixation, plasmids,
DNA probes, and trans/scan
electron microscopy

call R. Vela; Biol.; Univ No Tex; Denton, Tx 76203 (817-565-2497)



TRINITY UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY
(512) 736-7231

News

NEWS from TRINITY UNIVERSITY (Rex Moyer, reporting)

Rex has just donated his entire collection of journals and his liquid scintillation counter and a cache of books to the University of Nuevo Leon, in Monterrey, Mexico. No, he is not retiring, it is just that they have a greater need for them than he does. Because of the devaluation of the peso, scientific materials such as journals are very expensive for Mexicans. They have talented and active faculty and large numbers of eager students but are hampered by the lack of scientific equipment and library materials. We as scientists in the U.S. can help their science and education by donating our equipment and journal collections, and books that we no longer use. They all can read English and therefore donating library materials in the English language is not a problem.

All university libraries receive more book and journal materials than they can use and thus they are forced to cull the duplicates. Rex is examining the Trinity library culls and selecting those for the University of Nuevo Leon. You might be able to do the same at your institution's library. Along the same vein, perhaps your institution has excess property that is no longer used - perhaps no longer state-of-the-art, yet still usable. Why not donate it to the University of Nuevo Leon? Rex will be glad to coordinate the transfer; phone (512) 736-7242 or write to him.

*Good citizen
award to Rex
September, 1988!*

News

News

**The University of Texas
Health Science Center at Houston
Public Affairs Office**

Box 20036, Houston, Texas 77225
(713) 792-4266

May 5, 1988

HOUSTON HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER PROFESSOR
NAMED DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AT TRINITY

Release upon receipt
For information contact
Ina Fried (713) 792-4259

HOUSTON -- Dr. Thomas S. Matney has been named the 1988 Trinity University Distinguished Alumnus. Matney, who holds three degrees from Trinity, is professor of medical genetics at the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

Matney is a past recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contributions to the advancement of microbiology presented by the Texas branch of the American Society for Microbiology. He has served on numerous boards and councils related to genetics, medicine, cancer research, and chemical and biological safety.

Active in community and youth projects, Matney initiated and serves as president of the Houston Adventure Play Association, which sponsors programs for latchkey children in city parks and at public schools. He serves as president of the Spring Branch Redevelopment Association and initiated the Dad's Club Branch YMCA Teenage Placement Center.

Matney earned a bachelor's degree from Trinity in biology in 1948, another bachelor's degree in chemistry in 1949 and a master's degree in biology in 1951. He received a doctorate in bacteriology from UT-Austin in 1958.

Trinity's National Alumni Board selected him as distinguished alumnus. He was honored at a special award ceremony and dinner during the university's alumni weekend.



ASOCIACION MEXICANA DE INFECTOLOGIA, A.C.

" INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE ACQUIRED
IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME"

News

Monterrey, N. L., México

September 9th and 10th

1 9 8 8

NOVA

THEATER

MESA DIRECTIVA 1987 - 1988

PRESIDENTE
DR. CORANDO SAENZ AGUIRRE

VICEPRESIDENTE
DR. DEMOSTENES GOMEZ BARRETO

SECRETARIO
DR. JAVIER RAMOS JIMENEZ

TESORERO
DR. JORGE A. MORENO MARTINEZ

VOCAL
DR. FRANCISCO HIGUERAS B.

TOPICS

THE VIRUS
IMMUNOLOGY
PATHOLOGY
EPIDEMIOLOGY

CLINICAL SYNDROMES
PERINATAL TRANSMISSION
ANTIVIRAL THERAPY
ONCOLOGICAL TREATMENT

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
PREVENTION IN THE
HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL
VACCINES

SPEAKERS

DR. GORDON DRESSMAN
South West Fundation
for Biomedical Res-
earch, SAT.

DR. STEPHEN B. GREENBERG
Baylor College of Medici-
ne, Houston, T.X.

DR. M. GOLDSMICHDT
Dental School U.T.
at Houston, T.X.

DR. MARIO C. SALINAS
Medicine School UANL
Monterrey, México

DR. JOSE I. SANTOS
Boston City Hosp.
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15 US Dollars

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HOW TO FORM A
RECOGNIZED STUDENT CHAPTER

Microbiology students, are you a member of a Student Chapter? Student Chapters are microbiology student organizations recognized nationally by the American Society for Microbiology. Presently there are twenty-eight such recognized Student Chapters, one of which is at California State University, Long Beach. Here are the steps necessary to become recognized as a Student Chapter:

- (1) in consultation with your department chairman, select a faculty adviser.
- (2) with your faculty adviser, draft a constitution for your group, if such a document does not exist (sample constitution is available upon request from Dr. Henry Fung, Microbiology Department, California State University, Long Beach, CA. 90840)
 - (a) submit the draft to your department chairman for review and approval.
 - (b) vote on its adoption.
 - (c) you may need to submit the document to other administrative offices for review and approval (e.g. dean, associated student body, student activities, etc.).
- (3) contact the ASM Branch President for your geographical area, ask for Branch sponsorship and submit a copy of your adopted and approved constitution for their review.
 - (a) after Branch approval, the Branch nominates your group for national recognition as a Student Chapter at the Council Meeting of the Society via its Branch Councilor. (The Council meets during the week of the National ASM Annual Meetings).
 - (b) upon approval by the Council of the Society, your group becomes a nationally recognized Student Chapter.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

DR. CHARLIE GAUNTT
THE U. OF TEXAS HEALTH SCI. CTR.
7703 FLOYD CURL DRIVE
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78284-7758

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Fellow Members of the Texas Branch:

I think, and have thought for a long time, that what we need is a LETTERS TO THE EDITOR column.

Won't it be great, we'll be able to tell everyone just what we think of this and that and how little we appreciate that and this. I think its a great idea, let's try it for a while and see what happens. I'm going to start this off myself with the following little gem; hope you like it.

Dear Editor:

I wonder if other Texas microbiologists are having the same problems that have bedeviled my laboratory lately. It seems that all the stains that we purchase are either contaminated or they lack staining ability. Our Gram positive organisms tend to be mauve rather than old fashioned purple and our Gram negatives are more rose than red. Even our acid fasts tend to a faint pink; this so much so that we are embarrassed to show them.

We assume that others have the same problem and hope that we can form an action group to put the dye back into our stains. Glasnost or not, some of us are convinced that the you know who s are behind it all although one would think that they wouldn't mess with Gram negatives ... for obvious reasons.

On the other hand, if bacteria weren't so damn small, we wouldn't have to stain them at all would we?

Sincerely yours,

Leva Narldo

Well, I'm not much of a letter writer and as you can see, I even feel compelled to write incognito, but there are those of you out there that are real artists. This is your opportunity. Use this column for the benefit of mankind ... or as a last resort it'll get your name out in public.

~~Dear Texas Branch Members that sounds so bad!~~ DELETE

~~Dear Members worse~~ DELETE

~~Dear Texas Branchers:~~

~~Your Editor is looking for a few good men NO, he is not !~~
DELETE

~~Your Editor is looking for a few good women~~ DELETE

~~Your Editor is old, he is looking for one good woman~~ DELETE

Your Editor is looking for a few good persons to report the activities of the many Microbiology labs in Texas that do not now report in this Newsletter. If interested ... you don't really have to be that good ... you don't even have to be very smart ... if the truth were to be known, anybody with fifth grade writing ability who is smarter than the average turtle will do. If you can put a stamp on the envelope ... you're in !

DELETE FROM If interested

~~The Microreporters are attached~~ DELETE

~~The Microreporters listed no no no~~ DELETE

~~The list of Microreporters is attached. Please peruse and if your organization is not listed, VOLUNTEER VOLUNTEER VOLUNTEER~~

~~If your Microreporter is not reporting, IMPEACH IMPEACH IMPEACH~~

~~If you are the Microreporter, and you are not reporting~~
~~SHAMESHAMESHAME~~ DELETE

~~If your fellow workers are all duds and you have nothing to report, REPORT REPORT REPORT~~ write to tell us that!
DELETE DELETE DELETE

The major philosophical position of this Newsletter is based on the noble idea that The Texas Branch exists only to unite all Texas microbiologists for the common good and individual aggrandizement, to focus the best thinking of Texas microbiologists on the traditional problems of mankind, and to communicate the loftiest of man's thoughts to other lofty men, as well as to propound its secondary philosophical tenet which is that its first devotion is to reporting gossip.

~~DELETE from The major... to gossip~~ ✓

Well, Anyway, Join your Tex Br Newsletter Editor in any way you can in producing the best TB ASM Newsletter in Texas.

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(806) 742-2715



CITY OF HOUSTON

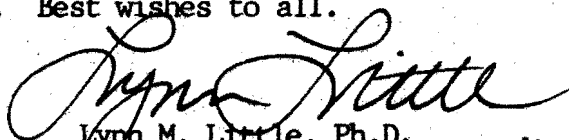
Health and Human Services Department
1115 North MacGregor • Houston, Texas 77030-1797

Kathryn J. Whitmire, Mayor

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS: Larry McKaskle • Ernest McGowen, Sr. • George Greanias • Rodney Ellis • Frank O. Mancuso • John G. Goodner • Christin Hartung
Dale M. Gorkzynski • Ben T. Reyes • Jim Westmoreland • Eleanor Tinsley • Jim Greenwood • Anthony W. Hall, Jr. • Judson Robinson, Jr. • CITY CONTROLLER: Lance Lalor
(713) 794-9600

The City of Houston continues its gradual economic recovery while a spirit of guarded optimism prevails. The Health and Human Services Department now is under new leadership. John E. Arradondo, M.D., M.P.H., formerly Oklahoma City/County Health Director, took the reins last March. The Laboratory Services Bureau experienced several resignations last Spring in the face of our third annual freeze on promotions, salary increases, and hiring. The freeze now has been lifted and opportunities are available for qualified microbiologists, chemists, and support personnel.

This reporter has answered the call of sunny California and will be relocated there by press time. Dr. Kathleen H. Sullivan will be fulfilling the duties of Acting Chief of Laboratory Services. Best wishes to all.


Lynn M. Little, Ph.D.
Chief, Laboratory Services



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
USAF SCHOOL OF AEROSPACE MEDICINE (AFSC)
BROOKS AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS 78235-5301

The Epidemiology Division of the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks AFB TX bade farewell to Mr. William Northam, Diagnostic Virology Function, who has joined Baxter Company as a technical representative. Mrs. Linda Canas will join the Diagnostic Virology Function in August as Mr. Northam's replacement. Mrs. Canas comes to us from the Microbiology Department of Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center.

Ferne McCleskey attended the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology in Miami Beach, Florida and presented a poster entitled "The Use of Artificial Intelligence for the Identification of Bacteria."

A number of our personnel at the Epidemiology Division are active in the South Texas Association for Microbiology Professionals. The meetings are offering the microbiologists of this area an opportunity for exchange of information and very informative lectures. The first symposium, "Current Update on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing" was presented by Dr. James Jorgensen, Dr. Patrick Murray, and Dr. Gary Dorn.



DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Austin, Texas 78712-1095

Greetings from the Microbiologists at UT Austin!

We are pleased to report the award of a five-year training grant of \$1,115,000 to a group headed by Dr. **Henry R. Bose, Jr.** Funded through the Cancer Etiology and Prevention Program of the National Cancer Institute, the grant is designated to provide pre- and post-doctoral training for basic research in the multidisciplinary aspects of Tumor Biology. Other Microbiology faculty who will be involved are Drs. **Dennis Brown, Jaquelin Dudley, Bill Folk, Paul Gottlieb, Richard Meyer, Jim Walker, and Martha Zuffiga.** Dr. **Bob Sanders**, UT Professor of Zoology, and Drs. **Mike Macleod, Ellen Richie, and Thomas J. Slaga**, all from the UT System Cancer Center at Science Park, will participate as well.

It is a pleasure to announce the presentation of the first **Curtis E. Eklund Award** to honor an outstanding Teaching Assistant. Dr. Eklund was an alumnus of UT Austin and an active member of the Texas Branch ASM until his death in 1984. He is remembered as a devoted and enthusiastic teacher and was co-author of a Microbiology textbook and two laboratory manuals. This fund was established by gifts from Curtis' friends who wished to honor his memory with an award that recognizes his dedication to teaching. We appreciate the help of the donors to the Eklund Fund which have made possible this award. The recipient of the 1988 Eklund Award is **Chester R. Cooper, Jr.** Mr. Cooper has received consistently high teaching evaluations from his undergraduate students and from faculty supervisors. He has been praised for his helpful and encouraging attitude toward his students and his generosity in helping other graduate students who are just beginning TA assignments. Chet certainly deserves this honor. We are happy to congratulate Chet Cooper, the recipient of the first annual Eklund Award.

Dr. **Mark Chandler**, President of Inland Laboratories in Austin and Dallas, will be a member of the Departmental Visiting Committee for Microbiology. Dr. Chandler received his B.A. in Microbiology from UT Austin in 1975. During his undergraduate work, he did a research project with Dr. Bob Tabita. Dr. Chandler's graduate work was in Immunology at UT Southwestern Medical School where he earned the Ph.D. degree in 1981. He founded Inland Laboratories with initial funding from a competitive grant in Small Business Innovation Research through NCI. Inland Labs uses recent advances in Biotechnology in developing new compounds useful in therapy for a variety of human diseases. In addition, Mark has been chosen to receive a prestigious Texas High Technology Entrepreneur Award. We are proud to have Dr. Chandler as a new member of our Visiting Committee.

Since our last reporting of completions, the following students have been awarded advanced degrees:

Pamela Jo Beck, Ph.D. "A Genetic Analysis of the T3 Class II Region and the Further Genetic Characterization of Several Bacteriophage T7 and T3 Abortive Infections" (Dr. Ian Molineux)

Michael A. Brasch, Ph.D. "Genetic Characterization of DNA Involved in Conjugative Mobilization of the Broad Host Range Plasmid R1162" (Dr. Richard J. Meyer)

Chei-Hsiang Jerry Chen, Ph.D. "Nitrogen Metabolism and Heterocyst Differentiation in the Cyanobacteria" (Dr. F. Robert Tabita)

James Patrick Condeary, Ph.D. "Utilizing Bacteriophage T7" (Dr. Ian Molineux)

Lynn D. Conreay, Ph.D. "Cellular Participation in the Replication of an Anthropod Vectored Virus" (Dr. Dennis Brown)

Margaret Tucker Crakes, M.A. "Isolation and Characterization of Suppressor Cells Induced by Reticuloendotheliosis Virus Infection" (Dr. Henry R. Bose, Jr.)

Deane L. Falcone, M.A. "Transposon Mutagenesis and Physiological Analysis of Mutants Containing Inactivated Form I and Form II Ribulose Biphosphate Carboxylase-Oxygenase Genes in Rhodobacter sphaeroides" (Dr. F. Robert Tabita)

Leanne Heath Field, Ph.D. "Virulence Factors in Campylobacteriosis" (Drs. L. Joe Berry and Shelley M. Payne)

Billy E. Haigler, Ph.D. "Purification and Properties of Naphthalene Pseudomonas putida" (Dr. David T. Gibson)

Chih-Li Lilian Hsu, M.A. "Nucleotide Sequencing of Mouse Mammary Tumor Virus-Cellular DNA Junctions in Murine T-cell Lymphomas" (Dr. Jaquelin P. Dudley)

Kyunghoon Kim, Ph.D. "Regulation of the Expression of Genes Encoding Products Essential for the Replication of Broad Host-Range Plasmid R1162" (Dr. Richard J. Meyer)

Kathleen M. Lawlor, Ph.D. "The Genetics of the Aerobactin Transport System of Shigella Species and its Role in Virulence" (Dr. Shelley M. Payne)

Suk-Hee Lee, Ph.D. "Characterization of dnaX Gene Products in Escherichia coli" (Dr. James R. Walker)

Marjorie Nelson, M.A. "Bioassay of Siderophores in Soil Using Mutant Strains of Escherichia coli Specific for Individual Siderophores" (Dr. Paul J. Szaniszlo)

A. Melinda Rainey, M.A. "Molecular Regulation of Photolithotropic CO₂ Fixation in Rhodobacter (Rhodopseudomona) Sphaeroides" (Dr. F. Robert Tabita)

David K. Ramsden, Ph.D. "The Physiological Role of Nitrate and Ammonia in the Regulation of Nitrogenase and Heterocyst Biosynthesis in Anabaena sp. CA." (Dr. F. Robert Tabita)

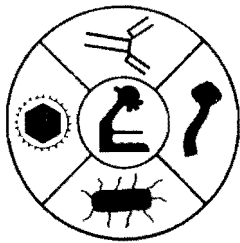
Michael M. Weil, Ph.D. "Characterization of a Constant Region Kappa Chain Gene in the Cottontail Tail Rabbit" (Dr. William J. Mandy)

Kuo-Chang Yin, M.A. "Nucleotide Sequence of dnaX" (Dr. James R. Walker)

The Microbiology department of UT Austin hosted a workshop on Medical Mycology on July 29-30, 1988. As part of the ASM Traveling Workshop Program, the principal speaker was Dr. Ira Salkin from the New York Department of Health. The local coordinator from our department was Rich DeMarchi.

With best personal regards,

Alice Rainey



Department of
**VETERINARY
MICROBIOLOGY
& PARASITOLOGY**

July 12, 1988

Dr. Roland Vela
Department of Biological Sciences
University of North Texas
Denton, TX 76203

Dear Dr. Vela:

Dr. Grimes has forwarded your request for an ASM Newsletter to me so in future I will be writing the news from Aggieland.

The Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Parasitology continues its gradual turnover of personnel. The most recent newcomer to the Department is Dr. Wendy Barry. Dr. Barry joins us from the International Laboratory for Research in Animal Diseases (ILRAD) where she worked for several years on the cloning of bovine T cells. She will be continuing her work here by looking at the response of cattle to Babesia.

Dr. George Shelton, our Dean for the past 15 years and a parasitologist of note, will be retiring in August, he will be sorely missed but we hope that he will take time to visit us.

The research program of the Department continues to thrive and we were recently successful in the Texas Advanced Technology Program, obtaining two major awards.

Sincerely,

Ian Tizard
Professor & Head

IRT:bls



• THE TEXAS VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTER • TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY •
• College Station, TX 77843-4467 • Tel. 409-845-5941 •

TCOM

August 9, 1988



G. Roland Vela, Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Science and Technology
University of North Texas
Denton, Texas 76203-2497

Dear DEAN Vela and Friends of the Texas Branch:

We had hoped a new permanent chairman of our department would be named before your deadline and your deadline extension; but not yet. Meanwhile, we welcome Muthuvadivu Thiruvengadam, better known as Muthu, to our department replacing Annie Johnson, who will begin medical school here at TCOM.

Our Second Annual Research Retreat will be August 18-20 at the University of Oklahoma Biological Station on the shores of Lake Texoma. About 18 research posters will be presented by faculty, staff and graduate students. Sousan Sayahtaheri (Dr. Cox's lab) plans to graduate in December. She will be our first doctoral student to finish at TCOM although her Ph.D. degree will be in Biology from UNT. Julie Woodbury completed her M.S. degree recently and is working in Dr. Barrow's laboratory. Dr. Barrow has been very busy lately having just served on a special NIH Study Section. Dr. Gracy, our Acting Chairman, returned from China bearing gifts, beautiful slides and full of interesting stories both scientific and nonscientific. Recent visitors to our department have included Dr. Sheldon Gottlieb, University of South Alabama; Dr. Steven Specter, University of South Florida; Dr. Stephen Grant, M.D. Anderson, Houston; and, Drs. Dickson Despommier and Leo Vroman, Columbia University, New York.

Cordially,

Elizabeth F. Harris, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Microbiology and Immunology





Texas Tech University

Department of Biological Sciences
Box 4149/Lubbock, Texas 79409-3131/(806) 742-2715

July 20, 1988

Meetings. Drs. Shān Bilimoria and Randall Jeter attended the Texas Branch ASM meeting in March at Junction. Graduate students Karin Otto and Alesia Reinisch also went and made presentations of their research. Karin's poster was entitled "Construction of a *Salmonella typhimurium* Strain for Cloning of the Vitamin B12 Biosynthetic Genes into a Cosmid Vector." Alesia won the O. B. Williams Certificate for the best poster presentation, the title of which was "Gene Expression in a Baculovirus Host Range System Defective for Polyhedrin and Other Late Viral Proteins." Congratulations, Alesia. Dr. Doris Lefkowitz attended the national ASM meeting in May at Miami Beach. Graduate students Tiffany Jester and Kevin Mills also went. Kevin gave a talk entitled "Effect of Peroxidative Enzymes on Macrophage Spreading and Phagocytosis." Rumor has it that the research he presented was well-received by the audience.

Graduations. Rushikesh Tasker received his Master of Science degree in Microbiology this summer. Rushi's thesis project involved the biodegradation of diesel fuel by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. J. Austin Templer recently took a position with the Food and Drug Administration in Dallas. He has completed his research for his Master's degree and is currently writing his thesis. Austin's research involved the characterization of the bacterial flora of cotton. Both graduate students have been working in Dr. Caryl Heintz's laboratory. The best of luck to both of you in your future endeavors.

Research Grants. Dr. John Zak received a \$70,000 award in June from the Texas Advanced Research Program for his proposal entitled "Identification and Roles of Basidiomycetes During Wood Decomposition in Arid Ecosystems." This will be a two-year research project that focuses on a poorly-characterized process that is important to the ecology of West Texas. Heartiest congratulations, John.

Other News. The Biology building is currently undergoing extensive renovation. A new heating and air conditioning system is being installed, and all of the interior ceilings are being totally replaced. We all look forward to the completion of the project at the end of the year, since it will eliminate some long-standing problems we have had to cope with in the past. Also, all of us welcome Marge Pruitt into our department as the new supervisor of the Microbiology stockroom.

Respectfully submitted,

Randall Jeter
Randall Jeter
Assistant Professor



Texas Department of Health

Robert Bernstein, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Commissioner

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(512) 458-7111

Robert A. MacLean, M.D.
Deputy Commissioner
Professional Services

Hermas L. Miller
Deputy Commissioner
Management and Administration

July 18, 1988

Roland Vela
TB-ASM NEWS
Dept. of Biol. Science
University of North Texas
Denton, Texas 76203

By January, revitalization of the bureau's training program, including workshops, will be underway. A schedule of courses will be published after September. A fee of \$30 per training day will be charged. Dr. Jim Harris will head the Laboratory Improvement Branch, which will have responsibility for this effort. CEU's will be issued.

Ten contract laboratories have been provided the hardware and telephone connections as a first step in establishing computer links about the state. The aim is to have all twenty-three contract laboratories and that many hospital and clinical laboratories in a system permitting status inquiry by specimen submitters and electronic reporting by us. Elizabeth Pierson is in charge of this unique approach.

Joe Bare, Ken Jost, and Charles Davis are well on the way to the establishment of a microbial identification system, using gas chromatography and high performance liquid chromatography on the fatty acid components of cell walls. A dramatic savings in days and media is anticipated.

Friends of Mary Jo Fowler should know that she has retired from state service after twenty-six years. She worked in many areas during her employment but was best known for her training contributions.

Our one and only electron microscopist, John Harris, has been lost to industry. Tom Peskuric, a newly employed microbiologist, is rushing to fill the void.

Mark Bauer and Dr. Susan Neill have successfully adapted neuroblastoma cell cultures as a replacement for mouse inoculation in the isolation of the rabies virus from troublesome or equivocal cases. This shortens reporting to seven days instead of twenty-eight on negatives. The direct fluorescent antibody test is still our main diagnostic tool. Also, they are offering a monoclonal antibody test system to identify the source animal in rabies cases.

Laura Tabony and Pamela Holma have perfected an EIA for detecting antibodies to arboviruses in bird bloods.

Screening of newborns for antibodies to HIV has now passed 75,000 specimens. Marcia Roberts and Dr. Kay Buchanan have developed this process with such efficiency that the funding agency cannot keep pace.

Charles E. Sweet

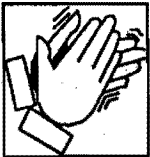
Charles E. Sweet, Dr.P.H.
Chief, Bureau of Laboratories



The
University of Texas
at
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Department of Biology
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817/273-2871 (Metro)

The past few months have been quite exciting at UTA.



Bill Mc Donald broke his all-time personal-best long-distance jogging record----he managed a mile.

Bob Boley has started to demonstrate masterful administrative skills---no one can get a straight answer anymore.



As for myself, I have been busy keeping one step ahead of Roland Vela's Newsletter Hounds (until now anyway).

Mayada El-Saheeb finished her Master's degree in May and Terry Murdock and Barry Reece (McDonald's students) should finish their Master's degrees later on this summer or by December.

I will be starting two newly funded projects, one to investigate bacterial secondary production in Lake Chapala, Mexico and the other to investigate protozoan predation on bacteria in pelagic areas of reservoirs. If anyone has a good Master's candidate interested in Microbial Ecology---send them my way. I also anticipate have a Post-Doctoral position available in September for work associated with the grazing studies. Someone interested in Microbial Ecology or Protozoology would fit in nicely.



Our undergraduate microbiology society, The Micro Society, held their last meeting of the year in May and adjourned with a group photo (photo enclosed). The Society had a very successful first year, sponsoring 3 seminar speakers, conducting daily donut sales, and (most importantly) touring the local Millers Brewery. We are looking forward to having this very active group attend the Fall meeting in Temple.

Well that's about it from Arlington..

Thomas Chyngue



**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS**

Walter W. Gilchrist
Administrative Services Officer
Department of Microbiology

5323 Harry Hines Boulevard
Dallas, Texas 75235-9048
214/688-2275

The Microbiology Graduate Program currently has twenty-eight students. The newest additions to the program are:

**Mr. Patrick J. Kelly - University of Iowa
Ms. Qi Chen - Institute of Virology Chinese
Academy of Preventive Medicine - R.O.C.
Ms. Linda Weigel, University of Texas at Dallas
Mr. Jerry Sanders - East Texas State University
Mr. Kim Ducksang - Kon-Kuk University, Seoul, Korea**

After a year of patiently waiting for a start date, construction will begin this month on a new study area for graduate students. New carpeting (charcoal grey), new chairs (off-cobalt blue), new refrigerator, new microwave, new file cabinets, new shelving, new computer and printer and new desks should partially meet their needs. The wet bar, stereo system, and strobe lights were vetoed by the administration.

This department wishes to welcome those individuals who have accepted a Post-doctoral appointment since the last Newsletter. These are listed below along with the name of the university where their doctorate was conferred and the name of our faculty member with whom the individuals are performing their research.

**Dr. Marie Pascual (University of Madrid, Spain) - Dr. Donald Capra
Dr. Kathi Blomer (University of Munich) - Dr. Kirsten Fischer-Lindhahl
Dr. Christa Burger (University of Konstanz, Germany) - Dr. Ellen Vitetta
Dr. Chyung Wang (University of Texas at Austin) - Dr. Kirsten Fischer-Lindhahl
Dr. Bruce Loveland (Univ. of Melbourne, Australia) - Dr. Kirsten Fischer-Lindhahl**

These additions bring the number of Post-doctoral fellows in the Department of Microbiology to thirty one.

Distinguished visitors, consultants, and lecturers to this department recently included Dr. Wally Gilbert (Harvard), Dr. John Tooze (E.M.B.O., Heidelberg), Dr. Merle Sande (San Francisco General Hospital), Dr. Pearay Ogra (S.U.N.Y. at Buffalo), Dr. Anthony Fauci (N.I.H.), Dr. Sydney Brenner (Cambridge), Dr. Randall Holmes (U.S.U.H.S.), and Dr. Harold Varmus (U.C.S.F.)

We are looking forward to seeing our friends in Temple, Texas at our Fall meeting of the Texas Branch of the American Society for Microbiology.

The University of Texas
Health Science Center at Houston



MEDICAL SCHOOL

Program in Infectious Diseases
and Clinical Microbiology

6431 Fannin
P.O. Box 20708
Houston, Texas 77225
(713) 792-4929

Greetings fellow microbiologists, from the Program in Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology! We continue to progress in our field studies in Mexico and in Egypt on the etiology and treatment of infectious diarrheal diseases. In the Houston area, we are studying the problem of diarrheal diseases transmitted among children attending day care centers. Our Program project, chaired by Larry K. Pickering, M.D., to study the role of breast milk in preventing diarrheal diseases in infants, continues to yield interesting results.

Now, for congratulations to the superstars in our Program. Herbert L. DuPont, M.D., Director of our program, and interim chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine, has been appointed the first holder of the Mary W. Kelsey Professorship in the Medical Sciences. Steve Kohl, M.D., Professor in our Program, as well as, the Department of Pediatrics, has been elected President of the Society for Pediatric Research. A. Joanne Bednarz-Prashad, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, has been awarded a special Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for five consecutive years by John C. Ribble, M.D., Dean of the UTMSH and interim President of the UTHSC.

ASM meetings in Miami were well attended by members of our Program. Dr. Prashad presented her work on an inactivated rotavirus vaccine. Dr. Mathewson co-chaired a session on adherence of gram negative organisms. Dr. Audrey Wanger presented her work on Beta lactamase and gentamicin plasmids in enterococci and staphylococci.

In May, we sponsored a special symposium given by Palmer Beasley, M.D., Dean of the University of Texas School of Public Health. The presentation summarized his long term study of the role of HBV (Hepatitis B Virus) in hepatocellular carcinoma in China.

We welcomed several new scientists to our Program in 1988. Mona Gharib, M.D., comes to us from Cairo, Egypt and will be with us until October. She will be studying Trimethoprim resistance in bacterial strains isolated in day care centers, infection control procedures used at Hermann Hospital and molecular biology techniques. K. V. Singh, Ph.D. joins the laboratory of Barbara Murray, M.D., as a Post-doctoral Fellow to study plasmid mediated Trimethoprim resistance in Escherichia coli isolated from day care centers. Miguel O'Ryan, M.D., from Chile, joined our Program in June as a Fellow in Pediatric Infectious Diseases. Laurie Jackson joined the laboratory of Larry Pickering, M.D., as a Research Associate to assist him with his studies on enteric pathogens isolated from children attending Houston day care centers.

The University of Texas
Health Science Center at Houston



MEDICAL SCHOOL

Program in Infectious Diseases
and Clinical Microbiology

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We said "good bye" to several colleagues and wish them well in their new careers. Geraldine Miller, M.D., joined the faculty of the Baylor College of Medicine in Infectious Diseases in June. Jennifer Hoy, M.D., who did a fellowship in Infectious Diseases with us and then joined our faculty, returned to her native Australia. Cathy Knisley, M.S., left the laboratory of Drs. Larry Pickering and Tom Cleary to pursue her education as an M.D., at the Texas Tech University School of Medicine in Lubbock, Texas.

Audrey Wanger, Ph.D., Assistant Instructor in Microbiology, finished her research in the laboratory of Barbara Murray, M.D., on Beta-lactamase producing enterococci. Dr. Wanger was a Post-doctoral Fellow with Dr. Murray. As of September, Dr. Wanger will begin a new career in the Clinical Microbiology Post-doctoral Program affiliated with the UTHSC and Baylor College of Medicine. This program is coordinated through the American Society for Microbiology to train Ph.D.'s to become clinical laboratory directors. Dr. Wanger will be working under the expert guidance of Mark T. LaRocco, Ph.D. in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine here at UTMSH for the next two years. She will rotate through clinical microbiology laboratories in many Texas Medical Center institutions and choose a clinical research project by the end of her first year.

Good luck to Karen Zscheck, a graduate student in the UTGSBS who will soon take her candidacy exam for her Ph.D. She is working with Barbara Murray, M.D. on "Regulation of the Beta-lactamase Gene in Enterococcus faecalis".

A. Joanne Bednarz-Prashad, Ph.D., welcomed Mr. Hung Dang to her laboratory this summer to work on serum protective factors against rotavirus infection. He is a student of Dr. Ruth Sherman of the University of Houston Downtown Campus. Yvette Jones, an architecture student from the University of Houston central campus, works part time in Dr. Prashad's laboratory to keep everything running smoothly.

Patricia A. Byers
Departmental Reporter PIDCM



The University of Texas
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Department of Microbiology

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We would like to welcome **Dr. Donald LeBlanc** as a new faculty member. He is internationally known for his studies on streptococcal genetics and plasmid biology.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board awarded \$750,000 to the Departments of Microbiology and Medicine for the South Texas Vaccine Development Center. Drs. Alan Barbour and Joel Baseman are co-directors of the Center. Drs. Barbour and Baseman and their colleagues will concentrate on developing vaccines for arthritis, sexually transmitted diseases, infectious hepatitis, and respiratory infections.

Dr. Joel Baseman has been nominated as a lecturer to the ASM 1988-89 Foundation for Microbiology Lectures Program. Also, he and **Joan Ratner** were given the Distinguished Community Service award by the Northside Independent School District for their program "Microbiology for Science Teachers." **Dr. Judy Teale** was selected by the American Association of Immunologists to serve on the Committee on the Status of Women. She participated at an NIH Small Business Innovative Research Study Section Meeting, Washington, DC.

Over the past few months, our faculty have participated in many activities:

Dr. John Alderete - member of intramural review of NIAID, Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases (Bethesda); keynote speaker at the American Society for Rickettsiology & Rickettsial Diseases (Santa Fe); invited seminar speaker at the University of New Mexico at Albuquerque; presenter at the UCLA Symposium on Vaccines and Synthetic Peptides (Park City). **Dr. Alan Barbour** - invited speaker at the University of California at Davis, the Lyme Diseases Symposium (Washington, D.C.), the University of Tennessee (Memphis), the Bowman Gray Medical School (Winston Salem), and Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons (New York City). **Dr. Joel Baseman** - invited speaker at the Symposium on Molecular Mechanisms of Microbial Adhesion (Gulf Shores); participant in a review of the Department of Immunology and Microbiology graduate program at Wayne State University School of Medicine (Detroit); member of Bacteriology and Mycology 2 Study Section site-visit team at the University of Washington School of Medicine (Seattle); keynote speaker at the 7th Congress of the International Organization of Mycoplasma (Vienna, Austria). **Dr. Charles Gauntt** - chaired a session and presented at an International Symposium on "New Concepts in Viral Heart Disease" (Tegernsee, West Germany); participated as an organizer, chairman, panelist, and presenter at an International Symposium on Inflammatory Heart Disease: A multidisciplinary Approach to Myocarditis and Heart Allograft Rejection (Snowmass, Colorado). **Dr. David Kolodrubetz** - presenter at the Nuclear Proteins Gordon Conference at Tilton, New Hampshire. **Dr. Keith Krolick** - presenter at the FASEB Summer Conference on Autoimmunity at Saxtons River, Vermont. **Dr. Stephen Mattingly** - invited speaker at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). **Dr. Mary Pat Moyer** was invited to present her work on GI cell biology and DNA transfection at the International Conference on the Colonic Mucosa, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research (Melbourne, Australia); Osaka City University Medical School (Osaka, Japan); University of Tokyo (Japan); American Gastroenterological Association (New Orleans); Tissue Culture Association (Las Vegas); NIH-sponsored workshop on AIDS (Washington, D.C.); International Cell Cycle Society (St. Petersburg Beach, Florida), and the International Cell Culture Committee (Arlington). **Dr. Kendall Smith** - ASM visiting Professor to the Guadalajara, Mexico Medical School; presenter of a course in Diagnostic Virology to Central American Health Care professionals; co-chairman of a workshop on AIDS at the First Pan American Conference on AIDS (Guadalajara); taught a course on Laboratory Diagnosis of AIDS sponsored by the Pan American Health Organization (San Juan, Puerto Rico); presenter at the Army Contractors workshop on AIDS. **Dr. Wendell Winters** - invited speaker at the Gordon Conference on Bioelectro Chemistry at (Plymouth); presenter at the 10th Annual Bioelectromagnetic Society Meeting (Stanford).

Our congratulations to **Virgilio Bundoc** who was awarded the S.E. Sulkin Award at the Texas Branch ASM Spring Meeting which held in Junction, Texas. He successfully completed his examination of thesis on July 6, 1988. Also, **Randy Sosolik** has successfully completed his examination of thesis on June 21, 1988. **Hyun Do Jeong** presented a talk at the UCLA symposia, B Cell Development at Park City, Utah

We welcome our first-year graduate students in microbiology. They are **Victor Cansino** (Univ. of New Mexico); **Irfan Jameel** (Pakistan); **Blanca Restrepo** (UTHSCSA); **Kimberly Sievers** (UT at San Antonio); **Jiping Zha** (Shanghai Medical University); **Liming Yang** (Peking Union Medical College); **Daniel Martin** (UT at Tyler); **Emmanuel Quaidoo** (Univ. of Ghana Medical School).



The University of Texas
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Department of Pathology

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July 11, 1988

Dear Colleagues:

Continued warmest greetings from the clinical microbiology components at UTHSCSA. Activities here continue to reflect increasing workloads in the clinical laboratories.

Dr. Jim Jorgensen has now completed his term as Chairman of the Clinical Microbiology Division of ASM but continues with several other national activities: ICAAC Program Committee and the NCCLS Subcommittee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing. Additionally, Dr. Jorgensen has accepted the responsibility as Workshop Program Chairman for the upcoming October 1989 joint SWACM-TBASM-STAMP Meeting to be held in San Antonio. He is also a candidate for the office of President-Elect of STAMP. Dr. Jorgensen continues his many research commitments involving antibacterial agents.

Dr. Mike Rinaldi has been elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Medical Mycological Society of the Americas and Vice-President of the International Society for Human and Animal Mycology. He is completing his term as President of STAMP and will be the Program Chairman for the SWACM and STAMP portions of the joint SWACM-TBASM-STAMP Meeting in 1989. The two fungus reference laboratories continue to greatly escalate activities in response to the ever-increasing numbers of human/animal mycoses.

Best wishes for a most healthy and productive summer period.

Michael G. Rinaldi

Michael G. Rinaldi, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Chief, Clinical Microbiology

James H. Jorgensen, Ph.D.
Professor
Director, Microbial Pathology

The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston

School of Medicine
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
School of Allied Health Sciences
School of Nursing

Marine Biomedical Institute
Institute for the Medical Humanities
UTMB Hospitals



Department of Microbiology

July 1988

Drs. Miles Cloyd and Keith Ramsey were among the presenters at the Fourth International Conference on AIDS, Stockholm, Sweden, June 13-16, 1988. Dr. Cloyd had a poster presentation entitled "Diphenylhydantoin inhibits HIV infection in vitro." Dr. Ramsey's poster was "Susceptibility of HIV-infected targets to natural killer cytotoxicity varies with isolates of HIV-1."

Cynthia Hess, Microbiology graduate student, recently received the James W. McLaughlin Award for Excellence in Infection and Immunity Research.

Four Microbiology graduate students were awarded McLaughlin Fellowships in July 1988. They are Sazaly Abubakar, Robert Miceli, Scott Moncrief and Lakshmi Ramarathinam.

Microbiology graduate students Mark Cleveland and Eve Johnson have been recognized in the 1988 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Mark Cleveland, M.D.-Ph.D. student, completed requirements for his Ph.D. this summer. He will continue studies at UTMB for the M.D. degree.

Dr. Barbara Moore will begin work in August as a postdoctoral research associate in the laboratory of Dr. Miles Cloyd. Dr. Istvan Boldogh of the Debrecen (Hungary) School of Public Health is currently a visiting scientist with Dr. Thomas Albrecht's research group.

During 1988, Microbiology continued to host visiting seminar speakers through departmental and McLaughlin Foundation programs. Speakers in 1988 included: Mille Hughes-Fulford, University of California at San Francisco; Max Summers, Texas A&M; Thomas Blankenstein, University of Cologne, Germany; Nico Bos, Erasmus University, Netherlands; George Milo, Ohio State University; Carl Ware, University of California at Riverside; Arnold Rabson, National Institutes of Health; Gerald Van Hoosier, University of Washington; James Jones, University of Colorado; Myron Essex, Harvard University; Y.M. Kupersztoch, University of Texas Health Science Center, Dallas; and Roberto Cauda, Universita Cattolica S. Cuore, Rome, Italy.

Mardelle Susman, Faculty Associate



University of Houston-Downtown

Department of Natural Sciences

Two senior undergraduate students have been engaged in research during the past year. Rozina Maredia completed a project "Utilizing the ELISA Technique to Detect Cross-Reactions of Oral Microorganisms with Treponema Pallidum Antisera." She did the work in the laboratory of Dr. Millicent Goldschmidt of the University of Texas at Houston Dental Science Institute. Hung Dang is working on a project in the laboratory of Dr. Joanne Prashad at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston.

In faculty news, Dr. Joan Abramowitz attended a course on Recombinant DNA Technology at Indiana University this summer. She and Dr. Flosi are getting geared up for our new Virology course that they will team teach this fall and the three of us are working up the Microbiology Seminar Course in support of our new Applied Microbiology degree. We could still use some places in academic institutions or in industry where we can place senior level students who will work for the experience and course credit. Please let me know if you would like one of our students for your institution.

- Ruth Sherman



University of North Texas

Department of Biological Sciences
College of Arts and Sciences

August 17, 1988

Greetings from the University of North Texas (formerly North Texas State University). Our new name became official May 15, 1988. The change was made to honor our up-coming 100th anniversary in 1990 and the selection of North Texas to be one of the five "emerging" research institutions in the state. Now if we only had some money!

One of our severest critics of administrators has now become one. Roland Vela joined the bureaucracy as Associate Dean of Science of the College of Arts and Sciences on June 1, 1988. Congratulations (?) Roland.

This summer Daniel Tabarya (Steve Kester's lab) successfully defended his dissertation and Ann Foster from the same lab passed her qualifying examinations for the Ph.D. Also, Roland's student, Louis Rodriguez, completed his Master's degree this summer.

Steve Kester



University of North Texas

Department of Biological Sciences
College of Arts and Sciences

Dear Texas Microbiologists:

Your NTSU Microreporter announces he will no longer reporting to you. There is a new Microreporter and a new name for our University. We will no longer be NTSU at all. The University, in response to its changing and expanding status, has now become the University of North Texas or UNT. This change reflects the growth and development at all levels of the University as well as our Microbiology Program in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Accompanying this growth is a continuing expansion of microbiology faculty and facilities in the Department. The Department has added one new microbiologist (or at least a "molecular biologist" working in microbial systems) every year for the past four years. This year's addition is Mark S. Shanley who leaves behind an endowed chair at Southern Methodist University to become an associate professor in the Department. He is a native Texan who received his B.S. and Ph.D. from the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics at Texas A&M University. His research interests lie in the organization and regulation of genes in soil bacteria, and complements the research programs in the laboratories of Drs. Vela, O'Donovan, Kunz and Benjamin. He has already taught Food Microbiology this summer and in the fall will teach Virus and Bacteriophage Genetics. Mark brings with him two graduate students to add to the over 160 already in the Department.

All of our faculty are busy training and graduating students. In the last year and a half the Department has graduated 31 Masters-level students while 14 students earned their Ph.D. degrees. Six of the microbiology faculty presented talks last May at the ASM Annual Meeting in Miami. Among the invited lectures given by the faculty is Professor Gerard A. O'Donovan's recent sojourn to Prague and the International Congress of Biochemistry. The Department has had over thirty seminar speakers in the last year. Most notably a visit by Lynn Margulis speaking on the role of spirochaetes in the evolution of eukaryotic flagella and Bruce Holloway who spoke on organization and evolution of bacterial chromosomes. Thus the Department continues to be a great place to learn and do Microbiology.

The only good gossip here at UNT is the ascension of Professor G. Roland Vela to the position of Dean while he continues to teach and oversee his 5 students. What a pleasure to have a microbiologist in both the chairman's and the dean's office! We are all looking forward to seeing our colleagues at the upcoming meetings, but especially at Junction again in the spring. We should have a lot of news, as well as gossip, to share with you then.

Sincerely yours,

Your Microreporter.

Memories

BRANCH AFFAIRS

A NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

The Texas Branch of the American Society for Microbiology has during the past four years experienced a dramatic growth period. Regular and student membership as of September 1, 1967, totals 554. This compares with 324 on September 1, 1963. Sustaining members during this same time increased from 12 to 25. The officers and members of the Texas Branch have been aware of their responsibility during this growth period by making changes in many of the activities of the Texas Branch, and it is my opinion these changes are important enough for a brief review. They include:

1. Voting Constitutional changes in 1964 and 1967.
2. Increasing dues in 1966 from \$1.00 to \$2.00 for regular members and from \$0.50 to \$1.00 for students.
3. Approving in 1966 a registration fee of \$0.50 for students and \$1.00 for regular members at the Spring and Fall Meetings.
4. Establishing in 1965 a tax-exempt status for the Texas Branch.
5. Increasing sustaining membership dues in 1968 from \$25.00 to \$40.00.
6. Voting an increase in the number of O.B. Williams Award winners at a given meeting at the discretion of the O.B. Williams Award Committee.
7. Granting permission to local program committees to make all decisions and arrangements for a particular Spring or Fall meeting.

The officers and members in addition to securing the financial position of the Texas Branch by specific actions have also reflected other growth characteristics. Attendance at the meetings has risen from an average of 100 in 1963 to an average of over 200 in 1967. The number of papers presented at each meeting has almost doubled in 1967 over 1963. With a little extra effort in securing new members, it is possible, if the present rate of growth is maintained,

TEXAS BRANCH OFFICERS

1967

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University of Texas
Southwestern Medical School
Dallas, Texas

Vice-President

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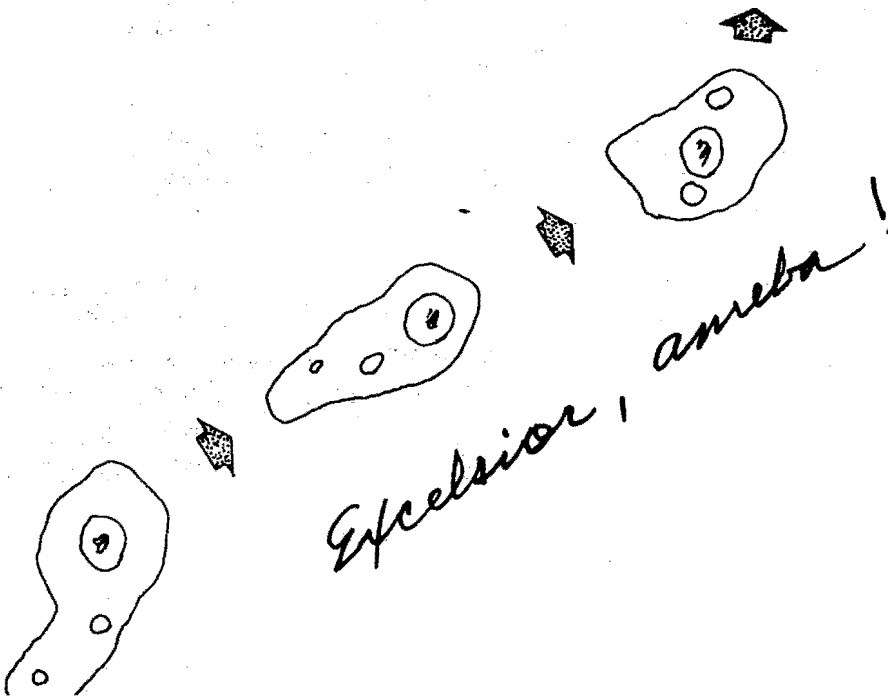
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GUEST EDITORIALS

This page will be devoted to guest editorials. You are invited to send in your favorite Editorial on your favorite topic.

Please do not underestimate the importance of this invitation. I want it clearly understood and I state it plainly now. If no Guest Editorials are submitted for the next newsletter (submit anytime), your MicroEditor will write one himself. This is fair warning - see example below for consequences Branch sloth.

REGULAR EDITORIAL

The Texas Branch, it is often said by Texas Branch members, is one of the outstanding ASM branches; one with much to live for and much to brag about. It is common knowledge that what makes the Texas Branch so good is that Texas Microbiologists are so good. But it is not enough to be a Texas Microbiologist. To do your part in supporting the Texas Branch's honor and good name, it requires your presence, your interest, and your participation in Texas Branch affairs. The Texas Branch is good, no one argues otherwise, but it is so on the work of only 20.6% of its members; imagine how good it would be if the other 79.4% did their part. And how much better even than that it would be if all the Texas Microbiologists who are members of the ASM were also members of the Branch: **IMAGINE THAT!**

Joining the Texas Branch and watching others do all the work doesn't help too much either. Join the Texas Branch and join in the work, the responsibilities, the planning, the action, et cetera, et cetera. It's fun, it's rewarding, and it's the thing to do to help your state organization. Attend the meetings, read papers, vote, present students, do some of the work that has to be done, drink beer..... This is what makes the Texas Branch great - and your help is needed to hold what we now have and to make it better.

Obviously, two-thirds of you Regular Members did not attend the last meeting - attend our meetings. They are instructive, informative, profitable (in a kind of fuzzy, confused intellectual way), and always fun.

In the final analysis, there are many reasons why you should belong to the Texas Branch in a real way, why you should attend our meetings, why you should participate in our activities, and why you should belong - and **NO REASON** why you should not.

If you work in one of those great microbiology labs in Dallas, Houston, or San Antonio where there are great Microbiologists who have never attended a Texas Branch meeting or perhaps have never even heard of the Texas Branch (a characteristic of effete Easterners, I'm told), is it not your duty to inform them about the Texas Branch? to invite them to the next meeting? to tell them how great the Texas Branch really is? - I think it is.

Your MicroEditor

THE TEXAS BRANCH
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY

Article III, Constitution:

"Any person living in the State of Texas and interested in Microbiology is eligible for membership and may become a member upon acceptance of their application by the Executive Committee and upon payment of the specified dues."

This is a
(check one)

- ☐ new application
☐ renewal membership
☐ change of address (indicate old address on reverse side)

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Professional Affiliation _____

Highest degree earned _____
Degree Year College/University

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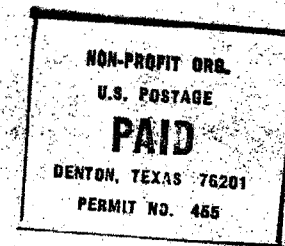
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ROLAND VELA, NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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