

Division M Phage Mini-Page

by Eric Miller

Division M Symposia for the 106th General Meeting of the ASM have been established and funded by the ASM. The meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida, May 21 – May 25, 2006 (ok, you either dust-off your Mickey Mouse jokes or you buy your park tickets and come to the meeting a day or two early!). The Division M sessions include:

M-1 Phage-Host Interactions: Defense and Counter-Defense

Conveners: Maggie Smith & Lisa Raleigh; 5/22/2006 8:00 a.m.

M-2 Using Phages to Develop Novel Antimicrobials and Therapies (Division Lecture)

Conveners: Vincent Fischetti & Eric Miller; 5/23/2006 2:30 p.m.

M-3 Phage/Virus Structure, Assembly and Entry (Co-sponsored by Divisions S & T)

Conveners: Dennis Bamford & Jim Hogle; 5/24/2006 2:30 p.m.

N-1 Friend or Foe: Viral Infection as a Fundamental Force in the Ecology of Microorganisms (Co-sponsored by Division M)

Convener: K. Eric Wommack; 5/22/2006 2:30 p.m.

Abstract submission for the 106th General Meeting is now open and for Division M will remain open until January 12, 2006. Improved efficiency with the OASIS electronic submission system has allowed extending the deadline until after the first of the year. Hopefully that means more and better abstracts on phage research will be presented. It also means that ASM is paying greater scrutiny to results and conclusions during abstract review, with little enthusiasm for accepting abstracts that only claim “results will be presented” (there, I have done my duty!). Begin the submission process by visiting the link at <http://gm.asm.org/abstracts.shtm> and get those interesting phage posters ready!

Awards expected to be presented at the 106th General Meeting are Division Lecturer, Nestle Award (best phage paper in J. Bacteriol. during the preceding year), Gisela Mosig / New England Biolabs graduate student travel award, ASM student travel awards.

Phage Art was a great hit at last year’s General Meeting. If you missed it, there’s a good sample on Forest Rohwer’s web site at

<http://phage.sdsu.edu/imagery/gallery/images/artshow.php>. If you (or your more artistic friends) would like to show some of your phage art, let me know and we’ll make arrangements for display tables at the Division mixer.

Phage Hats for new Division M members are still available; recruit a new member and get a hat, while they last!

Program symposia for the 107th General Meeting will be discussed at the division planning meeting held in Orlando, so submit your session ideas at any time to your incoming Chair, Sankar Adhya (sadhya@helix.nih.gov).

“**Bacteriophage**” at PubMed, limited to publication dates 1/1/2005 to 12/31/2005, yields 846 hits. That should keep you off the streets!

Send addenda, corrigenda or amenda (!) for posting on the Division website to eric_miller@ncsu.edu.