American Society for Microbiology, Maryland Branch Ltd. 
Annual Poster Session & Student Oral Presentations

Dinner Meeting / Poster Session Date: Monday, June 4, 2018

Deadline for Abstracts for Brown Outstanding Student Awards Consideration: 5 PM Friday, May 25, 2018

Deadline for Other Abstracts: 5 PM Friday, June 1, 2018

Deadline for RSVP to Dinner: 5 PM Friday, June 1, 2018

June 4th Meeting Agenda:

- 5:30-6:00 Registration and Poster Set-up
- 6:00-7:15 Pizza and poster session
- 7:15-7:30 Business Meeting:
  - Vote on New Branch Bylaws
  - Election of Officers- President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer:
  - President Elect Nominee Jim Kaper
  - Secretary Nominee: Rich Pfeltz
  - Treasurer: Monica Smith
  - Please email any additional nominee names for consideration to meganwaller001@gmail.com
- 7:30-8:00 Undergraduate Oral Presentation
- 8:00-8:30 Graduate Oral Presentation

Location: UM BioPark Life Sciences Conference Center
801 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

Directions: https://www.google.com/maps/dir//University+of+Maryland+BioPark,+801+West+Baltimore+Street,+Baltimore,+MD+21201/

PLEASE POST THIS FLYER

PLEASE RSVP BEFORE Friday, June 1, 2018

Sign up at: https://www.asmmdbranch.com
Click on the PayPal button to register and pay.

OR mail a check made out to “MD ASM” to: Megan Waller
3914 Bel Pre Road #6
Silver Spring, MD 20906
240.393.2833
meganwaller001@gmail.com

ASM Maryland Branch Members: $10
Non-members: $15
Students: Free

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS!!!
Graduate and undergraduate students

AWARDS – based on abstracts

J. Howard Brown Award for outstanding graduate student: $200
  First runner-up: $100
  Second runner-up: $50

J. Howard Brown Award for outstanding undergraduate student: $200
  First runner-up: $100
  Second runner-up: $50

Brown Award winners also receive a one-year national ASM membership

The J. Howard Brown Award is presented to an outstanding graduate and an outstanding undergraduate student who make contributions worthy of recognition in the field of microbiology. The award was established in memory of J. Howard Brown.
in 1954. You may submit abstracts already shown at other conferences, or that will be shown at ASM Microbe 2018. Brown award winners will be notified ahead of the meeting so they may prepare an oral presentation of their winning study.

Please note: **All students, regardless of ASM membership, are encouraged to submit abstracts for the award. Non-students, also regardless of ASM membership status, are also encouraged to submit abstracts for approval to present posters.**

Share your research at our annual poster presentation. Join your colleagues for an evening of scientific discussions and presentations by students and members.

**Deadline to submit abstracts for Brown Award consideration:**
5 pm, Friday, May 25, 2018

Email abstract and this form to the Abstracts Chairman at richard.pfeltz@bd.com

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM**

Title: ________________________________________________
________________________________________________

Author(s): ____________________________________________
________________________________________________

Affiliation: __________________________________________
________________________________________________

Contact Person: ________________________________________

Phone Number: ___________________Email: ______________

**Presenter is (check one if applicable, only for Brown award eligibility):**

_____ Undergraduate Student (or graduated no earlier than Dec. 2017)
_____ Graduate Student (or graduated no earlier than Dec. 2017)
Please follow the Abstract & Poster Guidelines available on the Branch website at https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/cb09ab_2c49a711a275489394c19ce6ad1d4962.pdf

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

(Copy and paste text here)

METHODS

(Copy and paste text here)

RESULTS

(Copy and paste text here)

CONCLUSION

(Copy and paste text here)

Poster boards will be 5 feet wide x 3 feet tall (bring your own pins or panel clips)
Abstract and Poster Guidelines for the Annual Poster Session of the American Society for Microbiology, Maryland Branch Ltd

Applicants are strongly encouraged to follow these guidelines. Failure to do so does not automatically exclude an abstract from being accepted, however it reduces the likelihood of the author receiving a J. Howard Brown Award for Outstanding Graduate or Undergraduate Student.

1. Abstracts MUST contain four sections (BACKGROUND, RESULTS, METHODS, CONCLUSION) as described below, while it is strongly recommended that these sections be identified with bolded headers, per ASM Microbe abstract guidelines this is not a requirement

BACKGROUND
• 1-3 sentences describing the phenomenon, problem or hypothesis your poster will address
• Avoid lengthy BACKGROUND sections; history and details of your study’s subject matter belong in the introductory section of the poster itself

METHODS
• A description of the materials and methods used in your study
• Statistical analyses should be identified by name (t-Test, ANOVA, etc.) but any further details should be in the poster text; P-values for statistical analyses should be in the RESULTS section
• Inclusion and endpoint criteria should be in this section, as should quantitative study information such as sample size, number of replicates, etc.
• Give the names of specific tests, not general terms such as “genomic analysis” or “microsome-based assay”
• If specific kits, products and/or instruments are integral to the study, then trade names may be used
RESULTS
• Data should be quantitative (numbers! “Science is measurement”); historical and epidemiological data should also be presented in terms of numbers, rates and trends that will be presented in the poster as tables and charts
• Any result described as “significant” MUST also contain a $P$-value, and a statistical test should be named in the METHODS section
• Provide numbers along with terms such as “over-production” or “depletion of”; for example: state “5-fold up-regulated” instead of just “up-regulated”

CONCLUSION
• 1-3 sentences summarizing the conclusions drawn from the results
• Ideally this section would include a single sentence with the “take home message” telling your audience what the results of the study mean
• Do NOT mention future research directions; save that for the discussion section of the poster

2. Abstracts for posters describing scientific studies involving microorganisms or related fields such as immunology as they pertain to microorganisms or infectious diseases are appropriate for the annual ASM Maryland Branch poster session

3. Abstract authors do not have to be members of ASM or the Maryland Branch, but at least one author or their designated representative must attend the poster session and stand by the poster

4. Eligibility for the J. Howard Brown awards:
   a. For an abstract submitter to also be eligible for a J. Howard Brown award for outstanding undergraduate or graduate student, they must be an undergraduate or graduate student on the date of the annual poster session, or have graduated no
earlier than the most recent month of December before the date on which the poster session is held

b. Poster presentation is required for Brown Award eligibility; submission of an abstract is not sufficient for Brown Award consideration

c. Only the submitting author of a given abstract may be eligible for a Brown Award; a Brown Award may not be shared between two or more authors on a single abstract

5. Abstracts may be submitted even if they have been submitted or accepted to other conferences, or the posters were presented at other conferences within the past year

6. Abstracts for posters already presented at a previous ASM Maryland Branch poster session will not be accepted

7. Branch Officers and the Board of Directors will select J. Howard Brown award winners by a vote; if a student directly supervised at an academic institution or workplace by an Officer or BOD member submits an abstract, then that Officer or BOD member will recuse themselves from voting on that Brown award that year

8. An author may present more than one poster provided they are hung side by side at the poster session

9. An easily-read font (Times New Roman or Arial) is recommended for abstracts and posters; use 12-point font for abstract submissions and ≥ 14-point font size for the poster itself so it can be easily read

10. Poster size is at the discretion of the authors, but it is recommended that they not exceed 60 × 40 inches as poster board dimensions are not always available prior to the poster session; posters in portrait rather than landscape format may be advisable
11. Abstract character counts should be less than 2500 characters (this does not include spaces, title, authors or institution)

12. The abstract when placed within the poster itself does not need to be in this format, so posters already printed with abstracts in another format are acceptable but in such cases the abstract should be re-formatted on the Abstract Submission Form

13. General abstract recommendations

- BACKGROUND or CONCLUSIONS sections should each comprise less than 25% of the abstract word count
- Your audience is interested in what you did (METHODS) and what the outcomes were (RESULTS), so together these two sections should comprise about 75% of the abstract word count
- Performance parameters (controls, accuracy, acceptable results ranges, CLSI QC criteria, etc.) should be in the METHODS section, and outcomes of testing in the RESULTS section
- Do NOT state results for which testing is not described in the METHODS section, or draw conclusions for which no testing or data are listed
- Do NOT include statements such as “will be discussed” or “will be presented” in lieu of actually presenting data

Last updated: February 23, 2018