
It was suggested that we generate a graphical abstract for this MBP mission statement. This idea could be adopted by other tracks as well and could be a to-do item for the June 2019 COMS meeting.

2. MBP-related scientific horizons

- Multi-scale analyses of the structure and function of molecular machines. Advances in EM and fluorescence imaging and computational chemistry are enabling dynamic studies of the flagellum, pilus, and other molecular machines at high temporal and spatial resolution. Frontier imaging and image analysis approaches are also likely to yield new and interesting information on diverse microbial communities. This is an area where engineering, physics, synthetic biology, physiology, and genetics are converging.
- There have been significant advances in bacteriophage discovery and in the molecular biology of bacterial viruses. This work is informing new discoveries in bacterial molecular and cellular biology.
- Phase separation of intrinsically-

A range of other MBP topics to be considered for future ASM Microbe meetings were provided to the COMS chair and vice-chair and the ASM Microbe planning committee.

3. Opportunities for ASM to support MBP Research and Member Professional Development.

- Development of a core facility/equipment sharing portal that identifies large equipment (e.g. sequencing, mass spectrometry, electron microscopy) that can be accessed by members at institutions without such equipment would be useful. Along these same lines, ASM could develop a board/portal with reviews of companies and core facilities that have been used by ASM members.

- Data sharing is critical for our research to advance. COMS encourages ASM to advocate for sharing of all large datasets (gene expression, Tn-seq, mass spectrometry and metabolomics, proteomics). In many cases, databases for sharing such large datasets do not exist, or are not user friendly.

- Portals with resources for educators at all levels should be made readily available on the ASM website.

- Career development resources could be enhanced on the ASM website. Profiles of successful senior scientists and microbiologists with non-traditional or “non-linear” paths would be of interest to the membership. Such a resource could facilitate direct connections between successful senior ASM members and interested trainees.

- ASM should update its “CMIM List of Minor (ouITw T[.7 (.o (

- Continue to support ASM-member new investigators. For example, the contacts of program officers at various funding agencies that are relevant to MBP research topics should be easily accessible on the ASM website. Continue to invite active program officers to ASM Microbe to give workshops for new investigators. Grant management workshops would also be useful to educate new investigators on funding sources, indirect costs and budgetary issues. Panels that outline how to navigate publication and peer review might also be of interest.

4. Member engagement with ASM, ASM Journals, and the ASM Microbe meeting

- ASM has a team focused on social media, but many members are unaware of their efforts. How can ASM make students, postdocs, and PIs more aware of the scientific content that is delivered via social media? Conversely, how can we enable the membership to better engage the ASM social media to enhance the microbial science content that is delivered?

- COMS and ASM should find new ways to engage current grad students and postdocs. One possibility is a listening/meet-and-greet for MBP grad students/postdocs at Microbe 2019. It may be too late for this in 2019, but should be considered for 2020. Overall, it was clear from this retreat that COMS can do a better job of reaching out to students and postdocs for their input on ways ASM can better engage trainees.

- ASM provides many important resources and services to the community. However, many microbiologists are not aware of the benefits of ASM membership, or ways in which they can help advance microbial science by working through ASM. A “Why ASM?” campaign delivered through social media may be useful.

- Some branches are very active, while other regions do not have an active branch structure. How can we revitalize inactive branches? In many regions, the branch meetings are a very effective and affordable way to engage students and postdocs. Development of an approach to incentivize regional branch leadership in inactive areas will have long-term benefits for the society.

- The ASM/COMS small conference grant program is heavily oversubscribed. Increased funding for this conference “seed-funding” program is a good idea, and will engage more microbiologists. ASM membership should be a requirement for applying for this funding.

- Some members have expressed dissatisfaction with content delivered through Microcosm. Perhaps a monthly digital version via email, or content delivery through social media, may lead more consistent readership and better reinforce this benefit of ASM membership.

2019-2020 MBP major action item, to be considered:

A joint SGM/ASM small meeting in an area that will engage microbiologists, and physicists, chemists, and engineers who are studying micr meet7 (tud0 1 an0 1 an0d0 1 a7.]1 .7 (s)-1e59t0)-1 (ng (i)-1.1 I