

13th ASM conference on Candida and Candidiasis

October 13-17 2016, Seattle, WA

The ASM conference is one of the most important forum for the Candida research community. Attendance at the conference and the presentation of my project as a talk and poster gave me the opportunity to network with leading researchers in my field and to get critical input for my project.

ASM is an international meeting in the field of fungal infections. The scientific program included sessions about fungal and host signalling, clinical session, poster presentations and elevator talks. The conference started with a big plenary session held by Judith Bermann. This talk gave an overview of the dynamics of the genome of *Candida albicans*.

During the conference I heard outstanding lectures on fungal infections, new techniques and host-fungus interaction.

I had the possibility to give an elevator talk and present a poster with the title " Impact of natural diversity of *Candida albicans* on the balance between commensalism and pathogenicity . With the elevator talk I could get a great attention on my project and during the poster presentation I had several very interesting discussions with attendees with a different research background.

The congress gave me the possibility to broaden my knowledge on fungal diseases and host-pathogen interactions. I met possible collaborators and got great input, what really helps me for my future work.

I want to thank the Swiss Society for Microbiology for the financial support and the possibility to attend such a great conference.

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Zurich, October 2016