

Gordon Research Conference on Bacterial Cell Surfaces

University of Southern Maine in Portland, Maine, United States; 28.06 – 03.07.2026

Microbiology on Bacterial Cell Envelopes

Author of report

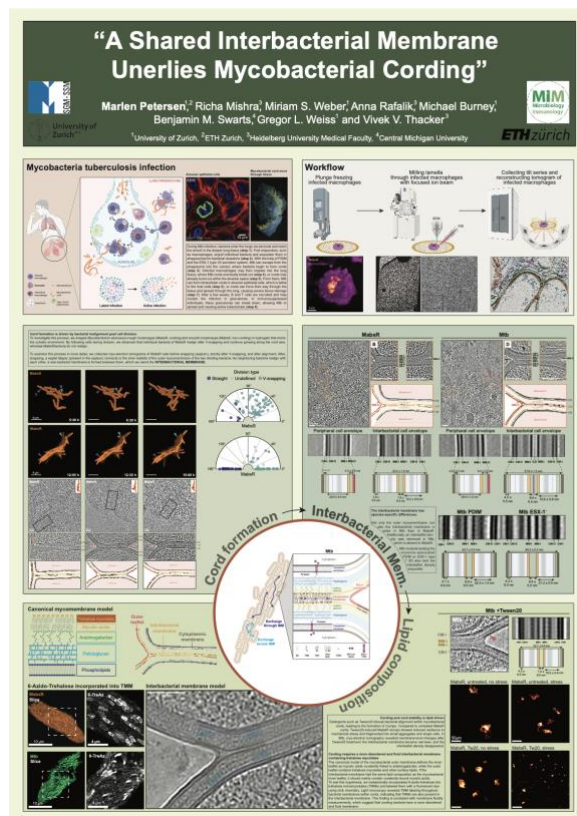
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I, Marlen Petersen, actively participated in the Gordon Research Seminar (GRS) and Gordon Research Conference (GRC) on Bacterial Cell Surfaces at the University of Southern Maine in Portland, USA, held from June 27 to July 3, 2026. I presented my PhD project on mycobacterial cording through both a talk and a poster.

My work received valuable feedback from participants, and my GRS talk was selected as one of the top three presentations, giving me the opportunity to present it again at the GRC.



Poster presented at the GRS and GRC on Bacterial Cell Surfaces.

The talks and posters by other researchers helped me place my project in a broader scientific context and provided insights into related mechanisms across diverse bacterial species, as well as emerging methodologies. For example, I learned about staining methods that may be relevant to my project and received helpful suggestions for complementary experiments.

The networking events also allowed me to establish valuable connections with fellow PhD students, postdocs and professors. A career exchange session between PIs, postdocs and PhD students, called Power Hour, was very insightful and helped me learn more about possible career paths.

Overall, the GRS/GRC was an excellent conference that supported scientific exchange around my PhD project while also broadening my knowledge of bacterial cell surface mechanisms and the wider research community in this field.