



**Texas**  **Branch**

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY

## **Program**

**2021 Spring Virtual Meeting**

**March 25 – 26, 2021**



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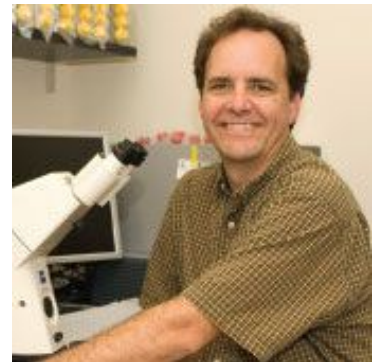
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## Spring 2021 Goldschmidt Lecturer

### **Karl Klose, Ph.D.**

Director, South Texas Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases  
Robert J. Kleberg, Jr. and Helen C. Kleberg Professor

Dr. Klose received his B.A. degrees in Biochemistry and German Literature from the University of California, San Diego and his Ph.D. degree in Microbiology from the University of California, Berkeley. He then performed postdoctoral studies in microbial pathogenesis at Harvard Medical School, prior to being hired as an assistant professor in the department of Microbiology at The University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio (UTHSCSA) in 1997. Dr. Klose moved to UTSA in 2004, and is the founder of the South Texas Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases. Dr. Klose's research focuses on understanding how bacteria cause disease in humans, in order to develop effective vaccines and therapeutics. His laboratory studies *Vibrio cholerae*, which causes cholera, and *Francisella tularensis*, which causes tularemia, as well as several other human bacterial pathogens. He is an author on more than 100 peer-reviewed publications, and has received funding from numerous sources, including NIH, DoD, SAAF, and Thrasher Fund. He has mentored many Ph.D., Masters, and undergraduate students, as well as postdoctoral fellows, and international visiting students from India, Spain, Austria, Germany, and Chile.



## 2020-21 Eugene and Millicent Goldschmidt Graduate Student Award Recipients:

Lauren Howe-Kerr; Rice University, PhD candidate  
Megan Mullis; Texas A&M Corpus Christi, PhD candidate  
Sarah Owen; Sam Houston State University

# Texas Branch ASM Spring Meeting 2021

## Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

7:00-7:15 PM

Welcome and Opening Remarks  
Madhusudan Choudhary, PhD  
Sam Houston State University

7:15-8:15 PM

*“Where do the insect gut microbiota come from? Patterns and implications of environmental symbiont acquisition in stinkbugs and butterflies”*  
Alison Ravenscraft, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
University of Texas at Arlington

8:30-9:30 PM

Business Meeting

## Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>

9:00-09:45 AM

Undergraduate Student Oral Presentations  
(in competition for Orville Wyss award)  
Chair: *Daniel Gold, PhD, St. Edward’s University*

9:45-10:30 AM

Graduate Student Oral Presentations (15 min talks including questions)  
(in competition for Charlie Gauntt award)  
Chair: *Daniel Gold, PhD, St. Edward’s University*

10:30-10:45 AM

BREAK

10:45 AM-12:15 PM

2020 Goldschmidt Awardees  
Chair: *Daniel Gold, PhD, St. Edward’s University*

*“Dynamics of viruses infecting key coral symbionts across a reef-wide thermal stress event”*  
Lauren Howe-Kerr  
Rice University

*“Activation of Caspase-Mediated Apoptosis in Human Endothelial Cells Infected with Colorado Tick Fever Virus”*  
Sarah Owen  
Sam Houston State University

*“Culturing the unculturable: high-throughput sorting using fluorescent activated cell sorting and genomic characterization of novel bacterial strains”*  
Megan Mullis  
Texas A&M University Corpus Christi

12:15-1:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK

1:00-2:00 PM

Concurrent Sessions: Careers Panel  
and Education Session

*Careers Panel*

*Chair: Jolene Ramsey, PhD, Texas A&M*

Joseph Hanson, PhD  
Science Writer  
YouTube Creator

Jason H. Yang, PhD  
Assistant Professor and Chancellor Scholar  
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School  
Co-Chair, COVID Research Alliance

*Education Session*

*Chair: Joni Ylostalo, PhD, University of Mary  
Hardin-Baylor*

*"GERMS: Generating Engaged & Responsive  
Microbiology Students"*

Jennifer Huddleston, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Diana Flanagan, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Abilene Christian University

*"Moving Beyond Content Knowledge: Strategies for  
Creating a Multicultural Based Microbiology  
Curriculum"*

Stacy Vasquez, PhD  
Professor of Biology  
Dallas College, Mountain View Campus

*"Using Metacognitive Approaches to Advance  
Students' Research Competencies in Laboratory  
Contexts"*

Jeffrey Olimpo, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Department of Biology  
Director, Biology Education Research Group  
University of Texas at El Paso

2:00-3:30 PM

Faculty Session

*Chair: Claire Edwards, PhD, St. Edward's University*

*“SARS-CoV-2 in Student Athletes: The Conflict of Asymptomatic Cases”*

Emily Bailey, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health  
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

*“Medical Device Infections: How Host-Device Interactions Influence Susceptibility to Staphylococci”*

Jennifer Walker, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics and Department of Internal Medicine, McGovern Medical School

Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Human Genetics and Environmental Sciences, School of Public Health

*“Super symbionts: Individual and population-level variation in stickleback immunity is shaped by symbiotic relationships”*

Lauren Fuess, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Biology  
Texas State University

3:30-5:00 PM

3:30-4:10 PM

4:20-5:00 PM

Student Poster Presentations and Judging

Session 1

Session 2

5:00-7:00 PM

DINNER BREAK

7:00-8:00 PM

Goldschmidt Lecture

*“Deadly diarrhea: Swimming with Vibrio cholerae”*

Karl Klose, PhD

Director, South Texas Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases Robert J. Kleberg, Jr. and Helen C. Kleberg Professor

Madhusudan Choudhary, PhD

Sam Houston State University

8:00-8:30 PM

Awards Presentation

8:30-8:45 PM

Closing Remarks