Announcement of AMCOP 63

ANNUAL MIDWESTERN CONFERENCE OF PARASITOLOGISTS

June 23-25th, 2011

Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame, IN 46556

The 63rd Annual Midwestern Conference of Parasitologists (AMCOP), a regional affiliate of the American Society of Parasitologists (ASP), will meet June 23-25th, 2011, at Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame, IN. The meeting will start on Thursday evening, June 23rd, with an opening reception. On Friday, June 24th, student papers, the AMCOP symposium, and all posters will be presented, followed by the banquet that evening. On Saturday, June 25th, faculty papers will be given in the morning, followed by the annual business meeting, and presentation of awards. The meetings should conclude around noon on Saturday, June 25th.

The program officer for the meeting is Dr. Thomas Platt of Saint Mary’s College, and the presiding officer is Dr. Shelly Michalski, of University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh. The AMCOP symposium, "Parasitomics", will feature Mary Ann McDowell, Ph.D., University of Notre Dame (Leishmania and malaria), and Michael Ferdig, Ph.D., University of Notre Dame (malaria). The banquet speaker will be Bruce Christensen, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin - Madison, speaking on "Programmes for control of lymphatic filariasis: perspectives from a vector biologist".

Please visit www.AMCOP.org for further information.

Meeting Registration, Lodging & Banquet

Please register for AMCOP 63 (conference registration, lodging, and banquet) by completing the attached form and by returning it with appropriate payment to Dr. Platt at Saint Mary’s. Checks should be made out to, "AMCOP - 63". Registration materials and dormitory check-in will begin at 4:00 pm at McCandless Hall, on the Saint Mary’s campus. [Note: I will be attending ASP in Anchorage (30 May – 8 June) and my college reunion the weekend of 17-19 June, immediately before AMCOP. If you do not make the deadline, it is unlikely I will be able to offer assistance.]

Abstracts, Student Awards & Annual Dues

Students and faculty are encouraged to participate by presenting a 10-minute oral paper or a poster involving parasitology. Abstract instructions for the meeting are available at www.AMCOP.org. Completed abstracts should be sent to Dr. Douglas Woodmansee by June 8, 2011 (doug_woodmansee@wilmington.edu).

Students are eligible to receive the Herrick Award for best poster presentation and the LaRue Award for best oral paper presentation. Undergraduates are eligible for the Cable undergraduate award. The best overall presentation will receive a travel grant to present their research at the 2012 annual meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists.

Payment of annual dues is required to receive the AMCOP 63 abstract book. Dues also support AMCOP, in general, and student awards, in particular. Please remember to pay them! The annual dues form is available at www.AMCOP.org, and should be remitted via US Mail to Doug Woodmansee at the address on the form.

Please feel free to make copies of the registration, abstract, and dues forms to distribute to ANYONE that may be interested in the meeting.
Accommodations, Parking & Exercise
On-campus accommodations will be available at McCandless Residence Hall for $25 per person, per night for double rooms, and $30 per person per night for single rooms. This includes linens (pillow, sheets, blankets & towels – and an exorbitant tax!). If you have a roommate preference, please indicate their name on the registration form. There will be a single bathroom per floor. McCandless Hall is air-conditioned. Rooms are available at the Inn at Saint Mary’s (at the Douglas Road entrance to campus – a 5 minute walk to the farthest building involved in AMCOP on campus).

You may unload in front of McCandless Hall (see map #13) and then move your vehicle to the Angela Lot (see map #22). Parking is free (thank goodness!) and you do not need a tag or sticker.

A small block of rooms are available at the Inn at Saint Mary’s (1-800-947-8627) for $99. Mention AMCOP to get this reduced rate. There are lots of hotels just north of campus – check Google Maps!

Angela Athletic Facility
The athletic facility may (or may not) be open during the meeting. If it is open you are welcome to use the exercise equipment at no charge. There is a variety of weight and aerobic equipment available (sorry – no pool). Changing facilities are limited and you are probably best off changing before you go over. If it isn’t open – take a walk!

Meeting Details
Thursday Evening Social
The opening reception will be held on the Haggar Terrace, a ~3-minute walk from McCandless Hall. There will be pizza/chips & salsa/veggies, and a cash bar. **PLEASE NOTE:** The snacks are not intended to be a meal!

Friday and Saturday Sessions
All events take place in the Science Center. The Friday morning session will begin with student oral presentations in competition for the LaRue Award in SC 105. After lunch, the AMCOP Symposium, "Parasitomics", will be presented by Mary Ann McDowell, Ph.D., University of Notre Dame, and Michael Ferdig, Ph.D. University of Notre Dame. Mike’s presentation is entitled “Genomic and Genetic Approaches to studying Malaria”, and Mary Ann will address, “Omiics of the Unholy Trinity”. The afternoon will conclude with posters/demonstrations in the hallway outside of SC 275, including student posters in competition for the Herrick Award, and a silent auction of parasitological materials (in SC 275). The Saturday morning session will feature contributed papers and the annual business meeting. We anticipate closing the meeting around noon.

Silent Auction
AMCOP 63 will feature a silent auction of various parasitological (and other) materials to raise money for our student awards. Individuals wishing to donate items may send them to Tom Platt or Douglas Woodmansee, or you can simply bring them to the meeting.

Social and Banquet (Friday)
The banquet will be held on Friday evening in Stapleton Lounge of Le Mans Hall. A social, with a cash bar, will precede the banquet, and the post-meal speaker will be **Dr. Bruce Christensen**, University of Wisconsin - Madison, speaking on “Programmes for control of lymphatic filariasis: perspectives from a vector biologist.” There are 2 entrees available, choose ONE when you register. Each entrée will be accompanied by an Arugula and Watercress Salad, and a Strawberry Tart with warm Carmel sauce. Please let Tom Platt know if you have dietary restrictions, and he will do his best to accommodate! **NOTE:** Banquet tickets must be purchased at the time of registration.

Food (Friday & Saturday)
Breakfast ("continental") will be served on Friday and Saturday mornings. Snacks and beverages will be provided at 2 breaks (Fri AM & PM). **Lunch Friday is on your own; however, the dining hall will be open and an easy walk from the Science Center.** The dining hall is set up in stations. All you can eat is $8.00. There is a restaurant in the Hilton Garden Inn ($$) on the edge of campus. Other restaurants (fast food and otherwise) are available just a short drive north on IN 933 (take a left at the light when leaving campus. Locations of dining facilities will be provided at check-in.
Updates: AMCOP Home Page

As the conference approaches, please be sure to check http://www.AMCOP.org for additional updates, maps, and other details.

Saint Mary’s College: Location & Travel

Saint Mary's College ranks among the top 100 “Best National Liberal Arts Colleges” in the U.S. News & World Report 2011 College Guide. Saint Mary's has six nationally accredited academic programs: social work, art, music, teacher education, chemistry, and nursing. Saint Mary’s tradition of empowering women with excellent academic programs and spiritual support began with our founding in 1844 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross. Our suburban campus includes 100 acres of trees, gardens, and manicured lawns, historic buildings, and is located adjacent to the Saint Joseph River.

East or West: Interstate 80/90 passes near the Saint Mary's campus making South Bend easily accessible from the East or West. Take the Notre Dame/South Bend exit (exit 77). Turn right at the light at the end of the exit ramp (several miles long) and then right at the first light.

North or South: Follow IN 933 to Douglas Road and turn left (from the south) or right (from the north).

If you don’t like those approaches, you are on your own!
McCandless Hall (lodging) is on the north side of campus. Turn right at the stop sign after entering campus and follow Madeleva Drive just past the Angela Parking Lot and turn left. Go to the next parking lot on your left and McCandless is on your left. After unloading you should move your car to the Angela Parking Lot. The social will begin at 6 pm.

We look forward to seeing you!
Meeting Registration, Banquet & Lodging Registration Form
63rd Annual Midwestern Conference of Parasitologists
June 23rd -25th, 2011
Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame, Indiana

Registration deadline: received by June 8, 2011.

Name (as you'd like it on name tag!)______________________________________________________

Institution___________________________________________________________________________

Department__________________________________________________________________________

Mailing Address______________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

Email:______________________________________    Phone:_________________________________

REGISTRATION Fee:   Student member -   $25.00  $_____________ 
                       Professional Member - $40.00  $_____________ 

BANQUET meal tickets:   ________  @ $22.00 ea  $__________________ 

Entrée choice:
Chicken Roulade                   ___________
[Chicken stuffed with sun dried tomatoes, wild rice and artichoke hearts. Served with a pesto
cous cous, roasted vegetables and Bearnaise sauce.]

Vegetable Strudel        ___________
[Asparagus spears, roasted red pepper, Portabello mushroom caps, herb cheese and zucchini bundled
in a pocket of fresh baked pastry. Served on a bed of Angel hair with sun dried tomatoes and roasted
red pepper coulis.]

Both dinners served with an Arugula & Watercress salad, Strawberry Tart, and coffee/ice tea/soda.

HOUSING – McCandless Hall: (please indicate: male___  female___)

Double _____ nights @ $25 per person per night (2 persons per room)  $_____________________

Single _____ nights @ $30/night (1 person per room)                $_____________________

Total $_____________________

Roommate preference____________________________________

Arrival date/Time____________________________________

Departure date/Time___________________________________
Please make checks payable to AMCOP-63. Return completed form and payment to:

AMCOP 63  
c/o Tom Platt  
Department of Biology  
Saint Mary’s College  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

For questions, contact Tom Platt at 574-284-4669 or email at tplatt@saintmarys.edu.

Note: This is my office number. I do not have a cell phone. If I don’t answer, please leave a message and I will get back to you when I can. I will be in Alaska from 30 May to 8 June; and, I will be out of town from 17-19 June. ~TRP

A closing note – I am distressed at the high cost of the dorm rooms. I have discussed this issue with the folks in charge and there is no room for negotiation. I hope this will not affect your decision to attend.