UPCOMING WEBINAR

COVID-19: How far have we come?
May 13th 2020 – 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Join us for a Webinar Panel Discussion with Indiana Scientists
Presented by the Indiana Academy of Science

COVID-19 – How far have we come? With the rise of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) cases across the world and majorly in the USA, COVID-19 is presenting unexpected challenges for scientists and health practitioners. The impact of COVID-19 has taken center stage for research in the United States. Scientists are racing to answer the many existing unanswered questions? Nationwide, laboratories have had to suspend or refocus their research. Private companies are focusing efforts to develop detection tests, therapeutic drugs and vaccines to help cure and prevent spread of the COVID-19 causing virus SARS-CoV2. Clinical trials are underway in search of viable treatments.

A diverse panel of scientists will discuss the virology, pathogenesis, current and ongoing treatment and vaccine trials for COVID-19. (L-R Dr. Minal Mulye, Dr. David Sanders, Dr. Chris Stobart, Dr. Bill Sullivan). They will also discuss the impact of COVID-19 social distancing on laboratory research progress and how to best use this time away from the lab. This interactive panel discussion will help us learn more about the virus, and will give the audience an opportunity to ask intriguing questions. Join our Indiana scientists as we begin to unpack answers to the myriad of questions that continue to surface.

This panel discussion is geared towards scientists, science educators, and college and university students in particular, but all are welcome to participate.

If you have particular questions you would like this panel to address, feel free to send them ahead of time to execdir@indianaacademyofscience.org (subject line: COVID 19 Panel Question), by Monday night (11:59p.m.), May 11, 2020.
Moderator

Panelist Information

Minal Mulye, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Microbiology and Immunology at Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine. She earned her Ph.D. in infection and immunity from the University of Toledo College of Medicine, Toledo, OH. Her work involved deciphering the host-pathogen interactions of the highly infectious respiratory pathogen *Burkholderia pseudomallei*, the causative agent of melioidosis. Her postdoctoral studies at Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN involved studying another highly infectious bacterium, *Coxiella burnetii* and how it manipulates host cells to cause infection. Dr. Mulye has 5+ years of experience working with highly infectious pathogens under the Biosafety level 3 conditions. At Marian, she teaches immunology to the medical students and continues to study *Coxiella*-host interactions. She has served the Indiana Academy of Science as Chair of the Microbiology and Molecular Biology Section (2019) and is a member of the *Proceedings* Editorial Board.

Panelists

David A. Sanders, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Biological Sciences at Purdue University. He conducted his Ph.D. research in Biochemistry with Dr. Daniel E. Koshland Jr., who was then editor of the journal *Science*, at the University of California at Berkeley. Dr. Sanders was the discoverer of a biochemical reaction that leads to the entry of cancer-causing retroviruses into cells. Professor Sanders also is the author of two U.S. patents on novel gene-therapy delivery techniques. His work on the Ebola virus led to his participation in the U.S. Defense Threat Reduction Agency's Biological Weapons Proliferation Prevention Program, a product of the Nunn-Lugar legislation. His responsibilities included inspecting the Vector laboratory in Siberia, which was the site of biological-weapons development in the era of the Soviet Union. He has investigated the transmission of viruses from other animals to humans and is often invited to speak on ethics, biodefense, evolution, gene therapy, vaccination and influenza viruses in public forums. Dr. Sanders has been interviewed by media around the world about his research and the role of science in public policy.

Christopher Stobart, PhD, is a microbiologist specializing in virus structure, stability, and function at Butler University where he currently leads research evaluating factors regulating the physical stability and replication of RSV and continues work on the structure and function of coronavirus protease nsp5. Dr. Stobart received his B.S. degrees in biology and chemistry from Xavier University (Cincinnati, OH) in 2008 and his Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology from Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN) in 2013. His doctoral thesis completed in the laboratory of Dr. Mark Denison evaluated a key protease named nsp5, which is utilized by coronaviruses for viral replication. He continued his research in virology by completing a postdoctoral research fellowship in the laboratory of Dr. Martin Moore at Emory University (Atlanta, GA) where he played a central role in the development of a live-attenuated vaccine candidate for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), a major human pathogen among infants and the elderly. Dr. Stobart joined the Butler University Department of Biological Sciences in the Fall of 2016.

Bill Sullivan, PhD, is a professor at the Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis where he studies infectious disease. He has published over 100 papers in scientific journals and has written for National Geographic, Discover, Scientific American, COSMOS, Psychology Today, and more. Recently, he has been writing and speaking about COVID-19 and potential treatments including hydroxychloroquine. He is the author of "Pleased to Meet Me: Genes, Germs, and the Curious Forces That Make Us Who We Are" (National Geographic Books), Dr. Sullivan is an award-winning researcher, teacher, and science communicator.
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**Time** - May 13th 2020 – 3:00 - 4:30 pm

**Venue** – Webex

Meeting Information

Meeting link:

https://mu.webex.com/mu/j.php?MTID=mc7faeaf25edcc077646658817543b23e

Meeting number: 618 191 951

Password: Q7memnQ3da6

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