

2020 ASTMH Update Course Speaker Bios



Siddhartha Mahanty, MBBS, MPH, FRACP, FASTMH (Course Co-Chair)

Dr. Siddhartha Mahanty is an infectious diseases specialist and parasitologist at the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity at the University of Melbourne and the Royal Melbourne Hospital, Australia. He is also a consultant at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and research scientist at the Peter Doherty Institute. He has worked on tropical diseases through most of his career. His research career includes five years at the CDC in Atlanta (1997-2003) and 14 years as a Staff Clinician at the NIH in

Bethesda, MD. He relocated to the University of Melbourne in 2017 as Associate Professor in the Doherty Department of Medicine. His special research interest is in the regulation of immune responses to human parasites, which he has researched through human clinical and translational studies and field studies on malaria, filarial parasites and cestodes in Africa, South America and South Asia. He has published in infectious diseases journals on diverse topics, ranging from tropical parasitic infections to the pathogenesis of viral hemorrhagic fevers, and has taught in the United States (Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, NIH and the CDC), Canada (McGill University, Montreal) and at the University of Melbourne.



Latha Rajan, MD, MPHTM, MBA, FASTMH (Course Co-Chair)

Received a CTropMed® Certificate

Dr. Latha Rajan is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Tropical Medicine at the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in New Orleans and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Tulane School of Medicine. At Tulane, she serves as the Director of the Diploma Course in Tropical Medicine and Traveler's Health and the Master's in Public Health and Tropical Medicine (MPH&TM Clinical). Both programs are

approved courses for the ASTMH certificate (CTropMed®) examination. She is trained as a physician specializing in infectious diseases, clinical microbiology, public health and tropical medicine. Following medical school and fellowship in India, she spent over 30 years in India, Malaysia, the U.K and the U.S. working in the field of infectious diseases and clinical microbiology. During that time, Dr. Rajan worked as Assistant Director in the National HIV Control Program and the National STD Control Program under the Ministry of Health, India. She

received HIV epidemiology training from the CDC as a Fogarty Fellow and infectious diseases training in the U.K. She then went on to work as faculty in the University of Malaya, where some of her roles included leading Antibiotic Advisory clinical rounds, ICU patient management and section chief of the Tuberculosis and STD laboratories, in addition to routine medical teaching and clinical roles. While in India, she served as a technical advisor to the Government of India for STDs. She has served as a technical advisor to USAID for Tuberculosis focusing on the Monitoring and Evaluation of TB Control Programs globally. She also served as an advisor to the Louisiana Office of Public Health Antibiotic Resistance Program. Dr. Rajan has been a member of ASTMH since 1999 and is now a Lifetime Member. She passed the CTropMed® examination in 1999 and was granted Fellow (FASTMH) status in the Society in 2014. She is the President of the ACCTMTH (Clinical Group) Council and previously served as the President-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer of the Clinical Group Council from 2015-2019. She serves on the CTropMed Examination Committee and is a member of the ASTMH Clinical Tropical Medicine & Travel Medicine Education Committee, formed to “advance the coordination efforts of Diploma Courses, Update Course and CTropMed® activities.” Dr. Rajan also serves on the ASTMH Diploma Course Directors’ Committee and previously on the ASTMH Blue Ribbon Committee Working Group. She also served on the Editorial Board of the ASTMH newsletter *Trop Med and Hygiene News* from 2004 to 2007. Currently, she continues her role (since 2008) as a judge for the ASTMH Clinical Research Awards. Dr. Rajan is also the recipient of several teaching and mentoring awards at Tulane. The most prestigious award was in 2013, when she was awarded Tulane University’s highest award for teaching, the Suzanne and Stephen Weiss Presidential Fellow Award for Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring, awarded by the President of the University with the Dalai Lama, during Tulane’s commencement ceremony. Dr. Rajan works in three schools at Tulane and has won top teaching awards in all three. These include the student-selected awards of School of Medicine OWL Club Award for Excellence in Teaching, SPHTM Award for excellence in Graduate and Professional teaching and the Outstanding Undergraduate Public Health Teaching Award.



Daniel Bausch, MD, MPH&TM, FASTMH

Dr. Daniel Bausch is the Director of the United Kingdom Public Health Rapid Support Team (UK PHRST), a joint effort by Public Health England and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to respond and conduct research to prevent and control outbreaks of dangerous infectious diseases around the world. He is trained in internal medicine, infectious diseases, tropical medicine and public health. Dr. Bausch specializes in the research and control of emerging tropical viruses, with over 20 years experience in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and Asia combating viruses such as Ebola, Lassa, hantavirus and SARS coronavirus. He places a strong emphasis on capacity building in all his projects and also has a keen interest in the role of the scientist in promoting health and human rights.



Lucas Blanton, MD

Dr. Blanton is an Associate Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston (UTMB). He attended medical school at UTMB, completed his internal medicine residency training at the Medical University of South Carolina and returned to UTMB to pursue fellowship training in infectious diseases. He is active in the clinical practice of infectious diseases – treating HIV and general infectious diseases in the inpatient and outpatient settings.

He has a special clinical interest in vector-borne diseases and his research is focused on the study of tick- and flea-borne rickettsioses. While practicing at UTMB, Dr. Blanton helped recognize the re-emergence of murine typhus in Galveston – a disease that had apparently disappeared from the area since the late 1940s. He has since worked to characterize the ecology of the reservoirs and vectors of *Rickettsia typhi* on the island. His research has also included fieldwork for the collection of ticks; characterization of pathogens from ticks; studies to investigate rickettsial cross protection; and serosurveys to assess human exposure to various rickettsial pathogens. While active in research and clinical practice, Dr. Blanton enjoys contributing to the education of medical students, residents and fellows at UTMB.



Christina Coyle, MD

With a passion for tropical medicine, Dr. Christina Coyle runs an active clinic at Jacobi Medical Center in New York, where she trains fellows, medical students and residents. For a decade, she co-directed the ASTMH Update Course, a preparation for the CTropMed® - Certificate Exam in Tropical Medicine. She lectures widely, nationally and internationally. In 2007, she became a site director for GeoSentinel, a worldwide communication and data collection network for the surveillance of travel-related morbidity.

Dr. Coyle is also a deeply committed educator. Since her faculty appointment at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York in 1995, she has served in many different roles in medical education and has been the recipient of almost every teaching award at Einstein. In 2002 she was inducted as a faculty member of the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Society by the AOA students, and in 2005 received the Harry H. Gordon Award for Outstanding Clinical Teaching. In 2007, she was appointed course director for the newly reorganized Parasitology and Global Medicine Course in the second-year medical student curriculum. Dr. Coyle is a graduate of Adelphi University in New York and earned her medical degree at SUNY-Downstate Medical Center. She completed her residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in infectious diseases at Bronx Municipal Hospital Center in New York and holds a Master of Clinical Research degree from Einstein. She is board certified in infectious diseases and has special expertise in parasitology.



Arlene E. Dent, MD, PhD

Dr. Dent is a physician and Associate Professor in the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital and in the Center for Global Diseases at Case Western Reserve University. She is trained in pediatrics, pediatric infectious diseases and tropical medicine. She treats children with complex infectious diseases locally. Dr. Dent's research interests include how children develop immunity to malaria, how malaria disrupts immunological memory, and the impact of co-infections such as HIV on global child health. She has worked primarily in Kenya for the past 15 years with Kenyan partners, colleagues, students, and with collaborators around the world.



Professor Abdulrazaq Garba Habib, MBBS, MSc

Prof. Habib is an infectious and tropical disease physician and epidemiologist. He was formerly Dean Faculty of Medicine and later Foundation Provost College of Health Sciences, Bayero University Kano, Nigeria (BUK). His interests include infections, tropical snakebite and global health, and has published over 100 papers in peer-reviewed journals. Prof. Habib is a foundation member of the African Snakebite Research Group (ASRG) project that is supported by the NIHR (UK) and a co-Director of the Scientific Research Partnership for the Next Generation Snakebite Therapies (SRPNTS) that is supported by DfID (UK). He heads the Nigerian Snakebite Research Intervention Center (NSRIC), a member of the ASRG consortium and collaborator to Liverpool School for Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK. Prof. Habib is a member of several professional societies and the current president of the Nigerian Infectious Diseases Society, former Head of the Infectious Diseases Sub-Specialty at the West African College of Physicians and a Trustee of the Toxinology Society of Nigeria. He has served on several boards, expert advisory boards and committees in Nigeria, currently serving as a member of the National Immunization Technical Advisory Group, National Drug Safety Advisory Committee and the chairman Noma (*Cancrum Oris*) Technical Advisory Group, Nigeria. He is an international advisor of the Royal College of Physicians, London (UK), a member of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on meningococcal meningitis vaccination at WHO, Geneva, Switzerland, and a board member of the Global Snakebite Initiative (GSI) based in Australia. He has been serving as the Co-Chair for the COVID-19 Taskforce in Kano state, Nigeria. A native of Kano, he is a consultant physician in Infectious and Tropical Diseases at Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano, Nigeria.



Matthew Hamill, MBChB, PhD, MPH, FRCP

Dr. Matthew Hamill is a U.K.-trained physician with specialist accreditation in STI/HIV (genitourinary medicine). He worked in STI/HIV clinics in the U.K. NHS service for many years and now works in the U.S. in Infectious Diseases at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore as well as the Baltimore City Health Department STD clinic. Dr. Hamill lived and worked in South Africa and undertakes research on STI in the U.S. and Uganda. His current research efforts focus on LGV infection, syphilis epidemiology in Baltimore and elucidating the microbiological causes of urethritis in Kampala, Uganda. He graduated from medical school in 1998 (MBChB, Bristol), trained in internal medicine (MRCP, U.K.) in London and STI/HIV, also in London. He underwent training in Tropical Medicine DTM&H (LSHTM) and further academic training PhD (Cambridge) and MPH (Harvard) with a focus on global health. He is interested in all aspects of STI/HIV with a particular emphasis on genital ulcer disease, clinical care, point of care testing and diagnostic certainty in resource-limited settings. He is currently Assistant Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.



M. Patricia Joyce, MD, FIDSA, FASTMH

Received a CTropMed® Certificate

Dr. Pat Joyce is recently retired from the CDC after 38 years in government service that has included the U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit #2 (Manila, RP), the National Hansen's Program (Carville, LA), and the Brook Army Medical Center and Texas Center for Infectious Disease (San Antonio, TX). Over the decades she has specialized in leprosy, tuberculosis, HIV and zoonotic diseases, with a particular emphasis in healthcare needs in the Pacific. She is twice President of the Clinical Group of ASTMH and a long-term Chairperson of the Clinical Research Award Program.



Alexia P. Knapp, MD

Received a CTropMed® Certificate

Dr. Knapp is a board-certified dermatologist at HealthPartners Medical Group in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Core Faculty in the University of Minnesota (UMN) Global Medicine Pathway. She has received the CTropMed® Certificate of Knowledge in Clinical Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health. In her dermatology clinic she sees refugees/immigrants and returned travelers with skin diseases. She has extensive experience working as a dermatologist in Uganda. Since 2015 she has supported a dermatology training program in Mbarara, Uganda, and is the current project director for Health Volunteers Overseas Uganda Dermatology project. Since 2017, she has worked with UMN/International Organization for Migration (IOM, The UN Migration Agency) training IOM panel physicians in skin conditions in U.S.-bound refugees. She is also a telemedicine consultant for MSF/Doctors Without Borders, supporting colleagues who provide medical care in humanitarian crises.



Michael Libman, MD

Dr. Libman is director of the J.D. MacLean Centre for Tropical Diseases at McGill University and former Director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at McGill University and the McGill University Health Centre. He holds specialty certifications in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and holds the academic rank of Professor in the Department of Medicine at McGill University. In the past he has been the Director of the Division of Infectious Disease and the Department of Medical Microbiology at the Montreal General Hospital. He was the Program Director for the Royal College training programs in Adult Infectious Disease and Medical Microbiology at McGill for 10 years. He has had a special interest in tropical medicine and parasitology throughout his career. He worked at the McGill Centre for Tropical Disease for over 25 years. This is a unique clinical unit that combines daily tropical medicine clinics serving a wide variety of travelers, immigrants and visitors, a large pre-travel clinic, a regional reference center for clinical parasitology and the Canadian national reference center for parasite serology and molecular diagnostics. He directs the teaching of tropical medicine through the Centre, which has become a training unit for residents and fellows from universities throughout Quebec and Canada. He is currently Chair of CATMAT(Committee to Advise on Tropical Medicine and Travel) for the Public Health Agency of Canada and has been involved in many of the clinical guidelines published by this group. He works as a visiting professor in the Infectious Disease training program at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, and as a co-director of the annual international course in tropical medicine given at the Christian Medical College in Vellore, India, which strives to create a collaborative training experience for physicians from India and western countries. He also works as a consultant for infectious disease and microbiology for the Inuit communities of Nunavik in the Canadian eastern arctic region, where many of the infectious and diagnostic problems are surprisingly similar to those found in the tropics. His research interests have focused mostly on the effective use and interpretation of diagnostic testing procedures, and the epidemiology of imported infections.



Anne McCarthy, BMedSc, MD, MSc, FRCPC, DTM&H, FASTMH

Dr. Anne McCarthy is Professor of Medicine at the University of Ottawa and a member of the Division of Infectious Diseases at the Ottawa Hospital. She is Director of the Tropical Medicine and International Health Clinic – providing comprehensive pre- and post-travel care. She has been involved in the development of prevention and treatment strategies for malaria and recommendations for travel related vaccine preventable diseases. Dr. McCarthy is the National Coordinator of the Canadian Malaria Network in collaboration with Health Canada’s Travel Medicine Program and past chair of the Committee to Advise on Tropical Medicine and Travel (CATMAT). She is a longstanding member of the Clinical Group and ASTMH and a longstanding active member of the International Society of Travel Medicine.



Elise O'Connell, MD

Received a CTropMed® Certificate

Dr. Elise O'Connell is an Assistant Clinical Investigator in the Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases within the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the NIH. During and following an Infectious Diseases fellowship, her early research focused on filariasis and molecular diagnostics in soil-transmitted helminths. For the past four years her research has focused on improving outcomes in patients with subarachnoid neurocysticercosis. She now leads the neurocysticercosis and leishmaniasis clinical programs at NIH.

She is an Infectious Diseases clinician and involved Key Clinical Faculty Member of the Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program at NIH.



Bobbi Pritt, MD

Prof. Pritt is a Professor of Clinical Microbiology and Anatomic Pathology within the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and holds a joint appointment in the Division of the Infectious Diseases. She is the Chair of the Clinical Microbiology Division at Mayo Clinic and serves as the Medical Director of the Clinical Parasitology Laboratory, the Head of the Infectious Diseases Pathology Working Group, the Program Director for the Medical Microbiology fellowship and the Chair of Education for the Department.

Prof. Pritt received her medical degree at the University of Vermont, College of Medicine, and went on to complete residency training in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology, during which she served as Chief Resident. After residency, she undertook a fellowship in Medical Microbiology at Mayo Clinic, followed by a Master's degree in Medical Parasitology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She also obtained a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from the Royal College of Physicians in London.

Professor Pritt's primary areas of interest are clinical parasitology, vector-borne diseases, infectious diseases pathology, and medical education. She is also the author of the popular international parasitology case blog Creepy Dreadful Wonderful Parasites (<http://parasitewonders.blogspot.com>).



John Walton Sanders, MD, MPH&TM, FASTMH

Dr. Sanders is a Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Infectious Disease Section at Wake Forest School of Medicine (WFSM) in North Carolina. He earned his medical degree at Tulane University in Louisiana and completed Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease Training in the military. Dr. Sanders' clinical and research interests include tropical diseases and infections of military importance. While in the Navy, he led research programs for the

development of new vaccines, diagnostics and medicines. He has continued that work at Wake Forest and is currently conducting several pre-clinical studies on experimental vaccines for dengue.



John Schieffelin, MD

Dr. Schieffelin is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Tulane University in Louisiana. He is board certified in Adult and Pediatric Infectious Disease. He has extensive experience treating viral infections domestically and in West Africa. He was deployed to Sierra Leone multiple times during the West African Ebola Outbreak for clinical care and to set up validation trials of diagnostic tests. Dr. Schieffelin has extensive experience conducting NIH-funded research on flaviviruses, arenaviruses and filoviruses. He is also a member of the ASTMH Clinical Group.



Laila Woc-Colburn, MD, DTM

Received a CTropMed® Certificate

Laila Woc-Colburn is acting associate professor in the Section of Infectious Diseases at Emory University in Atlanta and a member of the National School of Tropical Medicine (NSTM), Baylor College of Medicine in Texas. She is a dedicated clinical educator and sought by her students, fellows and colleagues for her expertise in Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine. She has received two prestigious award for her clinical and education

efforts: the Star Clinical Award and Rose Norton Fullbright Award in Teaching and Evaluation during her tenure at Baylor College of Medicine. Her passion is to educate the next generation in the art of medicine and infectious diseases.