# The 5th Annual Midwest Neglected Infectious Diseases Meeting

University of Notre Dame College of Science  
Center for Rare and Neglected Diseases  

*All times are in Eastern Standard Time*

<table>
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<th>Program</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, August 28th, 2015</strong></td>
<td>McKenna Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:05 – 12:50 pm</td>
<td><strong>Lunch and Poster Set up</strong></td>
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<td><em>McKenna Dining Room</em></td>
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<td>12:50 – 1:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Opening Remarks</strong></td>
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<td><em>McKenna Auditorium</em></td>
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<td>1:00 – 1:50 pm</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Speaker:</strong></td>
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|                          | **Dr. Chandy John, IU School of Medicine**  
|                          | “What causes severe malaria? New insights from translational research”  |
| 2:00 – 2:20               | **Seungmin "Sam" Hwang, The University of Chicago**  
|                          | “Autophagy proteins guide interferon-gamma induced GTPases to the parasitophorous vacuole membrane of Toxoplasma gondii for its disruption”  |
| 2:20 – 2:40               | **Tamara Doering, Washington University Medical School**  
|                          | “Cryptococcal interactions with the host”  |
| 2:40 – 3:00               | **Zain Syed, University of Notre Dame**  
|                          | “Leading the bugs by their nose: Attracting and repelling insect vectors of human disease”  |
| 3:00 – 3:20               | **Alison Eastman, University of Michigan**  
|                          | “Epigenetic stabilization of classical dendritic cell genes by TNFα during Cryptococcus neoformans pulmonary infection”  |
| 3:20 – 3:40               | **Rui Liu, University of Notre Dame**  
|                          | “High-throughput screening identify imidazopryidazines as potent inhibitors of Plasmodium falciparum phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase”  |
| 3:40 – 3:50               | **Sherri Huang, Indiana University School of Medicine**  
|                          | “A cell-cycle regulated ApiAP2 factor modulates stress induction of bradyzoite gene expression.”  |
| 3:50 – 5:15 pm           | **Poster Session and Coffee Break**  
|                          | *McKenna Atrium*                |
| 5:20 – 5:40               | **Vern Carruthers, University of Michigan Medical School**  
|                          | “The evolution of intracellular parasitism and heterophagy in apicomplexan parasites”  |
| 5:40 – 6:00               | **Aabha Sharma, Northwestern University**  
|                          | “The Unique Lipid Composition of Eukaryotic Ciliary Membrane”  |
6:00 – 6:20  **Qian Shen, The Ohio State University**
“Genetics-Based Discovery of Histoplasma Genes Required for Intramacrophage Growth”

6:20 – 6:40  **Keke Fairfax, Purdue University**
“Schistosoma Mansoni infection induces anti-atherogenic transcriptional changes in hepatic macrophages”

6:40 – 7:00  **Abhay Satoskar, The Ohio State University**
“Il17A suppresses Th1 development and plays a detrimental role during experimental visceral leishmaniasis”

7:00 – 7:10  **Kristie Goodenough, The Ohio State University**
“Probing the Nutritional Requirements for Intracellular Pathogenesis of Histoplasma capsulatum”

7:30 pm  **Dinner**  
**McKenna Dining Room**

9:00 – 11:00 pm  **Mixer/Cash Bar/Poster**  
**McKenna Dining Room**

**Saturday August 29th, 2015  McKenna Hall**

8:00 – 8:20  **Kaice LaFavers, Indiana University School of Medicine**
“A Novel Dense Granule Protein Plays a Role in Calcium-dependent Signaling Events in Toxoplasma gondii”

8:20 – 8:40  **Michael Kimber, Iowa State University**
“Release of Small RNA-containing Exosome-like Vesicles from the Human Filarial Parasite Brugia malayi”

8:40 – 9:00  **Bikash Shakya, Purdue University**
“Targeting erythrocyte cytoskeletal proteins by Plasmodium falciparum exported proteins”

9:00 – 9:20  **Jintao Xu, University of Michigan**
“Effect of TNF-α in immune polarization during cryptococcal infection”

9:20 – 9:40  **Victoria Jeffers, Indiana University School of Medicine**
“Garcinol inhibits a GCN5-family lysine acetyltransferase and impedes replication of Toxoplasma gondii”

9:40 – 10:00  **Shahir Rizk, Indiana University South Bend**
“Controlling structural rearrangements of the Ebola viral protein VP40 using engineered complex-specific affinity reagents”

10:00 – 10:10  **Kathryn Del Vecchio, University of Notre Dame**
“Ebola matrix protein VP40: Viral Gymnast coordinates lipids during viral egress”

10:10 – 10:30 am  **Coffee Break**  
**McKenna Atrium**

10:30 – 10:40  **Erik Andersen, Northwestern University**
“Heritable small RNAs are implicated in nematode benzimidazole resistance”

10:40 – 10:50  **Lori Neal, University of Michigan**
“T cell restricted Notch signaling contributes to Th1 and Th2 cytokine responses during Cryptococcus neoformans infection”
10:50 – 11:10  **Conrad Epting, Northwestern University**
“Exploring T. cruzi cardiotropism: A role for Annexin A2”

11:10 – 11:20  **Felipe Santiago-Tirado, Washington University School of Medicine**
“Palmitoylation is a major determinant of cryptococcal virulence”

11:20 – 11:40  **Mostafa Zamanian, Northwestern University**
“Caenorhabditis elegans quantitative genetics pipeline uncovers complex determinants of nematode avermectin resistance”

11:40 – 12:00  **Nic Wheeler, Iowa State University**
“A Girardia tigrina transcriptome to aid in NTD research”

12:00 – 12:20  **Naomi Walsh, University of Wisconsin - Madison**
“Phagocytosis and Dissemination of Cryptococcus neoformans spores”

12:20 – 12:30 pm  **Closing Remarks**

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**Institutions:**
- University of Notre Dame
- Boler-Parseghian Center for Rare & Neglected Diseases
- Burroughs Wellcome Fund
- Indiana CTSI
- University of Michigan Medical School

**Organizations:**
- Northwestern University NUCATS
- Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute
- PLoS PATHOGENS