

# Symposium Program

8:30 – 9:00am Coffee, refreshments, and poster set up.

## 9:00 – 12:00pm Morning Session: Room S175

9:00 – 9:10am Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:15 – 10:05am Teresa O'Meara, Ph.D. – Featured Speaker.  
*Making models out of pathogens: Exploring new biology with Candida auris.*

10:10 – 10:25am Claire Reichardt – Ph.D. Student, University of Georgia.  
*Investigating the strain diversity in Cryptococcus neoformans using pangenomic analysis.*

10:30 – 10:45am Coffee Break

10:50 – 11:05am Minju Kim, Ph.D. – Research Associate, University of Wisconsin-Madison. *Vesicle inhibition reduces Candida biofilm resistance.*

11:10 – 12:00pm Lori Huberman, Ph.D. – Featured Speaker.  
*Characterizing the genetics of fungal environmental sensing using functional genomics.*

## 12:00 – 12:50pm Lunch: Main Lobby

## 1:00 – 2:30pm Afternoon Session: Room S175

1:00 – 1:50pm John Panepinto, Ph.D. – Featured Speaker.  
From stress to success: how translational regulation helps *Cryptococcus neoformans* thrive.

1:55 – 2:10pm Katharina Goerlich – Ph.D. Candidate, University of Georgia.  
*Candida albicans biofilm formation through the lens of natural variation.*

2:15 – 2:30pm Vikas Yadav – Research Associate, Duke University.  
*Calcineurin controls the cytokinesis machinery during thermal stress in Cryptococcus deneoformans.*

## 2:35 – 3:45pm Poster Sessions and Coffee Hour: Main Lobby

2:35 – 3:10pm Session A: Even Posters (35 min)

3:10 – 3:45pm Session B: Odd Posters (35 min)

**3:50 – 5:10pm      Evening Session: Room S175**

3:50– 4:05pm      Emma Blackburn – Ph.D. Candidate, University of Georgia.  
*Cryptococcus neoformans Post-Transcriptional Control Enables CO<sub>2</sub> Tolerance.*

4:10 – 5:00pm      David Andes, Ph.D. – Featured Speaker.  
*Roles and Regulation of Extracellular Vesicles and Vesicle Cargo in Candida spp.*

5:00 – 5:10pm      Closing Remarks

**6:00 – 9:30pm      Reception at Dr. Michelle Momany's**

## **Featured Speakers**

**David Andes, Ph.D.** | University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Lori Huberman, Ph.D.** | Cornell University

**Teresa O'Meara, Ph.D.** | University of Michigan

**John Panepinto, Ph.D.** | University at Buffalo