**Bacteriology Journal Club Format and Schedule**

The journal club is a forum for presentation of original research-in-progress and for scholarly discussion of recently published papers in bacteriology. Both types of talks give speakers an opportunity to hone presentation skills and to practice presenting scientific stories to an interested community of scholars. Similarly, there are opportunities for the audience to ask questions and offer alternate interpretations of the data that can inform our understanding of the recent literature and contribute to each other’s projects.

**Research-in-Progress.** Research talks are an opportunity to present your latest findings to an interested audience that can help as you pursue further findings. To get the most from this audience:

1. Prepare and practice a 15-20 minute talk to allow sufficient time for questions in the 30-minute time slot.
2. Provide only minimal background. This will vary by person and project, but a suggestion would be to have 1-2 slides on the system, 1-2 slides on where you left off last year, and then proceed directly to your new data. **Do not proceed to repeat data that you presented last year.**
3. Do not present your entire committee meeting or a formal seminar. This is the wrong level of detail for this audience and this time slot, and it does not engage the audience.
4. Actively include the audience. Ask questions where appropriate, and point out specific areas in which you want ideas, feedback, or other assistance.

**Journal Presentations.** For 2016-2017 we are trying something new. Hannah and Lauren have curated a list of papers within a theme. The theme for the Fall is **Threats to Bacterial Cells** (e.g., phage, predation, and competition). You can select a paper that we have picked or propose another top paper within this theme. Curated papers are listed at this URL <http://bit.ly/BactPapers2016Fall>. Once you have selected the paper to present let Hannah and/or Lauren know so they can list your name next to it. For a few papers, we will coordinate with the speaker the following Tuesday, and we will likely pick a different theme for the Winter/Spring quarters.

For all journal articles email the paper to the listserv at the address below on the Monday preceding the club. Your presentation should cover the papers that preceded the one you are presenting to put the work in context, as well as to illustrate the path that yielded the results in the paper under study. A good description of the approaches used in the paper is important to share, including specific techniques, but also how the authors approached the question.

**Audience Responsibilities.** Audience members play an important role in having this be a successful forum. It is expected that students and postdocs will regularly ask questions. This is a critical element in the scientific dialogue. The presenter has dedicated time to presenting their work, they are asking for feedback to improve (or understand fully) the work presented, and your role in the audience is to contribute your interpretations and ideas.

**Communication and distribution of papers.** A listserv has been established for communicating within the group. To send messages to the entire list, send the message to <MICROJC@listserv.it.northwestern.edu>. The message must come from the email address you used to subscribe to the list (i.e., your Northwestern email address). To subscribe to the list, send your contact information to Mark <m-mandel@northwestern.edu>. For listserv maintenance activities, see <http://www.it.northwestern.edu/listserv/>. Please do not send communications to the entire department.

**Scheduling conflicts.** Care has been taken to schedule students by year for research talks (5th > 2nd > 3rd), to have each day’s research presentations represent different labs, and to have a mix of research and journal presentations. Review any conflicts with Mark so that swaps can be made within these constraints.

Mark Mandel, Hannah Gavin, & Lauren Priniski