

SWACM 2026 Annual Meeting Preliminary Program

September 9-11, 2026

Houston, Texas

Location: The Westin Galleria Houston
5060 W. Alabama St.
Houston, Texas 77056
(713) 960-8100

Reserve your room by **August 18, 2026** by visiting www.swacm.org

Room Rate: Single/Double: \$159

Parking: Self-parking: Free
Valet: \$34 daily, \$58 overnight

Air Travel: George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH)
All major airlines, hub for United Airlines

William P. Hobby Airport (HOU)
Hub for Southwest Airlines

Meeting Registration: www.swacm.org

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

07:00AM – 07:45 AM | Complimentary breakfast and seminar

08:00 AM – 11:30 AM | Morning Workshops

WS1: Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing

Ayesha Khan, PhD, D(ABMM), University of California, Irvine
Micah Bhatti, MD, PhD, MD Anderson Cancer Center

WS2: Mycology

Shawn Lockhart, PhD, D(ABMM)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

11:30 AM – 01:00 PM | Complimentary lunch and seminar sponsored by



01:00 PM – 04:30 PM | Afternoon Workshops

WS3: Parasitology

Cameron Brown, PhD, D(ABMM)

Baylor College of Medicine

WS4: Molecular Microbiology

Allison Eberly, PhD, D(ABMM), Washington University

Nicole Tarlton, PhD, D(ABMM), University of Chicago

Thursday, September 10, 2026

07:00 AM – 07:45 AM | Complimentary breakfast and seminar sponsored by



08:00 AM – 08:15 AM | Introduction

08:15 AM – 09:15 AM | Molecular Testing for *Candida auris*

Michael Loeffelholz, PhD, D(ABMM)

Cepheid

09:15 AM – 10:15 AM | How AST Breakpoints are Defined and Why They Matter

Virginia Pierce, MD

University of Michigan

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM | Coffee Break

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Lues Clues: What Clinicians Actually Do with Lab Results

Ryan Rochat, MD

Texas Children's Hospital

11:30 AM – 01:00 PM | Complimentary lunch and seminar sponsored by



01:00 PM – 02:30 PM | Exhibits and Poster Judging

02:30 PM – 03:30 PM | Closing the Loop: Integrating Microbiology and Antimicrobial Stewardship for Timely Clinical Decision-Making

Brittany Rodriguez, PharmD, BCIDP

Grant Stimes, PharmD, MPA, BCPS, BCIDP

Awilda River-Acosta, MLS(ASCP)

Texas Children's Hospital

03:30 PM – 04:30 PM | Syndromic Panels
Belkys Sanchez Martinez, PhD, D(ABMM)
Houston Methodist Hospital

04:30 PM – 06:00 PM | Exhibits and Wine and Cheese Reception

Friday, September 11, 2026

07:00 AM – 07:45 AM | Complimentary breakfast and seminar


08:00 AM – 09:00 AM | Susceptibility Testing of Anaerobes
Samantha Shannon, MLS(ASCP)
Mayo Clinic

09:00 AM – 10:00 AM | *Bordetella* and Emerging Diseases
Jim Dunn, PhD, D(ABMM)
Texas Children's Hospital

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM | Coffee Break

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM | SWACM Business Meeting and Awards Presentation

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Unusual Gram Stains
Steve Dallas, PhD, D(ABMM)
University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio

11:30 AM – 01:00 PM | Complimentary lunch and seminar sponsored by 

01:00 PM – 02:30 PM | Exhibits and Posters

02:30 PM – 03:30 PM | The Public Health Laboratory as a Clinical Partner:
Functions, Capabilities, and Expectations
Javonte Davis, MS
Ricardo Quijano, MB(ASCP)
Houston Health Department

03:30 PM – 04:30 PM | Parasitology Cases
Cameron Brown, PhD, D(ABMM)
Baylor College of Medicine
