

ANEROBE CONGRESS

JULY 7-10, 2026



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IRVING MEDICAL CENTER

Roy and Diana Vagelos Education Center
104 Haven Avenue (at W. 171st Street)
New York, NY 10032

The 18th Biennial Congress of the Anaerobe Society of the Americas

Columbia University, New York, NY

DAY 1 - MAIN ARRIVAL DAY

Tuesday, July 7

3:00 PM - REGISTRATION/POSTER PICK-UP (OPTIONAL)
5:00 PM Welcome to New York!

DAY 2

Wednesday, July 8

8:00AM - REGISTRATION
9:00AM

8:50AM - WELCOME
9:00AM
Yiping W. Han, PhD
Columbia University, NY

9:00 AM - [SESSION I] CONGRESS KEYNOTE
9:45 AM Moderator: Yiping W. Han, PhD
Vincent B. Young, MD, PhD
University of Michigan, MI

Microbe-microbe Interactions in the Gut:
Systems Biology of Host-Microbe
Symbiosis

9:45AM - COFFEE BREAK / EXHIBITS
10:00AM

10:00AM - [SESSION II] ANAEROBES: CLINICAL
11:00AM INFECTIONS
Moderator: Vincent B. Young, MD, PhD

Daniel Freedberg, MD
Columbia University, NY
The Spread of *C. difficile* and Other Gut
Pathogens Within the Healthcare
Environment

Marie Joossens, PhD
Ghent University, Belgium
Campylobacter-Associated Alterations
of the Gut Microbiota in Young Children
in Rural Ethiopia

David Nygren, MD, PhD
Skane University Hospital, Sweden
Incidence and antimicrobial resistance of
Fusobacterium spp. bloodstream
infections in Sweden from 2015-2024

11:00AM - [SESSION III] ANAEROBES: DISEASE
12:00PM MECHANISMS

Moderator: Aimee Shen, PhD

Chun-Jun Guo, PhD
Weill Cornell Medicine, NY

Using Genetics to Explore Microbe-Host
Interactions at the Molecular Level

Adrienne N. Edwards, PhD
Emory University, GA

Predicted Histidine Kinase Functions as a
Novel Serine-Aspartate Kinase/Phosphatase
to Directly Control *C. difficile* Sporulation

Shannon Kordus, PhD
Vanderbilt University, TN

A Targeted Cell Lysis Mechanism
Facilitates Toxin Release in *C. difficile*

12:00PM - LUNCH BREAK / EXHIBITS
1:00PM Lunch will be provided.

1:00PM - [SESSION IV] HOST RESPONSES TO
2:00PM ANAEROBIC INFECTIONS

Moderator: Stuart Johnson, MD

Sloan Devlin, PhD
Harvard University, MA

Microbiota-Generated Metabolites and
Impact on Host Responses

Melody Y. Zeng, PhD
Weill Cornell Medicine, NY

Regulation of Early Life Immunity by the
Gut Microbiota

DAY 2 (CONT.)

Wednesday, July 8

Apollo Stacy, PhD

Cleveland Clinic, OH

Inflammation Fuels Metabolic Synergy
Between Pathogens in the Oral
Microbiome

**2:00PM - [SESSION V] ANAEROBES IN THE
3:00PM ORAL CAVITY**

Moderator: Yiping W. Han, PhD

Maria Ryan, DDS, PhD

Colgate, NJ

The Ecological Effect of the Prebiotic
Arginine on the Oral Microbiota

Hui Wu, PhD

Oregon Health and Science University, OR

From Lone Microbe to Microbial Team:
Understanding Anaerobic Partnerships
Between Veillonella and Prevotella

Xuesong He, DDS, PhD

ADA Forsyth Institute, MA

Four's a Party: Intricate Interplay Between
One Oral Bacterium, Its Two Parasites,
and One Predatory Phage

**3:15PM - POSTER SESSION I
5:30PM**

**6:30PM - ASA BUSINESS MEETING /
8:30PM DINNER INDEPENDENTLY**

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DAY 3

Thursday, July 9

8:00AM - 9:00AM - REGISTRATION

9:00AM - 10:00AM - [SESSION VI] ANAEROBES IN GI HEALTH AND DISEASE

Moderator: Laura Cox, PhD

Harris Wang, PhD

Columbia University, NY

Metagenomic Editing of Commensal Bacteria in Situ Using CRISPR-Associated Transposases

Liping Zhao, PhD

Rutgers University, NJ

A Core Microbiome Signature as an Indicator of Health

Abdulwhab Shremo Msdi, PharmD

University of Houston, TX

Antibiotic Effects on Gut-Derived Short Chain Fatty Acids in Healthy Human Volunteers

10:00AM - 11:00AM - [SESSION VII] ANAEROBES IN REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND SKIN DISEASE

Moderator: David Fredricks, MD

Emily Balskus, PhD

Harvard University, MA

Glycan Metabolism by Anaerobes in the Human Reproductive Tract

Erica Bacab, BS

University of Nevada, NV

Sex Hormone Networks Underlying Sexual Dimorphism in *C. difficile* Infection

Rayssa Lima, MS

University of Kansas, KS

Cutibacterium acnes Disrupts *S. Ilugdunensis* Biofilm: Inhibition of Purine Biosynthesis Decreases Autolysis and Extracellular DNA Release

11:00AM - 11:15AM - COFFEE BREAK / EXHIBITS

11:15AM - 12:15PM - [SESSION VIII] ANAEROBES IN GUT-BRAIN AXIS

Moderator: Casey Theriot, PhD

Deiziane Costa, PhD and

Circle Warren, MD

University of Virginia, VA

Enteric Glia Response to *C. difficile* Toxin-Induced Cell Death

Paul Wilmes, PhD

University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

Systems Ecology of the Human Microbiome in Parkinson's Disease: from Measurements to Treatments

Laura Cox, PhD

Harvard University, MA

Anaerobic Strain-Specific Differences Shape Neurologic Health and Disease

12:15PM - 1:15PM - [SESSION IX] *C. DIFF*: CLINICAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGY UPDATES

Moderator: Kevin Garey, PharmD, MS

Taryn Eubank, PharmD, BCIDP

University of Houston, TX

Enterococcus Colonization Impact on *C. difficile* Infection

Rajita Menon, PhD

Vedanta Biosciences, MA

Impact of a Defined Bacterial Consortium on Intestinal Homeostasis in Patients with *C. difficile* Infection

Chetna Dureja, PhD

Texas A&M University, TX

Global Epidemiology of Reduced Susceptibility to Vancomycin and Impact of Mutations on Treatment of *C. difficile* Infection

1:15PM - DAY 3 CONCLUDES - FREE TIME TO EXPLORE NYC!

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DAY 4

Friday, July 10

8:00AM - 9:00AM - REGISTRATION

9:00AM - 10:15AM - [SESSION X] **C. DIFF II: CLINICAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGY UPDATES**

Moderator: *Cynthia Sears, MD*

Joseph Sorg, PhD

Texas A&M University, TX

Using Live Imaging to Investigate *C. difficile* Spore Outgrowth

Casey Theriot, PhD

North Carolina State University, NC

Microbiota Driven Bile Acid Metabolism and how it Affects *C. difficile* Colonization and Virulence

Hadley Beauregard, BS

Johns Hopkins University, MD

C. difficile Synthesizes Immunosuppressive Indol-3-Acetic Acid Through a Novel Pathway Inducible by Select Members of the Microbiome: a Potential Mechanism of *C. difficile* Persistence

Morgan McNellis, BS

Tufts University, MA

Structural Insight into how *Clostridioides difficile* Spores Sense Bile Acid Germinants

10:15AM - 11:00AM - [SESSION XI] **BIOLOGY OF FUSOBACTERIUM**

Moderator: *Sarah Kuehne, MSc, PhD, FHEA*

Falk Ponath, PhD

Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research, Germany

Gene Regulatory Networks and Stress Adaptation in *Fusobacterium nucleatum*

Chenggang Wu, PhD

University of Houston, TX

Outer Membrane Protein FomA is Essential for Membrane Integrity and Nutrient Uptake in *Fusobacterium nucleatum*

11:00AM - 11:15AM - COFFEE BREAK / EXHIBITS

11:15AM - 12:15PM - [SESSION XII] **ANAEROBES IN ANIMALS AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

Moderator: *Francisco A. Uzal, DVM, PhD*

Francisco Uzal, DVM, PhD

University of California, Davis, CA

Of Man and Other Animals: the Same Clostridial Diseases?

Jenessa Winston, DVM, PhD, DACVIM

Ohio State University, OH

Fecal Microbiota Transplantation from Lean Dogs to Obese Dogs Improves Insulin Sensitivity with Minimal Shifts in Core Microbial Functions

Dianjun Cao, DVM, MS, PhD

Long Island University, NY

Synergistic Interactions Among *Fusobacterium necrophorum*, *Bacteroides pyogenes*, and *Porphyromonas levii* in Bovine Metris

12:15PM - 1:15PM - [SESSION XIII] **ANAEROBIC RESISTANCE AND NOVEL TREATMENTS**

Moderator: *Krishna Rao, MD, MS*

Julian Hurdle, PhD

Texas A&M University, TX

Antimicrobial Resistance Mechanisms Driving the Discovery of New Therapies Against *C. difficile*

Anne-Catrin Uhlemann, MD, PhD

Columbia University, NY

Antimicrobial Resistance and the Gut Microbiome

Jordan E. Bisanz, PhD

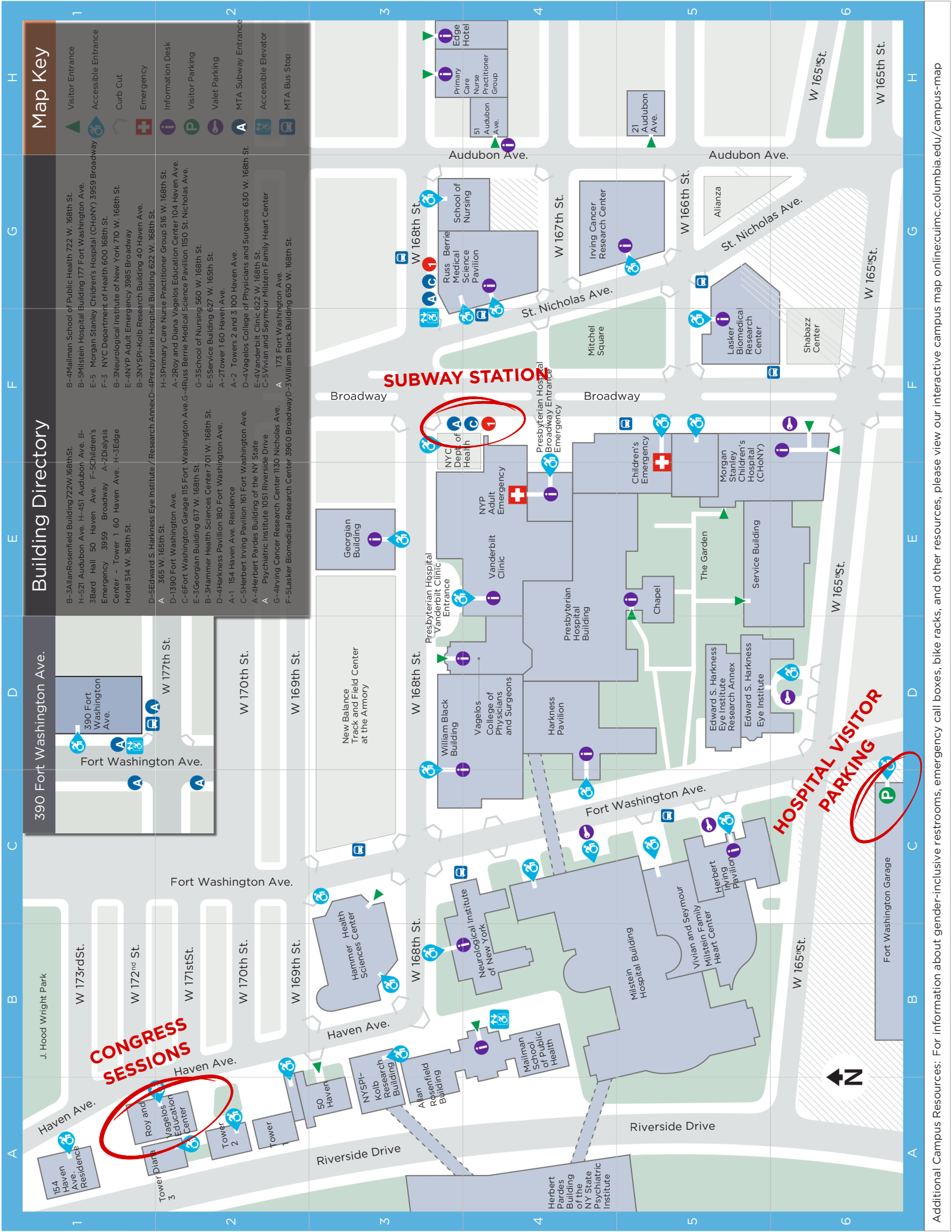
Pennsylvania State University, PA

Nutritional Suppression of *C. difficile*

1:15PM - 2:15 PM - LUNCH BREAK / POSTER SET-UP

2:15PM - 4:45 PM - POSTER SESSION II

6:30PM - 9:00PM - CONGRESS BANQUET / AWARDS



Building Directory

- B-3Allan Rosenfield Building 722 W. 168th St.
- B-4Mallman School of Public Health 722 W. 168th St.
- B-5Milstein Hospital Building 177 Fort Washington Ave.
- B-3Bard Hall 50 Haven Ave. F-5Children's Emergency 3959 Broadway A-2Dialysis Center - Tower 1 60 Haven Ave. H-3Edge Hotel 514 W. 168th St.
- D-5Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute / Research Annex D-4Presbyterian Hospital Building 622 W. 168th St.
- A-365 W. 165th St.
- D-1390 Fort Washington Ave.
- C-6Fort Washington Garage 115 Fort Washington Ave. G-4Russ Berrie Medical Science Pavilion 1150 St. Nicholas Ave.
- E-3Georgian Building 617 W. 168th St.
- B-3Hammer Health Sciences Center 701 W. 168th St.
- D-4Harkness Pavilion 180 Fort Washington Ave.
- A-1 154 Haven Ave. Residence
- C-5Herbert Irving Pavilion 161 Fort Washington Ave.
- A-4Herbert Pardes Building of the NY State Psychiatric Institute 1051 Riverside Drive
- G-4Irving Cancer Research Center 1130 Nicholas Ave. A 173 Fort Washington Ave.
- F-5Lasker Biomedical Research Center 3960 Broadway D-3William Black Building 650 W. 168th St.
- B-3Mallman School of Public Health 722 W. 168th St.
- B-5Milstein Hospital Building 177 Fort Washington Ave.
- E-5 Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital (CHONY) 3959 Broadway
- F-3 NYC Department of Health 600 168th St.
- B-3Neurological Institute of New York 710 W. 168th St.
- E-4NYP Adult Emergency 3985 Broadway
- B-3NYSPI-Kolb Research Building 40 Haven Ave.
- H-3Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Group 516 W. 168th St.
- A-2Roy and Diana Vagelos Education Center 104 Haven Ave.
- G-5School of Nursing 560 W. 168th St.
- A-2Tower 1 60 Haven Ave.
- A-2Towers 2 and 3 100 Haven Ave.
- D-4Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons 630 W. 168th St.
- E-4Vanderbilt Clinic 622 W. 168th St.
- C-5Vivian and Seymour Milstein Family Heart Center
- F-5William Black Building 650 W. 168th St.

390 Fort Washington Ave.

390 Fort Washington Ave. W 177th St. W 170th St. W 169th St. Fort Washington Ave.

CONGRESS SESSIONS

HOSPITAL VISITOR PARKING

SUBWAY STATION