

ACMAP 2026 Conference – Hershey, PA

Location: Holiday Inn Harrisburg–Hershey Convention Hotel, 604 Station Road, Grantville, PA

Scientific Program

Sunday, June 14		
		Travel Day; arrive at hotel
		Cocktail hour/social hour (informal)
Monday, June 15		
7:30 – 9:00 am		Registration Table Open (foyer) Poster Set-up Available
8:00 – 8:15 am		Introductions and Welcome
8:15 – 9:05 am		Plenary Talk
8:15 – 8:20 am		Introduction
8:20 – 9:05 am	P1	Jim Simon, Rutgers University <i>In Search of Indigenous and Naturalized Nutritional Food Plants and Medicinals: Case Studies from Sub-Sahara Africa</i>
9:05 – 10:20 am		1. Ethnobotany Moderated by Josh Kellogg, Penn State Assistant moderator: Savannah Anez, Penn State
9:05 – 9:10 am		Introduction to Session
9:10 – 9:30 am	O1	Holly Chittum , American Herbal Products Association & Pennsylvania State University <i>Valuation and equity in the Appalachian forest botanical trade: An analysis of a half-century of pricing</i>
9:30 – 9:50 am	O2	Erik Burkhart , Penn State University <i>The effect of harvest timing, plant part, and population on alkaloid content in forest grown goldenseal (Hydrastis canadensis L., Ranunculaceae): implications for agroforestry production</i>
9:50 – 10:00 am	O3	Aruna Weerasooriya , Prairie View A&M University <i>Integrating edible medicinal crops into southern Texas agroecosystems: Innovation for food security</i>
10:00 – 10:10 am	O4	Skyler Armstead , Fort Valley State University <i>Reproductive barriers, poor seed set and in vitro conservation of a federally threatened plant Scutellaria montana Chapman</i>
10:10 – 10:20 am		Q&A
10:20 – 10:45 am		Coffee Break
10:45 am – 12:00 pm		2. From Plants to Phytotherapy Moderated by Eric Burkhart, Penn State

		Assistant moderator: Shivani Godbole, Penn State College of Medicine
10:45 – 10:50 am		Introduction to Session
10:50 – 11:10 am	O5	Anait Levenson , Long Island University <i>Computational insights of pterostilbene derivatives and other stilbene compounds as potential inhibitors of MTA1/HDAC1-signaling in human prostate cancer</i>
11:10 – 11:30 am	O6	Pam Weathers , Worcester Polytechnic Institute <i>Phytochemistry of clonally propagated Artemisia annua L. in two US locations and commercial supplement quality.</i>
11:30 – 11:40 am	O7	Rong Di , Rutgers University <i>Mechanistic study of natural health promoting compounds in C. elegans</i>
11:40 – 11:50 am	O8	Harley DeFay , Thomas Jefferson University <i>Current status of hemp (Cannabis sativa L.) as a crop and uses pertaining to human health</i>
11:50 am – 12:00 pm		Q&A
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm		Lunch/workshop 1: Careers & Career Development
		Lindsay Caesar, James Madison University
		Adolfina Koroch, Journal of Medicinally Active Plants
		Diana Klaser Cheng, International Flavors & Fragrances
		Sonja Knowles, Procter & Gamble
1:30 – 2:45 pm		3. Phytonutrients & Metabolites Moderated by Lindsay Caesar, James Madison University Assistant moderator: Alyssa Zhan, Penn State
1:30 – 1:35 pm		Introduction to Session
1:35 – 1:55 pm	O9	Ian Tietjen , Wistar Institute <i>Molecular analysis of chemical compounds isolated from African medicinal plants traditionally used for HIV/AIDS management</i>
1:55 – 2:15 pm	O10	Antonia Kaz , Rutgers University <i>Potent surface antimicrobial activity of hydrolyzable tannins from Aleppo oak galls</i>
2:15 – 2:25 pm	O11	Jivendra Wickramasinghe , Prairie View A&M University <i>Bioactivity-guided pharmacological evaluation of antioxidant potential in selected anticancer plants from Sri Lankan Traditional medicine</i>
2:25 – 2:35 pm	O12	Xiaoling Chen , Pennsylvania State University <i>Investigation of Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor Modulators from Ganoderma lucidum</i>
2:35 – 2:45 pm		Q&A
2:45 – 4:45 pm		Coffee Break/Poster Session 1
5:00 – 6:00 pm		Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 16		
7:30 – 9:00 am		Registration Table Open (foyer)
		Poster Set-up Available
8:00 – 9:15 am		4. Plants and the Brain Moderated by Brian Piper, Geisinger College of Health Sciences Assistant moderator: Jackson Weaver, Penn State College of Medicine
8:00 – 8:05 am		Introduction to Session
8:05 – 8:25 am	O13	Wesley Raup-Konsavage , Penn State College of Medicine <i>Beyond THC and CBD: Minor cannabinoids for pain management</i>
8:25 – 8:45 am	O14	Stephen Sandelich , Penn State College of Medicine <i>Cannabis and the adolescent brain: Insights from the pediatric emergency department</i>
8:45 – 8:55 am	O15	Olivier Ndogo Eteme , University of Pennsylvania <i>Discovery of anti-Alzheimer cyclotides from the African plants <i>Allexis batangae</i> and <i>Allexis obanensis</i></i>
8:55 – 9:05 am	O16	Bhimanagouda Patil , Texas A&M University <i>Ghrelin receptor–dependent modulation of M1 macrophage polarization by bitter melon bioactives via the iNOS–NO Axis in RAW 264.7 macrophages</i>
9:05 – 9:15 am		Q&A
9:15 – 10:30 am		5. Delivery & Formulation Moderated by Josh Kellogg, Penn State Assistant moderator: Madhusa Ranaweera, Penn State
9:15 – 9:20 am		Introduction to Session
9:20 – 9:40 am	O17	Fabricio Medina-Bolivar , Arkansas State University <i>Elicitor-controlled production of anti-inflammatory prenylated and geranylated phenolics in hairy root cultures</i>
9:40 – 10:00 am	O18	Sarah Barr , University of North Carolina Wilmington <i>Metabolomic and LC-MS Profiling of Gastrointestinal Transformations in Ashwagandha</i>
10:00 – 10:10 am	O19	Oluwatobi Amusat , University of Arkansas <i>3D food printing enhances bioavailability and anti-inflammatory activity of lutein</i>
10:10 – 10:20 am	O20	Shivani Godbole , Penn State College of Medicine <i>A spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down: Oral administration of cannabinoids alleviates UC symptoms and improves disease condition</i>
10:20 – 10:30 am		Q&A
10:30 – 11:00 am		Coffee Break
11:00 am – 12:00 pm		Student Talks - Lightning Round Moderated by Diana Roopchand, Rutgers University

		Assistant moderator: Ben Hillers, Penn State College of Medicine
	OL1	Kirk Lawson, Pennsylvania State University
	OL2	Jeffrey Douyere, Rutgers University
	OL3	Madhusa Ranaweera, Pennsylvania State University
	OL4	Christopher Bender, Marshall University
	OL5	Jackson Weaver, Penn State College of Medicine
	OL6	Roberta Beard, University of British Columbia
	OL7	Tomiwa Oyedokun, Rutgers University
12:00 – 1:15 pm		6. Preclinical Considerations Moderated by Kent Vrana, Penn State College of Medicine Assistant moderator: Diana Sepulveda, Penn State College of Medicine
12:00 – 12:05 pm		Introduction to Session
12:05 – 12:25 pm	O21	Paola Rizzo , University of Ferrara (via Zoom) <i>Cardioprotective Effects of Urtica dioica Essential Oil in Isoproterenol-Induced Myocardial Infarction: In Vitro, In Vivo, and In Silico Investigations</i>
12:25 – 12:45 pm	O22	Nora Gray , Oregon Health and Science University <i>Advances In the Development of Centella Asiatica as a Cognitive Enhancing Therapy</i>
12:45 – 12:55 pm	O23	Trevor Bush , Yale University <i>Ellagitannins are Potent Inhibitors of Acid Sphingomyelinase</i>
12:55 – 1:05 pm	O24	Samuel Isife , Worcester Polytechnic Institute <i>Comparative Antifibrotic Activity of Artemisia Teas vs Artemisinin Derivatives in Human Dermal Fibroblasts</i>
1:05 – 1:15 pm		Q&A
1:15 – 1:30 pm		Group Photo
1:30 – 2:30 pm		Lunch and Networking (provided)
Free time/Explore On Your Own		
Wednesday, June 17		
8:00 – 9:15 am		7. Translating to the Clinic Moderated by Jeremy Johnson, University of Illinois, Chicago Assistant moderator: Teal Jordan, Penn State
8:00 – 8:05 am		Introduction to Session
8:05 – 8:25 am	O25	Diana Roopchand , Rutgers University <i>Dietary polyphenols and metabolic resilience: Insights from meta-omics</i>
8:25 – 8:45 am	O26	Monika Joshi , Penn State College of Medicine <i>Clinical trials in prostate cancer patients for Korean Angelica herbal supplement PK dose response and Phase I dose escalation</i>
8:45 – 8:55 am	O27	Hayley Palmer , Rutgers University

		<i>Investigation of hemp extract for cardiometabolic improvement in postmenopause</i>
8:55 – 9:05 am	O28	Brian Piper , Geisinger College of Health Sciences <i>Evidence-based medicine up in smoke?: Examination of certifications for medical cannabis for glaucoma</i>
9:05 – 9:15 am		Q&A
9:15 – 10:30 am		8. Nutrition, Aging, Microbiome Moderated by Sun-Ok Lee, University of Arkansas Assistant moderator: Nathan Morris, Penn State College of Medicine
9:15 – 9:20 am		Introduction to Session
9:20 – 9:40 am	O29	Joshua Lambert , Pennsylvania State University <i>The Impact of Factors Along the Soils, Plants, and Consumers Continuum on the Anti-inflammatory and Hepatoprotective Efficacy of Cocoa</i>
9:40 – 10:00 am	O30	Yuanyuan Li , University of Maryland <i>Health Benefits of Caffeine Consumption in Obesity and Breast Cancer</i>
10:00 – 10:10 am	O31	Melanie Odenkirk , Colorado State University <i>ESI Instrumentation Impacts on Metabolomic Analysis of Food</i>
10:10 – 10:20 am	O32	Chatrawee Shepard , Marshall University <i>Bioactive natural products in oolong tea promote healthy aging and neuroprotection across organisms</i>
10:20 – 10:30 am		Q&A
10:30 – 11:00 am		Coffee Break
11:00 – 11:50 am		Plenary Talk
11:00 – 11:05 am		Introduction
11:05 – 11:50 am	P2	Nazim Sekeroglu , Gaziantep University <i>Crop By-products: Novel and Sustainable Resources of Medicinally Active Compounds for Pharmaceutical and Cosmeceutical Industries</i>
12:00 – 1:30 pm		Lunch/workshop 2: Data Presentation
1:30 – 2:45 pm		9. Emerging Medicinal Plants Moderated by Wes Raup-Konsavage, Penn State College of Medicine Assistant moderator: Xiaoling Chen, Penn State
1:30 – 1:35 pm		Introduction to Session
1:35 – 1:55 pm	O33	Sara Jane Ward , Temple University <i>Cannabis/Kratom Interactions in Rodent Models of Pain</i>
1:55 – 2:15 pm	O34	Heather Bradshaw , Indiana University <i>Long-term outcomes in mild traumatic head injury rats and the use of Psilocybin potential therapeutic: evidence from lipidomics profiles.</i>
2:15 – 2:25 pm	O35	Savannah Anez , Pennsylvania State University

		<i>Ethno-directed study of ghost pipe (Monotropa uniflora) reveals in vivo analgesic activity</i>
2:25 – 2:35 pm	O36	Teal Jordan , Pennsylvania State University <i>Showcasing applied projects in botanical chemical characterization</i>
2:35 – 2:45 pm		Q&A
2:45 – 4:45 pm		Coffee Break/Poster Session 2
6:00 – 8:00 pm		Gala Dinner/Awards/Closing