Emerging Technologies for Rapid Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases

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Thursday, December 11th 2014
12:15-1:15 p.m.

Leonard Hall
UNE, Biddeford Campus

Lunch will be provided

Hosted by: Meghan May, Ph.D.
Sponsored by: UNECOM Biomedical Sciences Department

Dr. Relich graduated from Clarion University of Pennsylvania in 2004 and 2005 with Bachelor of Science degrees in Molecular Biology & Biotechnology and Medical Laboratory Science. Following graduation, Ryan became board certified as a Medical Laboratory Scientist by the American Society for Clinical Pathology. Subsequently, Ryan pursued a Ph.D. in Microbiology at Miami University. While at Miami, Ryan studied the cellular, molecular, and structural underpinnings of several mycoplasma species, including the human pathogens Mycoplasma pneumoniae and Mycoplasma genitalium. After graduation, in 2011, Ryan joined the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis as a Clinical Microbiology Fellow. In the summer of 2012, Ryan was promoted to Visiting Assistant Professor and became the inaugural Fellow of the IU School of Medicine’s Medical and Public Health Laboratory Microbiology postgraduate training fellowship. Ryan recently began a clinical-track assistant professorship at the IU School of Medicine. Ryan will also eventually take the helm of the ASM CPEP-accredited Medical and Public Health Laboratory Microbiology fellowship program and assume co-directorship of the Clinical Research and Clinical Trial Group within the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at IU.

Ryan has served as the PI on several industry- and University-sponsored clinical research programs, including studies that evaluated cutting-edge molecular and mass spectrometry-based platforms for the detection and identification of microbial and viral pathogens, as well as antimicrobial resistance mechanism-encoding nucleic acids, from a diverse array of clinical specimens. Ryan is a co-founder and leader of the IU Health Pathology Laboratory Special Pathogens Response Team, a group that was recently formed in response to the first case of MERS-CoV infection in the Western Hemisphere, which was diagnosed in a traveler returning from Saudi Arabia to Indiana, as well as the ongoing Ebola virus disease outbreak. In addition, Ryan is a medical microbiology consultant for the Indiana Pathology Institute and is a member of the Infectious Disease Pathology consultation service. Ryan and his wife, Amanda, currently reside west of Indianapolis with their 3-year-old son, Sam, and their 1-year-old daughter, Isabella. On a side note, Ryan wanted to name his daughter “Ella,” so that his children could be introduced as “Sam an’ Ella” – get it? However, Ryan’s wife, also a medical laboratory scientist quickly put the kibosh on that one.