

Jacques Ravel, Ph.D., Elected to American Academy of Microbiology

Jacques Ravel, associate director of the Institute for Genome Sciences and professor of microbiology and immunology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, has been elected to Fellowship in the American Academy of Microbiology. The academy is the honorific leadership group within the American Society for Microbiology (ASM). Membership to the group recognizes excellence, originality and creativity in the microbiological sciences.

Dr. Ravel will be recognized at the Academy Fellows Luncheon and Meeting at the 113th ASM General Meeting in Denver on Tuesday, May 21.

Dr. Ravel's research focuses on the human microbiome, the organisms that live on and in the human body. Specifically, he examines the relationship between the microbiome and women's health. Some of Dr. Ravel's work is part of the Human Microbiome Project, a long-term National Institutes of Health-funded project to examine the human microbiome and its relationship with the body and health. He is also a noted researcher in the emerging field of microbial forensics. Dr. Ravel's laboratory is funded through grants from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Justice.

He joined the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 2007 as an associate professor and research scientist at the Institute for Genome Sciences. Previously, from 2002 to 2007 he was an assistant investigator at The Institute for Genomic Research (TIGR) in Rockville, Md. Dr. Ravel earned his bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from the University of Nancy I in France. He earned his master's degree in microbiology from the same institution. In 1999, Dr. Ravel completed his Ph.D. in microbial ecology at the University of Maryland, College Park. In 2002 he completed training as a postdoctoral fellow in the chemistry department at The Johns Hopkins University.