

## A. ASM

TITLE: RE-IMAGNING MICROBIAL WEALTH: Integrating a Microbial Investment Portfolio

INTRODUCTION: In 2012 we introduced our Hologenomic Center, ([www.globalbugs.com](http://www.globalbugs.com).), highlighting “Dual Citizenship” and the unrecognized health importance of our evolving Human Microbiota, good and bad. It was a part of our educational platform using our “Culture Plate Gang “ to further unmask beneficial microbes and our politically correct theme “Don’t trash your Microbiota”. (ASM, 2016, Boston).

GOALS/PURPOSE: Here, we wanted to create “meaningful change” in microbial education and its significance, by creating a parallel strategy to traditional financial planning and banking, recognizing Microbial Wealth defined by a Microbial Portfolio, with gains (probiotics) and losses (aging) as examples. It was a continuation of a unique teaching platform, public health professionals to the public, first presented in New Orleans. (ASM, 2017).

METHODS: We initially illustrated diseases and health with our Microbial Clocks, linking 8 chronic diseases with 4 age groups and economics. Here, using the same diseases, highlighting autism and aging, we addressed gains and losses of selected phyla over time using published data, creating microbial fingerprints as part of a microbial wealth and health. Our concepts, vocabulary and organizations were magnified in meetings with a 1) professional money manager, 2) a tax accountant, and 3) CPA.

RESULTS: We recognized the similarities to a Professional Money Manager and our Gut microbiota with its established links to a variety of diseases and health, highlighting its value and significance in education, particularly to health professionals, medical/dental students and CE. Speaking in financial terms, gains and losses, assets and debts, helped in WVU OLLI( Osher Life Long Learning Institute) lectures, particularly for older participants. In all cases, the Microbial Wealth platform and Microbiology Re-Imagined coupled with our Microbial Clocks and “Culture Plate Gang”, stimulated much discussion and a heightened awareness of beneficial microbes, in general and “we live in a microbial world”, generally, with “don’t trash it” via overuse of antibiotics. In addressing assets and gains, psycobiotics for aging, plus nutrition, took on a new meaning, leveraging your microbial assets.

CONSLUSION: Teaching microbiology in this electronic era has magnified its difficult and unique position. By integrating our previous platforms, including 11 puppets (ASM 2019, San Francisco) with a new theme of Microbiology Re-Imagined, paralleling recognizable financial terms, has been unimaginably successful, both to faculty and students.