

SEACM NEWSFLASH



SEACM has Big Plans

Founded 1978

SEACM successfully produces quality Spring and Annual meetings each year. The basic format has stayed the same for a record 41 years. We have made minor adjustments along the way. Our limited resources blocked our access for online development. We tried to get involved online, but SEACM's first forays were slow, mostly due to cost. Technology prices have decreased, allowing SEACM access to the digital world.

We still have a long

way to go on our journey to improve SEACM for our membership. The SEACM Board of Directors is working to



change our format to better serve you. *SEACM will no longer provide State Spring Meetings. We are moving online!* We will

continue to support our Live Annual Meetings. SEACM current membership levels are about 50% lower than a few decades ago. Our Annual meeting used to have two full days of workshops and day and a half of presentations. We cut back on one day of workshops as travel restrictions have become a way to save money. SEACM used to be one of the only means to learn from the experts. Current information was published in expensive journals and required a trip out of the lab and

to the library! Labs didn't have PC's with internet access. They did have seasoned staff and many even enjoyed fully staffed labs.

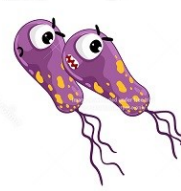
Staffing shortages are the new normal. Electronic devices are here to stay and demand our time. Accountants favor on-line training to save travel expenses keeps staff in the lab. Students have more career choices and newly created ones enticing them from choosing medical lab science for their future. Together, we can learn from



What's Next?

Exciting changes are coming this spring SEACM BOD will work to maintain the value of Live in-person training for our Fall Annual meeting. Our new online format will allow all members to participate and reduce costs. This is a huge

learning curve for our organization. Shifting from spring meetings to online education will happen in stages. We expect a multiyear plan as we work out the logistics. We will keep



SEACM is the premier source for southeastern clinical microbiology education. Our goal is to improve to meet your educational objectives.