

2020 STANDARDS SUMMIT

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Dr. Felicia L. Cianciarulo, Ph.D.

Professor of Biology at Carlow University

Felicia's Bio

Felicia L. Cianciarulo, Ph.D. is a Professor of Biology at Carlow University, Pittsburgh, PA. Dr. Cianciarulo is also the proprietor of FLC Scientific and Technical Consulting. She received her B.S. in Physical and Life Sciences with an emphasis in Biology from Wilson College, Pennsylvania Teaching Certification from Carlow University and Ph.D. in Molecular Biology, Microbiology and Genetics from the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Cianciarulo's research interests include microbiology, bioremediation and designing microorganisms to biodegrade environmental contaminants, mycology and fungal contamination of pre-and post construction materials, fungal and sewage related contamination in buildings and water quality, especially the healthiness of Pittsburgh's waterways.

She has assisted in teaching portions of courses as part of the Restoration Sciences/Microban team of instructors and has taught the microbiology and sewage portions of the IICRC Water Restoration Technician (WRT) and Applied Microbial Remediation Technician (AMRT) training.

Felicia's Talking Points



Biofilms: A Complex Microcosm

Biofilms are an integral part of life and colonize the environment and living organisms. These microorganisms have developed the ability to maintain and thrive in the biofilm environment by forming a symbiotic relationship with the other members of the biofilm ecosystem.

This presentation will discuss the different types of biofilms of the body and environment with emphasis on pathogenic and non-pathogenic species. Additionally, the composition of each biofilm is complex and integral to the survival of the biofilm.

This extracellular matrix (ECM) is very important in communication between cells and survival of cells in the biofilm. The composition and importance of the ECM will be discussed. Due to the complex and persistent nature of biofilms, drug and antibiotic resistance remain a problem from a remediation and health perspective.

