

# Department of Immunology

## Newsletter

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VOL I – ISSUE 9

May 2013

### **Message from the Chair, Dr. Juan Carlos Zúñiga-Pflücker**

Over the weekend of May 11-12, the Undergraduate Immunology Student Association (IMMSA) hosted the 5th annual Ontario-Quebec Undergraduate Immunology Conference (OQUIC). I want to congratulate the outgoing IMMSA co-presidents, Jennifer Yam and Angela Li, and the IMMSA executive council for their superb organizational work of a very successful event. You can read more about the conference, which had nearly 30 undergraduate presenters, under the IMMSA section below.

Last month another excellent issue of IMMpress Magazine was released, and faculty and alumni should be on the lookout for their own copy arriving shortly. Once again, congrats to the IMMpress team for their brilliant initiative in creating another outstanding issue.

As pointed out by IGSA, the next Departmental Retreat will be on June 18th-19th, this is a great opportunity for postdocs in the department to present their work and for some of our senior graduate students and faculty to showcase their recent findings. We have a great keynote speaker: Dr. Adrian Hayday, and the retreat activities promise to be as fun as ever, if not more fun than ever. Please register [here](#).

A final exciting note, on Monday May 27th, at the start of the Easton Seminar, I will announce the winner of the new BD-Biosciences Immunology Post-Doctoral Lecture Prize, and as noted below the BD-BIPDLP will take place on Monday June 17th, same time & place as the Easton Seminars.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS



### **Biosciences Immunology Post-Doctoral Prize**

**Lecture and Award Presentation: TBA**  
**Monday, June 17, 2013**  
**Room 2172, 11:00 a.m.**

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## UPCOMING SEMINARS

### **EASTON SEMINARS**

will resume in September

### **GRADUATE SEMINARS**

will resume in September

## SPECIAL SEMINARS

### **Dr. Neil Barclay**

EP Abraham Professor of Chemical Pathology  
Sir William Dunn School of Pathology  
University of Oxford  
Oxford, UK

(Host: Dr. Michelle Letarte)

*“The Leukocyte Surface – Complexity, Structure, Interactions, Evolution, and Disulfide bonds.”*

Monday, June 3, 2013  
11:00 a.m., Room 2172 MSB

### **Woong-Kyung Suh, Ph.D.**

Research Unit Director  
Immune Regulation Laboratory  
Institut de recherches cliniques de Montreal  
Montreal, Qc

(Host: Dr. David Williams)

*“Regulation of T cell immunity by ICOS and B7-H4.”*

Wednesday, June 5, 2013  
2:00 p.m., Room 2173 MSB

### **Toshinori Nakayama, MD, PhD**

Department of Immunology  
Graduate School of Medicine  
Chiba University, Japan

(Host: Dr. Naoto Hirano)

*“Pathogenic memory Th2 cells in the airway.”*

Wednesday, June 12, 2013  
1:00 p.m., Room 2172 MSB

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### CONGRATULATIONS

#### PhD

Dr. Julia Gao (*Zhang Lab*) April 30, 2013

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### DEADLINES/REMINDERS

**May 2013 / ASAP (Reclassifying and Qualifying students):** Proposals submitted and approved. Your supervisor and each member of your supervisory committee will need to submit a [Reclassification / Qualifying Approval Form](#). You also need to suggest examiners by filling out an [Examining Committee Pre-approval Form](#) – to be approved by the [graduate coordinator](#). Supervisors and committee members will be asked to “Save the Date” for transfer exams via Doodle poll.

#### Immunology Tonight

Course evaluations for the Winter term are now available [online](#) and are due by May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 by 5:00 p.m.

#### Awards

[CGS Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplements for CGS Award holders](#): Hard-copy applications submitted to the SGS Graduate Awards Office by May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013 by 4:00 p.m.

[CGS/PROQUEST Distinguished Dissertation Award](#): Applications submitted via single PDF to the [Graduate Office](#) by June 3, 2013.

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### IMM450Y 2013-14

Interested undergraduate students are invited to submit a ballot for the IMM450Y Research Project in Immunology course. Ballot forms are available on the Immunology website and must be submitted not later than June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Further information and instructions are available on the website. Please note that priority of selection for this course is given to fourth-year Immunology specialist program students.

Faculty who are interested in supervising one or more IMM450Y project students beginning in September 2013 are invited to contact Anna Frey ([undergraduate.immunology@utoronto.ca](mailto:undergraduate.immunology@utoronto.ca)) with information on the number of students they are recruiting and a brief description (1-2 sentences) of available projects. The IMM450Y course was designed to provide students with a feel for laboratory research by allowing them to actively participate in a research project. Students are expected to work at least 7 hours per week (normally 1 full day or 2 half days) on the project. Questions about faculty participation in the IMM450Y course should be directed toward the Course Coordinator, Alberto Martin.

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## IGSA

### UPCOMING IGSA SOCIAL EVENTS

#### **May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Blue Jays Game**

Are you sick of hearing “GO LEAFS GO” resounding from every street corner? If so, take a break from our nation’s favourite sport and head out to the ballgame with IGSA. Tickets are limited, so contact Jordan ([Jordan.schwartz@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:Jordan.schwartz@mail.utoronto.ca)) or Natalia ([natalia.pikor@utoronto.ca](mailto:natalia.pikor@utoronto.ca)) ASAP!

**Location:** Sky Dome (or “Rogers Centre”, if you want to be all technical about it)

**Time:** 7:00pm (meeting at Gate 10 at 6:30pm)

**Cost:** Free (\$10 for guests)

#### **May 28<sup>th</sup> - Blackboard Immunology**

Dr. Goetz Ehrhardt is your host for the next session of the ever popular BBI. Be sure to contact your BBI reps to register.

**Location:** The Fox and the Fiddle

**Time:** 6:30pm

**Cost:** Free

#### **June 28<sup>th</sup> – Career Development Workshop**

Registration is still open for the new joint initiative by the Departments of Immunology and Biochemistry to inform graduate students about the career paths available both within and outside of academia. Sign up today at <http://www.asbmb.org/careersymposia.aspx>.

#### **IMM Sports- Softball**

Registration is now open for the summer softball season. Contact Eric Gracey at [eric.gracey@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:eric.gracey@mail.utoronto.ca) to sign up.

### **2013 IMMUNOLOGY RETREAT**

Singing professors, bonfires, trail-blazing research and, of course, the Fish Dip. That’s right folks- the annual IMM retreat is nearly here. Be sure to register [online](#) by **Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup>**. This is one retreat you won’t want to miss!

**Oh, and first years...** No data? No problem! This year, IGSA is sponsoring an award for the poster with the “Most Negative Data”. Sign up today!

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## IMMSA

IMMSA wishes everyone a wonderful summer.

A special thanks goes to all IMMSA volunteers for helping out at this year's Ontario-Quebec Undergraduate Immunology Conference (OQUIC 2013). And a sincere thank you to all of the OQUIC participants, our wonderful judges Eric Gracey, Patrycja Thompson, & Yuriy Baglaenko, and our amazing keynote speakers Dr. Naoto Hirano & Dr. Jennifer Gommerman.

We want to congratulate our three winners:

1st place - Matt Douglas-Vail (University of Toronto)

2nd place - Thomas Ying (McGill University)

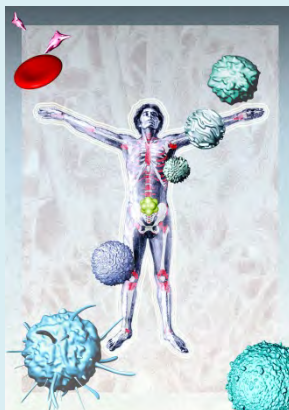
3rd place - Ashlee Woolfson (Queen's University)

Last but not least, please keep in touch with IMMSA.

## Toronto Human Immunology Network

<http://www.humanimmunology.utoronto.ca>

email: [humanimmunology@utoronto.ca](mailto:humanimmunology@utoronto.ca)



### Upcoming events:

**2013 Network symposium: Immunobiology of Chronic viral infection June 4, 2013, Li Ka Shing Knowledge Center** Co-chairs: Gary Levy, U of T Transplantation Institute, and Tania Watts, Immunology. Keynote speakers: Rafick Sékaly (VGTI) and Barbara Rehermann (NIH). *For free registration go to:* <http://humanimmunologysymposium.eventbrite.ca/>  
Registration deadline: May 24, 2013.

*Suggestions for future panel discussions/symposia are welcome.*

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### PUBLICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY (April 2013) <sup>(1-14)</sup>

1. Becker, H. M., J. Rullo, M. Chen, M. Ghazarian, S. Bak, H. Xiao, J. B. Hay, and M. I. Cybulsky. 2013. alpha 1 beta 1 Integrin-Mediated Adhesion Inhibits Macrophage Exit from a Peripheral Inflammatory Lesion. *Journal of Immunology* 190:4305-4314.
2. Berger, A., C. Frelin, D. K. Shah, P. Benveniste, R. Herrington, N. P. Gerard, J.C. Zuniga-Pflucker, N. N. Iscove, and C. J. Paige. 2013. Neurokinin-1 Receptor Signalling Impacts Bone Marrow Repopulation Efficiency. *Plos One* 8.
3. Clark, D. A. 2013. Do anti-TNF-alpha drugs increase cancer risk in rheumatoid arthritis patients? *Inflammopharmacology* 21:125-127.
4. Clouatre, E., R. Pinto, J. Banfield, and M. G. Jeschke. 2013. Incidence of Hot Tap Water Scalds After the Introduction of Regulations in Ontario. *Journal of Burn Care & Research* 34:243-248.
5. Huang, S. S. H., Z. Lin, D. Banner, A. J. Leon, S. G. Paquette, B. Rubin, S. Rubino, Y. Guan, D. J. Kelvin, and A. A. Kelvin. 2013. Immunity toward H1N1 influenza hemagglutinin of historical and contemporary strains suggests protection and vaccine failure. *Scientific Reports* 3.
6. Mavrommatis, E., E. N. Fish, and L. C. Platanias. 2013. The Schlafen Family of Proteins and Their Regulation by Interferons. *Journal of Interferon and Cytokine Research* 33:206-210.
7. Osborne, B. J. W., P. M. Sheth, T. J. Yi, C. Kovacs, E. Benko, C. la Porte, S. Huibner, A. Q. Le, R. Danroth, B. Baraki, T. Mazzulli, Z. L. Brumme, and R. Kaul. 2013. Impact of Antiretroviral Therapy Duration and Intensification on Isolated Shedding of HIV-1 RNA in Semen. *Journal of Infectious Diseases* 207:1226-1234.
8. Pau, E., C. Loh, G. E. S. Minty, N. H. Chang, and J. E. Wither. 2013. Identification of a lupus-susceptibility locus leading to impaired clearance of apoptotic debris on New Zealand Black chromosome 13. *Genes and immunity* 14:154-161.
9. Rast, J. P., and K. M. Buckley. 2013. Lamprey immunity is far from primitive. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 110:5746-5747.
10. Rong, Y., H. Song, S. You, B. Zhu, H. Zang, Y. Zhao, Y. Li, Z. Wan, H. Liu, A. Zhang, L. Xiao, and S. Xin. 2013. Association of Toll-like Receptor 3 Polymorphisms with Chronic Hepatitis B and Hepatitis B-Related Acute-on-Chronic Liver Failure. *Inflammation* 36:413-418.
11. Sanchez-Macedo, N., J. Feng, B. Faubert, N. Chang, A. Elia, E. J. Rushing, K. Tsuchihara, D. Bungard, S. L. Berger, R. G. Jones, T. W. Mak, and K. Zaugg. 2013. Depletion of the novel p53-target gene carnitine palmitoyltransferase 1C delays tumor growth in the neurofibromatosis type I tumor model. *Cell Death and Differentiation* 20:659-668.



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12. Smith, J. J., S. Kuraku, C. Holt, T. Sauka-Spengler, N. Jiang, M. S. Campbell, M. D. Yandell, T. Manousaki, A. Meyer, O. E. Bloom, J. R. Morgan, J. D. Buxbaum, R. Sachidanandam, C. Sims, A. S. Garruss, M. Cook, R. Krumlauf, L. M. Wiedemann, S. A. Sower, W. A. Decatur, J. A. Hall, C. T. Amemiya, N. R. Saha, K. M. Buckley, J. P. Rast, S. Das, M. Hirano, N. McCurley, P. Guo, N. Rohner, C. J. Tabin, P. Piccinelli, G. Elgar, M. Ruffier, B. L. Aken, S. M. J. Searle, M. Muffato, M. Pignatelli, J. Herrero, M. Jones, C. T. Brown, Y.-W. Chung-Davidson, K. G. Nanlohy, S. V. Libants, C.-Y. Yeh, D. W. McCauley, J. A. Langeland, Z. Pancer, B. Fritsch, P. J. de Jong, B. Zhu, L. L. Fulton, B. Theising, P. Flicek, M. E. Bronner, W. C. Warren, S. W. Clifton, R. K. Wilson, and W. Li. 2013. Sequencing of the sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*) genome provides insights into vertebrate evolution. *Nature Genetics* 45:415-421.
13. Wang, B. X., L. C. Plataniias, and E. N. Fish. 2013. STAT Activation in Malignancies: Roles in Tumor Progression and in the Generation of Antineoplastic Effects of IFNs. *Journal of Interferon and Cytokine Research* 33:181-188.
14. Wong, R. W., A. Balachandran, M. A. Ostrowski, and A. Cochrane. 2013. Digoxin Suppresses HIV-1 Replication by Altering Viral RNA Processing. *Plos Pathogens* 9.

*We'd like to hear from you!*  
*Comments or Questions – Please contact:*  
[Immunology.newsletter@utoronto.ca](mailto:Immunology.newsletter@utoronto.ca)