

Department of Immunology

Newsletter

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VOL I – ISSUE 1

September 2012

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

I am delighted to start what I hope will be a new tradition for our Department, the monthly Department of Immunology Newsletter. The goal of this newsletter is to have an additional tool with which to communicate upcoming events within our Department – such as our Easton, special and graduate seminars, and student sponsored events – and to highlight achievements from our trainees and faculty. The newsletter will also provide a platform for sharing departmental initiatives, and showcasing recent publications from our Department.

WELCOME

Graduate Students

- Justin Tze Ho Chan
- Jong Bok Lee
- Andrey Mikhaylov
- Catia Taniela Perciani
- Michael St. Paul
- Parimala Vidya
- Angela Chi Zhou
- Samaneh Zoghi
- Justen Hoffman Russell
- Charles Maisonneuve
- Marion Janet Parsons
- Jastaranpreet Singh
- Tian Sun
- Shang Xiang
- Jun Yu Zhou

Undergraduate IMM450 Students

- Ksenia Bezverbnaya
- Edward Chen
- Amit Chopra
- Tingxi Tim Guo
- Matthew Haaland
- Helen Loo Yau
- Jessie MacDonald
- Jennifer Yam
- Xin Yi Zhang
- Joanne Britto
- Wenxin Chen
- Lisa Ellison
- Xinyi Cynthia Guo
- Robert Kay
- Vivian Ly
- Aleksandar Trajkovski
- Anna Zakharova

UPCOMING SEMINARS

EASTON SEMINARS –

October 2012

Room 2172 MSB at 11:10 a.m.

October 01

- David Underhill, PhD
“How to get in touch with your inner fungus: Innate immunity to commensal fungi.”
(Host: Dr. D. Philpott)

October 22

- Daniel Winer, MD, FRCPC
“Title: tba”
(Host: Dr. D. Philpott)

October 29

- D. Branch Moody, MD
“CD1 Beyond NKT cells.”
(Host: Dr. T. Mallevaey)

GRADUATE SEMINARS –

October 2012

Room 3171 MSB at 10:00 a.m.

October 01

- Craig Hawkshaw (Fish, E.)
- Dylan Johnson (Ohashi, P.)

October 15

- Monan Angela Zhang (Dunn, S.)
- Leesa Pennell (Fish, E.)

October 22

- Matthew Sorbara (Philpott, D.)
- Nafiseh Talaei (Wither, J.)

October 29

- Charles Tran (Ohashi, P.)
- Christina Kirkham (Carlyle, J.)

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SPECIAL SEMINARS

October 3rd, 2012

- Dr. Tak Mak
Director, Advanced Medical Discovery Institute
Director, The Campbell Family Institute for Breast Cancer Research
Senior Scientist, Division of Stem Cell and Developmental Biology Advanced
Medical Discovery Institute/ Ontario Cancer Institute
Dept. of Immunology and Dept. Medical Biophysics

Trinity College Key's Lecture

George Ignatieff Theatre

15 Devonshire Place

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Future Anti-Cancer Targets: Putting the Cart Before the Horses?

October 12th, 2012

- Dr. David Michael Allman
Associate Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine,
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

(Hosts: Drs. C. Guidos and J. Danska)
Time/Location: TBA
Title: *TBA*

October 30th, 2012

- Dr. Warren S. Pear
Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine,
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

(Host: Dr. C. Guidos)
Time/Location: TBA
Title: *TBA*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Departmental Faculty Meeting – Monday, October 15, 11:10am,
Medical Sciences Building, Room 2317

CONGRATULATIONS

PhD

Dr. Jason Fine (Carlyle lab) – July 13, 2012

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IGSA

NEW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Co-Presidents: Alessandra Ferzoco & Elisa Porfilio

Social Representatives: Simon Eng, Natalia Pikor, Jordan Schwartz, Linda Zhao & Jerry Zhou

Division IV Representative: Kieran Manion

CUPE & GSU Representatives: Nichole Escalante & Nyrie Israelian

Blackboard Immunology Representatives: Darrin Gao & Angela Zhang

Community Outreach Coordinators: Michael Le & Patrycja Thompson

Sports Representatives: Eric Gracey & Achire Mbanwi

Peer-to-Peer Councillor: Charles Tran

Webmaster: Mayra Cruz

IGSA Advisor: Leesa Pennell

IGSA EVENTS

Sept. 29 IGSA is going to Nuit Blanche – Contact Simon for tour plan (simon.eng@utoronto.ca)

Sept. tba First Year Dinner – It's back in full force! Contact Nichole, Darrin or Mayra with questions. Date TBD! (nichole.escalante@mail.utoronto.ca, darrin.gao@mail.utoronto.ca, mayra.cruz@mail.utoronto.ca)

Oct. 03 Terry Fox Run – Contact Jerry for sign up details (jerry.zhoujy@gmail.com)

Oct. tba Charity Games Night – Stay Tuned for EPICNESS

Oct. 31 Interdepartmental Halloween Party – need we say more?

IGSA NEW INITIATIVES

Alessandra and Elisa are extremely excited to announce several new initiatives for the upcoming academic year (and beyond!).

- 1. Career Development Seminars** will be hosted in a similar fashion as BBI. Each seminar will be themed and will have graduates from our department who currently work in a related position available for you to talk to. These sessions will be small and space will be limited, so stay tuned for RSVP details.

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- 2. Upper Year Mentors** will now be available at or very near all of the institutions with Immunology trainees. Thank you to the upper years that have agreed to participate, and watch your emails for the list of participating mentors. Feel free to contact any mentor with your questions! Also, if you are interested in setting up a practice seminar for major talks/exams/first year seminars, contact Alessandra or Elisa (alessandra.ferzoco@sri.utoronto.ca, elisa.porfilio@utoronto.ca)
- 3. Summer Camping Trip** is something we're looking into. If you would be interested in this type of initiative for next summer (2013) email Alessandra or Elisa.

IMMSA

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all new and current Undergraduate Immunology students. The Immunology Students' Association has many things planned this year and we can't wait to start sharing them with you. First off, we have **Council Elections** this week. Next, we have our **Welcome Back Lunch** for faculty and students in the Immunology Department. It will be taking place on Tuesday, September 25 in the Trinity Junior Common Room from 12-2pm. It will be a great opportunity to meet your fellow immunology students as well as your professors. Finally, we have our annual **Graduate Seminar** on Thursday, September 27, 1-2 pm in MSB 7231. This is a must-attend for all interested in pursuing research, especially in the Immunology department. Emails will be sent before each event and if you did not receive our email, you can reach us at: immsa.immunology@gmail.com. Hope everyone has a good semester!

Regards,
Jennifer and Angela

DEADLINES/REMINDERS

Awards

Vanier NSERC/CIHR: Department Deadline: Monday, October 1st, 2012

NSERC PGSM/PGSD: Department Deadline: Friday, October 12th, 2012

OGS: Department Deadline: TBA

CIHR CGSM: Department Deadline: Monday, November 19th, 2012

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Graduate Funding Agreement

Students' portion completed (to be reviewed by Supervisor): ASAP, before September 27th, 2012

Approved by Supervisor (to be reviewed by the department): ASAP, before October 18th, 2012

Graduation

Final date to submit post-defense doctoral thesis to SGS for Fall convocation: October 5th, 2012

Final date to submit post-defense masters thesis to SGS for Fall convocation, **without fees being charged for the Fall session**: October 5th, 2012

PUBLICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY (July-August 2012) (1-16)

1. Yu, K., and R. M. Gorczynski. 2012. Persistence of Gene Expression Profile in CD200 Transgenic Skin Allografts Is Associated With Graft Survival on Retransplantation to Normal Recipients. *Transplantation* 94:36-42.
2. Sakhdari, A., S. Mujib, B. Vali, F. Y. Yue, S. MacParland, K. Clayton, R. B. Jones, J. Liu, E. Y. Lee, E. Benko, C. Kovacs, J. Gommerman, R. Kaul, and M. A. Ostrowski. 2012. Tim-3 Negatively Regulates Cytotoxicity in Exhausted CD8(+) T Cells in HIV Infection. *Plos One* 7.
3. Mir, K. D., S. E. Bosinger, M. Gasper, O. Ho, J. G. Else, J. M. Brenchley, D. J. Kelvin, G. Silvestri, S.-I. Hu, and D. L. Sodora. 2012. Simian Immunodeficiency Virus-Induced Alterations in Monocyte Production of Tumor Necrosis Factor Alpha Contribute to Reduced Immune Activation in Sooty Mangabeys. *Journal of Virology* 86:7605-7615.
4. Mallevaey, T., and T. Selvanantham. 2012. Strategy of lipid recognition by invariant natural killer T cells: 'one for all and all for one'. *Immunology* 136:273-282.
5. Li, H., R. M. Nepal, A. Martin, and S. A. Berger. 2012. Induction of apoptosis in E mu-myc lymphoma cells in vitro and in vivo through calpain inhibition. *Experimental Hematology* 40:548-563.
6. Kroczyńska, B., B. Sharma, E. A. Eklund, E. N. Fish, and L. C. Plataniás. 2012. Regulatory Effects of Programmed Cell Death 4 (PDCD4) Protein in Interferon (IFN)-Stimulated Gene Expression and Generation of Type I IFN Responses. *Molecular and Cellular Biology* 32:2809-2822.
7. Keystone, E. C., J. Smolen, and P. van Riel. 2012. Developing an effective treatment algorithm for rheumatoid arthritis. *Rheumatology* 51:V48-V54.

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8. Berger, A., A. H. Tran, J. Dida, S. Minkin, N. P. Gerard, J. Yeomans, and C. J. Paige. 2012. Diminished pheromone-induced sexual behavior in neurokinin-1 receptor deficient (TACR1^{-/-}) mice. *Genes Brain and Behavior* 11:568-576.
9. Parietti, V., E. Nelson, G. Telliam, S. Le Noir, M. Pla, M. Delord, V. Vanneaux, M. Mohtashami, E. A. Macintyre, J. C. Gluckman, V. Asnafi, J.-C. Zuniga-Pflucker, J. Larghero, and B. Canque. 2012. Dynamics of Human Prothymocytes and Xenogeneic Thymopoiesis in Hematopoietic Stem Cell-Engrafted Nonobese Diabetic-SCID/IL-2r gamma(null) Mice. *Journal of Immunology* 189:1648-1660.
10. Natividad, J. M. M., V. Petit, X. Huang, G. de Palma, J. Jury, Y. Sanz, D. Philpott, C. L. G. Rodenas, K. D. McCoy, and E. F. Verdu. 2012. Commensal and probiotic bacteria influence intestinal barrier function and susceptibility to colitis in Nod1^{-/-};Nod2^{-/-} Mice. *Inflammatory Bowel Diseases* 18:1434-1446.
11. Lee, J., K. Geddes, C. Streutker, D. J. Philpott, and S. E. Girardin. 2012. Role of Mouse Peptidoglycan Recognition Protein PGLYRP2 in the Innate Immune Response to Salmonella enterica Serovar Typhimurium Infection In Vivo. *Infection and Immunity* 80:2645-2654.
12. Chan, O., J. D. Burke, D. F. Gao, and E. N. Fish. 2012. The Chemokine CCL5 Regulates Glucose Uptake and AMP Kinase Signaling in Activated T Cells to Facilitate Chemotaxis. *The Journal of biological chemistry* 287:29406-29416.
13. Wong, G. W., G. C. Knowles, T. W. Mak, A. A. Ferrando, and J. C. Zuniga-Pflucker. 2012. HES1 opposes a PTEN-dependent check on survival, differentiation, and proliferation of TCRbeta-selected mouse thymocytes. *Blood* 120:1439-1448.
14. Wang, C., and T. H. Watts. 2012. Maintaining the balance: Costimulatory TNFRs and control of HIV. *Cytokine & growth factor reviews* 23:245-254.
15. Lin, G. H. Y., J. C. Stone, C. D. Surh, and T. H. Watts. 2012. In vivo accumulation of T cells in response to IL-2/anti-IL-2 mAb complexes is dependent in part on the TNF family ligand 4-1BBL. *Immunology and cell biology* 90:743-747.
16. Sasaki, M., C. B. Knobbe, J. C. Munger, E. F. Lind, D. Brenner, A. Bruestle, I. S. Harris, R. Holmes, A. Wakeham, J. Haight, A. You-Ten, W. Y. Li, S. Schalm, S. M. Su, C. Virtanen, G. Reifemberger, P. S. Ohashi, D. L. Barber, M. E. Figueroa, A. Melnick, J.-C. Zuniga-Pflucker, and T. W. Mak. 2012. IDH1(R132H) mutation increases murine haematopoietic progenitors and alters epigenetics. *Nature* 488:656-659.

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RESOURCES

- **Medical Sciences Building Resources**
 - **Animal Facility** <http://www.medresearch.utoronto.ca/>
 - **Faculty of Medicine Flow Cytometry Facility**
<http://www.immunology.utoronto.ca/FlowCytometry.htm>

 - **Research Institute Resources**
 - **Sunnybrook Research Institute Services**
Centre for Flow Cytometry & Microscopy
http://sunnybrook.ca/research/content/?page=sri_core_cyto_home
 - **Sickkids/UHN Flow Cytometry Facility**
<http://www.sickkids.ca/research/FCF/default.asp>
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We'd like to hear from you!
Comments or Questions – Please contact:
Immunology.newsletter@utoronto.ca