

Department of Immunology

Newsletter

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VOL II – ISSUE 8

April 2014

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

We are now entering reclass/qualifying exam season, with this in mind, I want to encourage our 2nd year graduate students to have their proposals approved and submitted on time, and thank our faculty, in particular members of the graduate committee, for making time to read the proposals and participate in the examination process.

Once again, in case you do not have a Maypole to decorate or dance around, and since Moscow's Red Square is not what it used to be on May 1st (although it may soon be again), please take the time to instead come and listen to our **IMM450** 4th year research project presentations, see the details below.

As you will see below, we now know who will be leading IMMSA next year, so to the incoming new undergraduate executive, *Congratulations*, I look forward to working with you. To the retiring IMMSA council, *Thanks* for a terrific year, Lucy and Heng you were both exceptional co-presidents.

As pointed out by IGSA, our next Departmental Retreat will be on June 17th-18th, 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.

Lastly, please note the call for nomination for the 2nd annual *BD-Biosciences Immunology Post-Doctoral Lecture Prize*, details below.

UPCOMING SEMINARS

EASTON SEMINARS –

May 2014

Room 2172 MSB at 11:10 a.m.

May 12, 2014

- Edan Foley, PhD
"Examining the Complex Relationships Between Commensal Bacteria and Intestinal Proliferation in Drosophila."
(Host: Dr. Jonathan Rast)

May 26, 2014

- Troy Baldwin, PhD
"Mechanisms of T cell tolerance: let me count the ways."
(Host: Immunology Graduate Students)

GRADUATE SEMINARS –

May 2014

Room 3171 MSB at 10:00 a.m.

May 05, 2014

- Dennis Lee (Supervisor: Jennifer Gommerman)
- Alex Ling (Supervisor: Alberto Martin)

May 12, 2014

- Viktoria Serkis (Supervisor: Jayne Danska)
- Clare Cheuk Yan So (Supervisor: Alberto Martin)
- Sintia Xhiku (Supervisor: Juan Carlos Zúñiga-Pflücker)

May 26, 2014

- Jennifer Yam (Supervisor: Jennifer Gommerman)
- Mark Gower (Supervisors: Cynthia Guidos & Jayne Danska)

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Immunology
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

BD Biosciences Immunology Post-Doctoral Lecture Prize

Call for Nominations:

The Department of Immunology is pleased to announce that it is now accepting nominations of outstanding postdoctoral fellows for the *BD Biosciences Immunology Post-Doctoral Lecture Prize*. This award is made possible by a generous gift from BD Biosciences.

Award: The award consists of a \$2,500 prize for the postdoctoral fellow, and a \$500 gift certificate from BD Biosciences for the laboratory of the principal investigator.

Nominations: Faculty members of the Department of Immunology can nominate a postdoc in their lab. Please provide a nominating letter, and a CV of the nominated postdoctoral fellow, to be submitted electronically to chair.immunology@utoronto.ca.

Deadline: May 9, 2014 (5:00 pm) is the deadline for nominations. The winner will be announced on May 26, 2014.

Date of Lecture & Award Presentation: Monday, June 16, 2014 is when the BD Biosciences Immunology Post-Doctoral Lecture, and prize presentation will take place.

SPECIAL SEMINAR

Professor Andy Giraud
Director, Infection and Immunity Research Theme
Group Leader, Gastrointestinal Research in Inflammation and Pathology (GRIP)
Murdoch Childrens Research Institute
The Royal Childrens Hospital, Australia

www.mcri.edu.au

(Host: Dr. Dana Philpott)

“STAT3 mediates cytokine drive to promote gastric cancer initiation and progression.”

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

11:00 a.m.

Room 2173 MSB

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DEADLINES/REMINDERS

April/May 2014 (Reclassifying and Qualifying students): 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. These forms must be submitted **4 weeks prior to your proposed exam date**. The Graduate Office will then contact your proposed examiners and make arrangements for the exam according to the date you and your committee have chosen.

IMM450Y 2013-14 Final Research Presentations

Please join us for the final research presentations of the 2013-14 IMM450Y class on Thursday, May 1st in MS7231. Coffee will be served at 9:15am, and presentations begin at 9:30am. Supervisors and lab members are invited to celebrate with the students at a reception in MS7231 at 4:30pm. For a detailed schedule of the presentations, please email undergraduate.immunology@utoronto.ca.

IGSA

Hello Immunologists!

We would like to remind everyone in the departmental retreat is coming up in June and that registration will be open this week. Make sure to register! You won't want to miss it!

Planning for the retreat video is underway - if you are interested in being a part of the video please let IGSA know! We will be sending out calls for actors/producers/editors so please be sure to reply if you're interested.

Take care and happy spring!

-- IGSA

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IMMSA

Dear Undergraduate Immunology Students:

We hope this message find you well relaxed after the exam season. Cheers to your achievements and have an amazing summer!

We would like to congratulate those of you who are finishing this undergraduate journey. On behalf of all IMMSA members, we sincerely hope your next steps, no matter what they are, full of adventures and excitements. Best of luck with your future!

It has been such a privilege to work with the extraordinary members of IMMSA and serve as the Co-Presidents during the 2013-2014 Academic Year. We are confident that next year's IMMSA council will continue providing you with excellent services and improvements.

Please give a warm welcome to the newly elected senior executives of IMMSA 2014-2015.

Co-Presidents - Johnathan Lau & Karen Jia

Vice-President - Andrea Macikunas

Secretary - Priscilla Yung

Treasurer - Annoj Thavalingam

Events Coordinator - Vivian Tia

4th & Upper Year Representative - Albert Nguyen

3rd Year Specialist Representative - Lisa Huang

Webmaster - Brandon Sit

If you would like to get involved and run for the remaining junior positions, please keep in touch with IMMSA for news about the upcoming Fall Election.

Thank you for your support and have a great summer!

Best wishes,

Heng Sun & Lucy Chau

Immunology Students Association (IMMSA) Co-Presidents

<http://immsauoft.com> | [@IMMSA_UofT](https://twitter.com/IMMSA_UofT) | <http://facebook.com/IMMSA.UofT>

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Toronto Human Immunology Network

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

email: humanimmunology@utoronto.ca

News from the Toronto Human Immunology Network:

The 2014 Toronto Human Immunology Network Symposium will be held on **Friday May 16, 2014** from **1-5pm** at **The University of Toronto**, and will focus on Immunophenotyping of Human Immunity, co-chaired by Kathy Siminovitch and Cynthia Guidos, with invited speakers: Mark Davis (Stanford), Holden Maecker (Stanford) and Soumya Raychaudhuri (Broad Institute).

Please register (free) at:

<http://immunophenotyping-in-human-health.eventbrite.ca>

Click [here](#) for program.

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PUBLICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY (March 2014) (1-13)

1. Benveniste, P., P. Serra, D. Dervovic, E. Herer, G. Knowles, M. Mohtashami, and J. C. Zuniga-Pflucker. 2014. Notch signals are required for in vitro but not in vivo maintenance of human hematopoietic stem cells and delay the appearance of multipotent progenitors. *Blood* 123:1167-1177.
2. Burke, J. D., L. C. Plataniias, and E. N. Fish. 2014. Beta Interferon Regulation of Glucose Metabolism Is PI3K/Akt Dependent and Important for Antiviral Activity against Coxsackievirus B3. *Journal of Virology* 88:3485-3495.
3. Coffey, F., S.-Y. Lee, T. B. Buus, J.-P. H. Lauritsen, G. W. Wong, M. L. Joachims, L. F. Thompson, J. C. Zuniga-Pflucker, D. J. Kappes, and D. L. Wiest. 2014. The TCR ligand-inducible expression of CD73 marks gamma delta lineage commitment and a metastable intermediate in effector specification. *Journal of Experimental Medicine* 211:329-343.
4. Dissanayake, D., K. Murakami, M. D. Tran, A. R. Elford, D. G. Millar, and P. S. Ohashi. 2014. Peptide-Pulsed Dendritic Cells Have Superior Ability to Induce Immune-Mediated Tissue Destruction Compared to Peptide with Adjuvant. *Plos One* 9.
5. Galicia, G., and J. L. Gommerman. 2014. Plasmacytoid dendritic cells and autoimmune inflammation. *Biological Chemistry* 395:335-346.
6. Gregory, A. L., G. Xu, V. Sotov, and M. Letarte. 2014. Review: the enigmatic role of endoglin in the placenta. *Placenta* 35 Suppl:S93-99.
7. Jeschke, M. G., and D. N. Herndon. 2014. Burns in children: standard and new treatments. *Lancet* 383:1168-1178.
8. Liu, J., W. Zhan, C. J. Kim, K. Clayton, H. Zhao, E. Lee, J. C. Cao, B. Ziegler, A. Gregor, F. Y. Yue, S. Huibner, S. MacParland, J. Schwartz, H. H. Song, E. Benko, G. Gyenes, C. Kovacs, R. Kaul, and M. Ostrowski. 2014. IL-10-Producing B Cells Are Induced Early in HIV-1 Infection and Suppress HIV-1-Specific T Cell Responses. *Plos One* 9.
9. Paradis, M., B. C. Mindt, C. U. Duerr, O. L. Rojas, D. Ng, B. Boulianne, D. D. McCarthy, M. D. Yu, L. E. S. deLuca, L. A. Ward, J. B. Waldron, D. J. Philpott, J. L. Gommerman, and J. H. Fritz. 2014. A TNF-alpha-CCL20-CCR6 Axis Regulates Nod1-Induced B Cell Responses. *Journal of Immunology* 192:2787-2799.

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10. Schlichter, L. C., J. Jiang, J. Wang, E. W. Newell, F. W. L. Tsui, and D. Lam. 2014. Regulation of hERG and hEAG Channels by Src and by SHP-1 Tyrosine Phosphatase via an ITIM Region in the Cyclic Nucleotide Binding Domain. *Plos One* 9.
11. Shin, L. Y., P. M. Sheth, D. Persad, C. Kovacs, T. Kain, C. Diong, D. Su, M. Ostrowski, J. M. Raboud, and R. Kaul. 2014. Impact of CMV therapy with valganciclovir on immune activation and the HIV viral load in semen and blood: an observational clinical study. *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes* 65:251-258.
12. Trop, S., J. C. Marshall, C. D. Mazer, M. Gupta, D. J. Dumont, A. Bourdeau, and S. Verma. 2014. Perioperative cardiovascular system failure in South Asians undergoing cardiopulmonary bypass is associated with prolonged inflammation and increased Toll-like receptor signaling in inflammatory monocytes. *Journal of Surgical Research* 187:43-52.
13. Xu, G., M. Barrios-Rodiles, M. Jerkic, A. L. Turinsky, R. Nadon, S. Vera, D. Voulgaraki, J. L. Wrana, M. Toporsian, and M. Letarte. 2014. Novel Protein Interactions with Endoglin and Activin Receptor-like Kinase 1: Potential Role in Vascular Networks. *Molecular & Cellular Proteomics* 13:489-502.

We'd like to hear from you!
Comments or Questions – Please contact:
Immunology.newsletter@utoronto.ca