

Department of Immunology

Newsletter

image provided by Lori Waters

VOL III – ISSUE 5

January 2015

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

I trust that you all had a restful, albeit likely very cold break, and now back in full swing, ready for another great year of Immunology research. As we start the winter term, I wanted to share that as part of the implementation of the Department of Immunology's Strategic Plan, we have recruited a Research Programs Officer, Dr. Korosh Kianizad, who will be looking after the research activities of the Department, as well as the new Applied Immunology M.Sc. program. Please join me in welcoming Korosh to the Department of Immunology, and into your labs, as he will be surveying the research activity of all Immunology faculty members. He will also work with Prof. Jen Gommerman, Associate Chair – Graduate Studies, to launch and run our new course-based M.Sc. in Applied Immunology. With this in mind, we will likely have increasing numbers of undergraduates looking for a summer, as well 4th year, research experience, as such I am encouraging our faculty members to consider welcoming more undergraduates that belong to our Immunology program into their laboratories. Please see below for more details.

WELCOME

GRADUATE STUDENT:

- Christopher Yau

STAFF:

- Dr. Korosh Kianizad, Research Programs Officer, Department of Immunology
- Dr. Gary Chau, Projects Coordinator - Connaught, Gommerman lab

UPCOMING SEMINARS

EASTON SEMINARS –

February 2015

Room 2172 MSB at 11:10 a.m.

February 2

- M. Virginia Pascual, MD
"A genomic approach to understand rheumatic diseases."
(Host: Dr. Jayne Danska)

February 9

- Ivan Maillard, MD, PhD
"Notch signaling in alloimmunity"
(Host: Dr. Juan Carlos Zúñiga-Pflücker)

February 16

- **FAMILY DAY - no seminar**

February 23

- Lauren Ehrlich, PhD
"Thymocyte: stromal cell crosstalk governing normal and neoplastic T cell development"
(Host: Dr. Cynthia Guidos)

GRADUATE SEMINARS –

February 2015

Room 2173 MSB at 10:00 a.m.

February 2

- Christopher Gunst (Supervisor: C. Guidos)
- Jasty Singh (Supervisor: J.C. Zúñiga-Pflücker)

February 9

- Marion Parsons (Supervisor: G. Ehrhardt)
- Angela Li (Supervisor: C. Robbins)

February 16

- **FAMILY DAY - no seminar**

February 23

- Clare So (Supervisor: A. Martin)
- Muhammed Rahman
(Supervisors: D. Philpott/S. Girardin)

SPECIAL SEMINAR

Connell Lecture

Jean-Philippe Julien

Scientist, Program in Molecular Structure & Function,
The Hospital for Sick Children Research Institute
Assistant Professor, Departments of Biochemistry and Immunology,
University of Toronto

“Lowering the bar for an HIV vaccine.”

Wednesday February 18, 2015

4:00 p.m.

Medical Sciences Building (MSB), Room 2172
University of Toronto

DEADLINES/REMINDERS

Graduate Admissions – September 2015

The early application deadline for September 2015 MSc and PhD admissions to the Graduate Program in Immunology is February 1st, 2015. All applicants are strongly encouraged to ensure that their application for admission is complete (including letters of reference) by the deadline. Information about minimum admission requirements and the application process is available on the Department website.

Faculty who already know that they are recruiting grad students for September 2015 are encouraged to send a message to admissions.immunology@utoronto.ca, indicating how many students are being recruited, and available projects, if known.

Immunology Summer Student Research Program 2015 – Call for Supervisors

Faculty members who are recruiting undergraduate summer students in their lab this year are asked to send a message to undergraduate.immunology@utoronto.ca indicating the project title and number of students sought.

CONGRATULATIONS

PhD Exam

Gary Chao (Poussier lab) - December 8, 2014

IGSA

Hello Immunologists!

We hope everyone is well rested and refreshed from the Holiday Break and ready to join in on some more awesome IGSA events this year.

First up, we will be having our annual ice skating event followed by a pub night in early February. Stay tuned for more details!

We will also be having our first Blackboard Immunology (BBI) of the year on **Tuesday, February 3rd, 6-9pm** with Dr. JC Zúñiga-Pflücker, who will be talking about "**The ABCs of Publishing.**" It will be taking place at the Fox & Fiddle (280 Bloor Street West). Please RSVP to Jasty Singh (jastaran.singh@mail.utoronto.ca) or Edward Chen (eddy.chen@mail.utoronto.ca) no later than January 30th.

Hope to see everyone there!

-- IGSA

IMMSA

Happy new year everyone! Let's make this a very fulfilling and positive 2015!

The undergraduate Immunology Students' Association (IMMSA) would like to thank everyone who attended our November and December events. The undergraduate research application seminar hosted by IMMSA's Johnathan Lau and River Jiang generated a huge turnout and it really seemed to guide and help our young students jump into undergraduate research - we thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to give back to the youth, and we're looking to do so again! We also hope it complemented the Open house for the Department of Immunology. Furthermore, our joint BUSS-IMMSA Pub night was a fun-filled night to unwind and enjoy the company of our fellow students. If you missed it there's always this semester! Moreover, the December Exam De-stressor event with free food, drinks and board games really did the trick! It was a quaint event with wonderful company. Again, you may look at pictures of our events on Instagram @immsagram.

Thank you so much for ordering IMMSA's apparel. Please note that the expected time for pick-up of apparel will be the week before Reading Week, February 9-13th.

Be sure to stay tuned for our January showcase of 3 more undergraduate researchers on our website: <http://immsauoft.com/>

If you have comments or concerns or even interesting thoughts to share, please feel free to contact us at immsa.immunology@gmail.com.

Until next month,

Johnathan Lau and Karen Jia
IMMSA Co-Presidents

PUBLICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY (December 2014)⁽¹⁻¹²⁾

1. Berard, R. A., G. Tomlinson, X. Li, K. Oen, A. M. Rosenberg, B. M. Feldman, R. S. M. Yeung, and C. Bombardier. 2014. Description of Active Joint Count Trajectories in Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis. *Journal of Rheumatology* 41: 2466-2473.
2. Chapman, D. C., P. Stocki, and D. B. Williams. 2014. Immuno-evasion of MHC I by the human cytomegalovirus protein US2 unexpectedly requires cyclophilin C. *Biochemistry and Cell Biology-Biochimie Et Biologie Cellulaire* 92: 585-586.
3. Chen, P., M. Stanojic, and M. G. Jeschke. 2014. Differences Between Murine and Human Sepsis. *Surgical Clinics of North America* 94: 1135.
4. Claes, A.-K., N. Steck, D. Schultz, U. Zaehring, S. Lipinski, P. Rosenstiel, K. Geddes, D. J. Philpott, H. Heine, and G. A. Grassl. 2014. Salmonella enterica serovar Typhimurium Delta msbB Triggers Exacerbated Inflammation in Nod2 Deficient Mice. *Plos One* 9.
5. Fish, E. N., and L. C. Platanius. 2014. Interferon Receptor Signaling in Malignancy: A Network of Cellular Pathways Defining Biological Outcomes. *Molecular Cancer Research* 12: 1691-1703.
6. Fujita, T., B. J. Burwitz, G. M. Chew, J. S. Reed, R. Pathak, E. Seger, K. L. Clayton, J. M. Rini, M. A. Ostrowski, N. Ishii, M. J. Kuroda, S. G. Hansen, J. B. Sacha, and L. C. Ndhlovu. 2014. Expansion of Dysfunctional Tim-3-Expressing Effector Memory CD8(+) T Cells during Simian Immunodeficiency Virus Infection in Rhesus Macaques. *Journal of Immunology* 193: 5576-5583.
7. Gorczynski, R., Z. Chen, I. Khatri, and K. Yu. 2014. Long-Term Tolerance and Skin Allograft Survival in CD200(tg) Mice After Autologous Marrow Transplantation. *Transplantation* 98: 1271-1278.
8. Gorczynski, R. M., Z. Chen, N. Erin, I. Khatri, and A. Podnos. 2014. Comparison of Immunity in Mice Cured of Primary/Metastatic Growth of EMT6 or 4THM Breast Cancer by Chemotherapy or Immunotherapy. *Plos One* 9.
9. Kianizad, K., and J. C. Zuniga-Pflucker. 2014. Dedicated mTEC Progenitors Stay True, Even into Adulthood. *Immunity* 41: 675-676.
10. Nelles, M. E., J. M. Moreau, C. L. Furlonger, A. Berger, J. A. Medin, and C. J. Paige. 2014. Murine Splenic CD4(+) T Cells, Induced by Innate Immune Cell Interactions and Secreted Factors, Develop Antileukemia Cytotoxicity. *Cancer Immunology Research* 2: 1113-1124.

11. Rast, J. P. 2014. Obituary: Zeev Pancer 1957-2014. *Developmental and Comparative Immunology* 47: 327-328.
12. Sok, D., M. J. van Gils, M. Pauthner, J.-P. Julien, K. L. Saye-Francisco, J. Hsueh, B. Briney, J. H. Lee, K. M. Le, P. S. Lee, Y. Hua, M. S. Seaman, J. P. Moore, A. B. Ward, I. A. Wilson, R. W. Sanders, and D. R. Burton. 2014. Recombinant HIV envelope trimer selects for quaternary-dependent antibodies targeting the trimer apex. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 111: 17624-17629.

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