

# Department of Immunology

## Newsletter

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March 2016

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

At our recent Departmental Faculty Meeting, I noted that we would be putting out a call for nominations for the 4<sup>th</sup> **Annual BD-Biosciences Immunology Post-Doctoral Lecture Prize**. The winner of this prize will deliver a lecture on June 20<sup>th</sup>, a day before our annual Department of Immunology Summer Retreat, June 21-22<sup>nd</sup>; please see details below.

With this in mind, we are trying to reach out to all postdoctoral fellows working in labs of PI's affiliated with Department of Immunology, please let Lauren Parkes ([immunology.communications@utoronto.ca](mailto:immunology.communications@utoronto.ca)) know about any new recruits to your lab, and of course please encourage your new and current postdocs to go to <http://www.immunology.utoronto.ca/content/postdoctoral-fellow-registration> to register with us.

We are now entering reclass/qualifying exam season, with this in mind, I want to encourage our 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

Next week, April 8<sup>th</sup>, we will have the pleasure to hear from our **IMM450** 4<sup>th</sup> year Immunology Research Project Students, as well as from our **IMM1450** 1<sup>st</sup> year Applied Immunology MSc Research Project Students presentations.

Additionally, please note the upcoming **OQUIC** event (May 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>), which will again feature the research accomplishments from our undergraduates, as they present their work and compete with their peers across Ontario and Quebec.

### UPCOMING SEMINARS

#### EASTON SEMINARS

**April 2016**

**Room 2170 MSB at 11:10 a.m.**

**April 4th, 2016**

CSI Meeting Ottawa—No Easton

**April 11th, 2016**

Douglas Green, Ph.D.

"Born Different: Metabolic Maintenance of Asymmetric Cell Division in T Cells"

(Host: Dr. Tania Watts)

**April 18th, 2016**

Elena Verdu, Ph.D.

"Novel Players in Celiac Disease Pathogenesis: Could Intestinal Dysbiosis Modulate CD Risk?"

(Host: Dr. Dana Philpott)

**April 25th, 2016**

Donna L. Farber, Ph.D.

"Mechanisms for Tissue Compartmentalization of T Cell Responses"

(Host: Dr. Tania Watts)

#### STUDENT SEMINARS

**April 2016**

**Room 4171 MSB at 10:00 a.m.**

**April 11th, 2016**

Yoojin Choi (Supervisor: R. Kaul)

Najmeh Edraki (Supervisor: M. Ostrowski)

Sridhar Kandala (Supervisor: T. McGaha)

**April 18th, 2016 (Note: 10:30 a.m. start time)**

Mahmoud El-Maklizi

(Supervisor: C. Guidos and J. Danska)

**April 25th, 2016**

Eric Cao (Supervisor: D. Brooks)

Jerry Shen (Supervisor: J. Danska)

Juan Mauricio Umana (Supervisor: T. Mallevaey)

# Department of Immunology

## Newsletter

### GEMINI Study – Healthy South Asian Participants Needed!

Are you South Asian or do you have any South Asian friends? GEMINI Study is looking for healthy South Asians to participate in a paid research study to understand the impact of global migration on health and diseases. For more information visit our website and check out our study videos ([www.geministudy.ca](http://www.geministudy.ca)). For a couple hours of your time, you may be compensated up to \$75!



### GPD Highlights

GPD Winter 2016 Semester's class presented "PhD Idol" Three Minute Thesis on Thursday, March 24, 2016. All participants showcased their research with one static slide in three minutes with enthusiastic performances. Judges were: a President of his own production company, a Screenwriter and GPS Program Coordinator from SGS. First place was awarded to **Angela Li** with second place to **Kieran Manion**. Honorable mentions were Spencer Zeng for Confident Presentation Style and James Han for Storytelling. Congratulations to all!

Dr. Nana Lee will be visiting graduate students on-site in their labs, as part of her initiative to see their "homebase" and to take in feedback on GPD's future directions. Expect her to set up some mutually convenient meeting times during the year. She will be happy to see some of you in Ottawa this weekend at CSI!

### RECLASSIFICATION/QUALIFYING TRANSFER EXAMS

Reminder: 2nd year students who are going forward with a reclass/qual exam – your exam must take place in May or June 2016. At this point you should have a draft of your proposal ready to hand off to your committee. Provisional dates for your exam (agreed upon by the members of your supervisory committee) need to be sent to Kate Sedore ([graduate.immunology@utoronto.ca](mailto:graduate.immunology@utoronto.ca)) without delay, if you have not done so already!

### APPLIED IMMUNOLOGY MSc PROGRAM

We're happy to report that our inaugural cohort of Advanced Standing students in the Applied Immunology MSc program are nearly done their penultimate term and on their way to successfully finishing their MSc studies this summer! As one batch of students gets ready to graduate, another is poised to take their place! Investigators, there is still time to put your names forward to Dr. Korosh Kianizad ([korosh.kianizad@utoronto.ca](mailto:korosh.kianizad@utoronto.ca)) if you would like to host an Applied Immunology student in your lab starting in the Fall 2016 term. You can reach out to Korosh at any time if you have questions about the program as well.



## FEATURED CAMPUS RESOURCE

Did you know that upwards of 70% of disabilities are invisible?

Accessibility Services' mission is to provide students with a network of resources to succeed at U of T, both inside and outside the classroom (or lab!) - <https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as>

Accessibility Services strives to create a safe and comfortable community for students where they can navigate their disability and related barriers, facilitate peer support and interactions, and provide various academic and social opportunities.

Their **services** are **confidential** and are provided to all registered students at the University of Toronto. Contact **Accessibility Services** at 416-978-8060 or [accessibility.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@utoronto.ca)

## IGSA

Dear Immunology Family,

Happy Spring!

We hope everyone had a great time at our biggest Pub Night on St. Patrick's Day! Thanks to our Social Rep, Clare So, for organizing such a fun event.

In April, we will be holding our first **Immunology Charity Paint Night** (Date TBA). For a small donation you can be your own Picasso with paint, brushes and canvas supplied by IGSA. Creative arts can help to relieve that grad school stress! In addition to exercising the artistic mind, join us for **Billiards Night** on the week of April 20th.

April 29, 2016 is also **World Immunology Day**! Our Community Outreach Reps, Elisabeth Foerster and Frank Chang will be leading our graduate volunteers to numerous high schools in the Toronto area to inspire local youth about the importance of immunology and scientific research.

Lastly, registration for the **10th Annual Retreat** will begin early April! Please look out for our upcoming emails. We are planning to celebrate the 10th year with great talks, including the keynote from Dr. Jason Cyster and fun outdoor activities. A reminder that the retreat is on **June 21-22, 2016**.

Sincerely,  
Team IGSA

P.S. Please wish our Chemotactic Crawlers the best of luck at the Race Roster Spring Run-off 5k/8k at High Park on Saturday April 9, 2016!



## 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](mailto:chair.immunology@utoronto.ca).

**Deadline:** May 6, 2016 (5:00 pm) is the deadline for nominations. The winner will be announced on May 20, 2016.

**Date of Lecture & Award Presentation:** Monday, June 20, 2016 is when the BD Biosciences Immunology Post-Doctoral Lecture, and prize presentation will take place.



## PUBLICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY (February 2016)

1. Braunstein, M., L. Liao, N. Lyttle, N. Lobo, K. J. Taylor, P. M. Krzyzanowski, I. Kalatskaya, C. Q. Yao, L. D. Stein, P. C. Boutros, C. J. Twelves, R. Marcellus, J. M. S. Bartlett, and M. Spears. 2016. Downregulation of histone H2A and H2B pathways is associated with anthracycline sensitivity in breast cancer. *Breast Cancer Research* 18.
2. Cybulsky, M. I., C. Cheong, and C. S. Robbins. 2016. Macrophages and Dendritic Cells Partners in Atherogenesis. *Circulation Research* 118: 637-652.
3. D'Souza, C. A., F. L. Zhao, X. Li, Y. Xu, S. E. Dunn, and L. Zhang. 2016. OGR1/GPR68 Modulates the Severity of Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis and Regulates Nitric Oxide Production by Macrophages. *Plos One* 11.
4. Ensan, S., A. Li, R. Besla, N. Degousee, J. Cosme, M. Roufaiel, E. A. Shikatani, M. El-Maldizil, J. W. Williams, L. Robins, C. Li, B. Lewis, T. J. Yun, J. S. Lees, P. Wieghofer, R. Khattar, K. Farrokhil, J. Byrne, M. Ouzounian, C. C. J. Zavitz, G. A. Levy, C. M. T. Bauer, P. Libby, M. Husain, F. K. Swirski, C. Cheong, M. Prinz, I. Hilgendorf, G. J. Randolph, S. Epelman, A. O. Gramolini, M. I. Cybulsky, B. B. Rubin, and C. S. Robbins. 2016. Self-renewing resident arterial macrophages arise from embryonic CX3CR1(+) precursors and circulating monocytes immediately after birth. *Nature Immunology* 17: 159-168.
5. Gorczynski, R. M., N. Erin, and F. Zhu. 2016. Serum-derived exosomes from mice with highly metastatic breast cancer transfer increased metastatic capacity to a poorly metastatic tumor. *Cancer Medicine* 5: 325-336.
6. Roy, S., D. Ly, C. D. Castro, N.-S. Li, A. J. Hawk, J. D. Altman, S. C. Meredith, J. A. Piccirilli, D. B. Moody, and E. J. Adams. 2016. Molecular Analysis of Lipid-Reactive V delta 1 gamma delta T Cells Identified by CD1c Tetramers. *Journal of Immunology* 196: 1933-1942.

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