



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, DR. JUAN CARLOS ZÚÑIGA-PFLÜCKER

Happy New Year!

Early January is a good time to reflect on the past year and ponder what the new year holds for us. As most of you know, I am a bit of an optimist, and feel that 2023 will bring about positive changes. In this regard, we ended 2022 with a wonderful gathering at the Hart House. Our thanks go to **Meggie Kuypers**, **Bobby Tsankov** and IGSA members for organizing a memorable evening, and to our MCs **Olga Rojas** and **Matthew Buechler** for reminding us how much fun Zoom meetings can turn out to be.

It was great to celebrate in person, and to welcome new students and faculty members to our Immunology community, and to thank our wonderful departmental staff for the amazing job that they do. I also took the opportunity to thank **Sherry Kuhn** for her over 20 years of tremendous service to the Department as our Business Officer, and to wish her well all the best on her retirement.

The evening also featured a wonderful performance by **Anthony Wong**, who delighted us with his singing. As is tradition, we also recognized the achievements of several of our students: **Carmen Ucciferri** (Dunn lab) with the new *Applied Immunology MSc Award*; **Ryder Whittaker Hawkins** (Rottapel lab) with the *Cinader Prize*; **Pailin Chiaranunt** (Mortha lab) with the *Richard G. Miller Award*; **Siu Ling Tai** (Mortha lab) with the *Immunology Outreach Award*; and, **Faith Weshba** and **Charles Carr** with the *Undergraduate Immunology Prize*. Additionally, **Tania Watts** was recognized with the *Gillian E. Wu Graduate Mentorship in Immunology Award*. The centerpiece competition winners were from the **Kaul lab**, with a piece that is hard to describe for a broad audience. [Congratulations](#) to all the winners.

Later this month, we will be gathering for a half-day symposium (Jan. 20) and memorial (Jan. 21) in honour of Prof. **James Carlyle**, who sadly passed away last month. I hope many of you will be able to join us in celebrating Jim's achievements and contributions to UofT Immunology.

Wishing all the very best for a great 2023.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHARLES GOULD EASTON SEMINARS (11:05am @ MSB 2170)

Monday, January 9, 2023

Dr. Florian Krammer

Professor, Vaccinology

Dept of Microbiology, Icahn School of Medicine

Antibody responses to SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination

Host: Dr. Jennifer Gommerman

Monday, January 16, 2023

Dr. Kathy McCoy

Professor, Dept of Physiology & Pharmacology
University of Calgary

Scientific Director of the International Microbiome Centre
(IMC)

Microbes, Metabolites and Immunity

Host: Dr. Arthur Mortha

Monday, January 23, 2023

Dr. Ido Amit

Eden and Steven Romick Professorial Chair
Weizmann Institute of Science

The power of ONE: Immunology in the age of single cell genomics

Host: Dr. Tracy McGaha

Monday, January 30, 2023

Dr. Matthew Macauley

Associate Professor, Faculty of Science - Chemistry
University of Alberta

Siglec-mediated control of immune responses

Host: Dr. Jean-Philippe Julien





UPCOMING EVENTS

STUDENT SEMINARS (10:00 am @ MSB 2172)

Monday, January 9, 2023

Aniqa Khan
(Robbins lab)

Boyan Konstantinov Tsankov
(Philpott lab)

Monday, January 16, 2023

Julius Landas
(Zúñiga-Pflücker lab)

Ruth Li
(Zúñiga-Pflücker lab)

Monday, January 23, 2023

Martin Mak
(Crome lab)

Diana Nakib
(MacParland lab)

Monday, January 30, 2023

Carol Nassar
(Wither lab)

Natalia Ogradnik
(Martin lab)

UPDATE ABOUT OUR GRADUATE PROGRAMS

ADMISSIONS

Applications are now being accepted for our graduate programs – get your applications in!

PhD and Applied Imm MSc (Standard Entry) – September 2023 start – [Deadline: January 15, 2023](#)

Applied Imm MSc (Advanced Standing Entry)* – May 2023 start – [Deadline: March 1, 2023](#)

**undergraduate students in IMM450Y1 could be eligible for Advanced Standing entry to the Applied Immunology MSc program*

Please visit [our website](#) for detailed information on admission requirements and application procedures.

AWARD DEADLINES

Undergraduate students hoping to begin a graduate program in 2023 are encouraged to apply for the Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS) and the QEII Awards!

- **OGS (Domestic and International)**

For more information on this competition, please visit the SGS [website](#)

[Deadline: March 1, 2023](#)





- **QEII / Aventis Pasteur** (Dept. of Immunology students only)
Complete an [OGS application](#) and you will be automatically considered for this award
Deadline: March 1, 2023
- **QEII / Dr. Dina Gordon Malkin** (graduate students studying in haematology AND oncology whose supervisors are members of the Temerty Faculty of Medicine)
Complete an [OGS application](#), and the Malkin cover page*
Deadline: March 1, 2023
*please email graduate.immunology@utoronto.ca for details
- **QEII / Temerty Faculty of Medicine (all Faculty of Medicine students)**
Complete an [OGS application](#), and this Faculty of Medicine [cover page](#) (this is an online form which will be submitted directly to Faculty of Medicine)
Deadlines: Application due March 1, 2023
Faculty of Medicine cover page due April 7, 2023 @ 5:00pm

UPDATE FROM THE W.I.D.E. COMMITTEE

Happy 2023 from your Wellness, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Committee! We hope the winter break was restful, restorative, and joyful for everyone.

This month we would like to recognize and commemorate several days of importance.

- On **January 22nd** we will join our East and Southeast Asian communities in wishing everyone a Happy **Lunar New Year!** 新年快乐, chúc mừng năm mới. May the year of the Rabbit bring good fortune and prosperity.
- **January 27th** is [International Holocaust Remembrance Day](#). This date marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1945. On this day we honour the victims of the Holocaust and all those that suffered from Nazism.
- In Canada, **January 29th** is the **National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia**. This year marks the 6th anniversary of the terrorist attack at the Centre culturel islamique de Québec. We mourn and honour the victims of this tragedy and urge everyone to continue supporting their Muslim friends and families. For more resources: <http://www.nccm.ca/>





One way to support our diverse community is to educate yourself about the challenges faced by members of marginalized communities and equip yourself with the tools to fight oppression and inequity. We strongly encourage you to register for the following upcoming training sessions offered by UofT's Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Office:

[Addressing Racial Microaggressions: Tools, Strategies and Discussions](#)

For Faculty and Staff (including Postdocs & Research Associates): **January 26, 2023, 1:00-3:00pm, Virtual**
For Students: **February 15, 2023, 5:30pm – 7:30pm, Virtual**

Wishing you all a very happy, healthy, and fulfilling 2023,

-Your WIDE Committee-

UPDATE FROM THE IMMUNOLOGY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (IMMSA)

Hi Immunologists,

We hope everyone had a nice winter break with family and friends. We are sure you guys are ready and excited for the upcoming semester!

First off, we would like to thank those who filled out IMMSA's feedback survey. Your comments are very helpful for us as we are planning our new events next semester.

Secondly, the *Ontario-Quebec Undergraduate Immunology Conference* (OQUIC) will finally be held in-person this year. How exciting! We hope those who have done immunology-related research can apply and get a chance to present their research in front of students and researchers across Canada. This is a great chance for you to practice your presentation skills, interact with judges, and win cash prizes! This event will be held in early May, with more details coming soon.

Lastly, IMMSA will hold an in-person research information seminar in January, in which people from medical school, nursing school, or dentistry will be invited to speak. If you have any questions for our speakers, feel free to let us know beforehand!

Cheers,

Vicky Xie and Momo Lin

2022 – 2023 Immunology Students' Association Co-presidents

<http://immsauoft.com/> | Instagram: @immsta

PS. Happy New Year! May the coming year be full of grand adventures and opportunities!!



UPDATE FROM THE IMMUNOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (IGSA)

Happy New Year, fellow Immunologists!

It's hard to believe that it's already 2023 - time sure passes quickly when you're having fun doing experiments! We hope you all got some well-deserved rest over the holidays and are ready for the start of another exciting semester. We last saw everyone in December at our annual Department of Immunology Holiday Party, where we managed to raise over \$1000 in support of Nellie's, a local organization dedicated to the shelter, education, and advocacy of all women and children. We would like to thank all our donors and sponsors for their generous support to this meaningful cause, and congratulations to all those with successful bids in our Silent Auction.

Several notable events are in store for January, starting with a Welcome-Back Karaoke Night to get everyone back in on the action! Join us for a jam-packed evening of food, drinks, and singing your heart out in one of downtown Toronto's highest-rated karaoke bars. Make sure you bring your friends and get your song list ready in advance! For this event only, IGSA can't guarantee the safety of your hearing or your voice. This is also a good time for participants of our mentorship program to check back in after the break. We will be having a return of our Mentorship Coffee Chats where mentor-mentee pairings are encouraged to find a chance to grab coffee together (or any drink of your choice!). This is an opportunity for mentees to ask for advice on topics such as integrating into the lab, getting started with your project, or handling the first-year course load. All drinks will be reimbursed by IGSA with the presentation of a valid receipt.

Student wellness has always been an important aspect of our community, so take some time to rebalance at the start of a new semester with a return of our virtual yoga/Pilates sessions. This is an easy, low-key, and accessible IGSA initiative to help our students maintain a healthy work-life balance. All you need to participate is a functioning laptop with Zoom installed! No previous experience is required, and participants of all levels are always welcome.

Finally, we would like to welcome the return of our intramural sports, which will be restarting in the second half of the month for the winter season. We currently have departmental teams registered for both volleyball and basketball, so remember to sign up on IMLeagues if you're interested in taking part! The season will last from January to March, and games will be held on Monday evenings at the University of Toronto Athletic Centre (55 Harbord St.). This is a great way for everyone to stay active during the long winter months, and there's nothing better than bonding with teammates over free bubble tea after a game! From all of us at IGSA, we would like to extend a warm welcome back. May your new year be filled with successful experiments, significant data, and high-impact publications.

Bobby and Meggie
2022-2023 IGSA Co-Presidents



PUBLICATIONS

(for November 2022 as indexed by webofscience.com on December 31, 2022)

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