

# Department of Immunology

## Newsletter

VOL V – ISSUE 5

January 2017

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

As January comes to an end, I would like to thank the many of you that worked very hard to help put together our Department's 5-year Self-Study Report, which was sent to the external reviewers, who will be providing feedback to the Dean and myself after their visit on Feb 1-2, 2017.

This month had a great ending with the release of the Department's *IMMpress Magazine*. Copies of the magazine are on their way out, but in the meantime you can check it out at [www.immpressmagazine.com](http://www.immpressmagazine.com). Congratulations to the IMMpress team for another stellar issue.

I want to highlight three other items: 1) we will be having our next Departmental Faculty Meeting on March 20, 2017, 2) to all our 2<sup>nd</sup> year graduate students please note the upcoming deadlines regarding studentship applications, and 3) to all IMM450 undergrads, please note the announcement for this year's OQUIC, details below.

Lastly, we would like to ensure that all postdoctoral fellows working in labs of PI's affiliated with the Department of Immunology are fully engaged with events taking place in Immunology, with this in mind, please encourage your postdocs to go to <http://www.immunology.utoronto.ca/content/postdoctoral-fellow-registration> to register with us.

### **WELCOME**

#### **Faculty**

Dr. Sonya MacParland, Assistant Professor (TGRI)

Dr. Minna Woo, Professor (TGRI)

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

#### **Reclass Exam**

Mahmoud El-Maklizi (Guidos/Danska lab) – Dec 16, 2016

### **UPCOMING SEMINARS**

#### **EASTON SEMINARS**

**February 2017**

**Room 2172 MSB at 11:10 a.m.**

**Monday February 6th, 2017**

Jerry Zack, Ph.D.

"Strategies to eliminate HIV infection"

(Host: Dr. David Brooks)

**Monday February 13th, 2017**

Megan Sykes, Ph.D.

"Tracking the Alloresponse in Human Transplant Recipients"

(Host: Dr. David Brooks)

**Monday February 20th, 2017**

Family Day-No Easton Seminar

**Monday February 27th, 2017**

Noah Palm, Ph.D.

"Establishing Causal Connections Between Gut Microbiota Composition and Human Disease"

(Host: Dr. IGSA)

#### **HUMAN IMM PANEL DISCUSSION**

**Room 7231 MSB at 5:00 p.m.**

**Monday February 13th, 2017**

Megan Sykes, Ph.D.

(Host: Tania Watts)



## HUMAN IMMUNOLOGY

The Toronto Human Immunology Network nominated two trainees, Eric Gracey, PDF, Inman lab and Tian Sun, PhD student Gommerman and Philpott labs to represent our network at the FOCIS FCE fusion event in Chicago this June. Congratulations to Eric and Tian on receiving the FOCIS trainee travel awards for this year.

Upcoming Panel discussions in Human Immunology: (Discussions take place in room 7231 at 5-6pm and follows the 11am Easton seminar of the speakers:

**Megan Sykes Monday February 13**

**Galit Alter Monday March 6**

This year, the **Jim Watts travel award in Human Immunology** will be presented for the first time. A travel award to be used toward the conference of your choice, for the best human immunology focused poster or talk at the Department Retreat presented by a trainee (grad student or post-doc)... trainees- please plan on attending and presenting your human immune system focused work!

## DEADLINES/REMINDERS

### Graduate Admissions

The first round of admissions is underway, and responses will be sent to applicants by late Feb/early March.

The final deadline to apply for September 2017 starts is **May 1, 2017**.

### Call for Supervisors

Faculty interested in taking on new graduate students in 2017-18 are asked to email [graduate.immunology@utoronto.ca](mailto:graduate.immunology@utoronto.ca)

## UPCOMING AWARD DEADLINES

OGS (Domestic and International) – March 13, 2017. For more information on this competition, please visit the SGS website: <http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/currentstudents/Pages/Ontario-Graduate-Scholarship.aspx>

QEII-GSST Aventis Pasteur (open to Dept. of Imm only) – March 13, 2017. Applicants must apply for OGS to be considered for this award.

Faculty of Medicine QEII-GSST – To apply for this award, students must complete an OGS application (due March 13, 2017) and complete an online Faculty of Medicine QEII-GSST Cover Page (due 4:00pm on Thursday March 31, 2017). For more information, please visit the Graduate and Life Science Education (GLSE) website: <http://www.glse.utoronto.ca/fom-qeii-gsst-competition>

## STUDENT SEMINARS

### February 2017

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

### Monday February 6th, 2017

Najmeh Edraki (Supervisor: M. Ostrowski)

Yoojin Choi (Supervisor: R. Kaul)

### Monday February 13th, 2017

Eric Cao (Supervisor: D. Brooks)

Anh Cao (Supervisor: B. Treanor)

### Monday February 20th, 2017

Family Day-No Student Seminar

### Monday February 27th, 2017

(Supervisor: J. Gommerman)

Sintia Xhiku (Supervisor: J.C. Zuniga-Pflucker)



## FEATURED CAMPUS RESOURCE

Student Life's "Feeling Distressed?" page: <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/feeling-distressed>

This page provides links and information about campus and community resources for students who are feeling distressed for any reason – academic, financial, mental health, sexual violence, housing, etc... It is an excellent collection of resources that can help you find the support you need, when you need it. Please bookmark this page!

## IMMSA

Welcome back, and we hope everyone is excited for the new semester! Thank you for everyone who participated in our annual IMMSA apparel sales, and we will contact you by email when the items are ready for pick-up.

We are very excited about our events for this semester! In February we will hold a graduate school info seminar for all undergrads interested in graduate school in the Department of Immunology. Please bring any questions you may have! In March we will have a academic seminar, IMMSA executive elections for senior positions, a pub night, and the annual BioJeopardy event against other biomedical course unions. Finally, in May 6-7, 2017, we will hold the 9th annual OQUIC, where we highlight undergraduate researchers in a two day conference.

Please follow us on social media for more event details! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at [immsa.immunology@gmail.com](mailto:immsa.immunology@gmail.com).

Regards,

Natalie Hoffmann & Conan Chua

Immunology Students Association (IMMSA) Co-Presidents 2016-17

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



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

1. Brauer, P. M., J. Singh, S. Xhiku, and J. C. Zuniga-Pflucker. 2016. T Cell Genesis: In Vitro Veritas Est? *Trends in Immunology* 37: 889-901.
2. Di Rosa, F., and T. H. Watts. 2016. Editorial: Bone Marrow T Cells at the Center Stage in immunological Memory. *Frontiers in Immunology* 7.
3. Escalante, N. K., P. Lemire, M. C. Tleugabulova, D. Prescott, A. Mortha, C. J. Streutker, S. E. Girardin, D. J. Philpott, and T. Mallevaey. 2016. The common mouse protozoa *Tritrichomonas muris* alters mucosal T cell homeostasis and colitis susceptibility. *Journal of Experimental Medicine* 213: 2841-2850.
4. Gracey, E., Z. Qaiyum, I. Almaghlouth, D. Lawson, S. Karki, N. Avvaru, Z. B. Zhang, Y. C. Yao, V. Ranganathan, Y. Baglaenko, and R. D. Inman. 2016. IL-7 primes IL-17 in mucosal-associated invariant T (MAIT) cells, which contribute to the Th17-axis in ankylosing spondylitis. *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases* 75: 2124-2132.
5. Inman, R. D., X. Baraliakos, K. G. A. Hermann, J. Braun, A. Deodhar, D. van der Heijde, S. Xu, and B. Hsu. 2016. Serum biomarkers and changes in clinical/MRI evidence of golimumab-treated patients with ankylosing spondylitis: results of the randomized, placebo-controlled GO-RAISE study. *Arthritis Research & Therapy* 18.
6. Matsumoto, Y., J. La Rose, O. A. Kent, M. J. Wagner, M. Narimatsu, A. D. Levy, M. H. Omar, J. F. Tong, J. R. Krieger, E. Riggs, Y. Storozhuk, J. Pasquale, M. Ventura, B. Yeganeh, M. Post, M. F. Moran, M. D. Grynepas, J. L. Wrana, G. Superti-Furga, A. J. Koleske, A. M. Pendergast, and R. Rottapel. 2016. Reciprocal stabilization of ABL and TAZ regulates osteoblastogenesis through transcription factor RUNX2. *Journal of Clinical Investigation* 126: 4482-4496.
7. Qi, P., A. Abdullahi, M. Stanojcic, D. Patsouris, and M. G. Jeschke. 2016. Lipidomic analysis enables prediction of clinical outcomes in burn patients. *Scientific Reports* 6.
8. Selvanantham, T., Q. Lin, C. X. Guo, A. Surendra, S. Fieve, N. K. Escalante, D. S. Guttman, C. J. Streutker, S. J. Robertson, D. J. Philpott, and T. Mallevaey. 2016. NKT Cell-Deficient Mice Harbor an Altered Microbiota That Fuels Intestinal Inflammation during Chemically Induced Colitis. *Journal of Immunology* 197: 4464-4472.

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