

**CIMD Newsletter**

Center for Immunology & Microbial Disease at Albany Medical College

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**CIMD Was Well Represented at 2013 American Association of Immunologists Annual Meeting**

Edmund J. Gosselin, Ph.D., Dorina Avram, Ph.D., Sivakumar Periasamy, Ph.D., Giang Pham, Ph.D., Brian Franz and Alan Sanfilippo attended the 2013 American Association of Immunologists (AAI) Annual Meeting in Honolulu, HA, May 3-7, 2013.

Dr. Gosselin was asked to serve as Co-Chair of the Immunotherapy and Vaccines: Infectious Diseases 3” Block Symposium, and was selected to give oral and poster presentations of his research entitled, “Fc Receptor-Targeted Vaccines: An Adjuvant-Independent Approach for Mucosal Vaccination Against Intracellular and Extracellular Mucosal Pathogens.”

Dr. Avram was asked to Chair the Roundtable for the Women’s Committee on Mentoring Efficiently.

Dr. Periasamy gave a poster presentation of his research entitled, "Lung Infiltrates Containing Myeloid-derived Suppressor Cells Impair Protective Immunity in Pneumonic Tularemia Caused by Francisella tularensis." (Mentor: Dr. Jonathan Harton)

Dr. Pham was selected to give a poster presentation of her research entitled, "Fc Receptor-Targeting of Immunogen as a Strategy for Enhanced Antigen Loading, Vaccination, and Protection Using Intranasally-Administered ex vivo Antigen-Pulsed Dendritic Cells." (Mentor: Dr. Edmund Gosselin)

Brian Franz received a $750 AAI Trainee Abstract Award and was invited to give a poster presentation of his research entitled, “FcγRIIB Limits Protection Against F. tularensis LVS Challenge by Inactivated F. tularensis Immunogen.” Brian also received a $250 Albany Medical College Alumni Association Travel Stipend which he used for travel expenses to this Meeting.

Alan Sanfilippo received a $500 AAI Trainee Poster Award and was invited to give a poster presentation of his research entitled, “Resistance to Invasive Pneumococcal Infection in Mice With Acute Allergic Lung Inflammation.”

Alan also received a $250 Albany Medical College Alumni Association Travel Stipend which he used for travel expenses to this Meeting.

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**CIMD Graduate Students Give Oral Presentations at Awards Day**

The following received The Dean’s Certificate for Excellence in Research:

**Danielle Califano** - 4th Year  
(Mentor: Dr. Dorina Avram)

“Alteration of T Helper Migration through Increased Th17-Th2 Plasticity Attenuates Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis (EAE)”

**Anthony Franchini** - 6th Year  
(Mentor: Dr. James Drake)

“Immune Complex Mediated Release of IL-6 Requires NOX2-Dependent Production of Reactive Oxygen Species in Macrophages”

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**Volume XI, Issue II May 2013**
16th Annual Upstate New York Immunology Conference

Plans for the 16th Annual Upstate New York Immunology Conference 2013 (NYIC) are well under way. The Conference will be held October 20-23, 2013 at The Sagamore Resort and Conference Center, Bolton Landing, NY. Organizers Drs. James Drake and Kate MacNamara have been busy securing Keynote Speakers—Dr. Pamela Fink (University of Washington) and Dr. Christopher Hunter (University of Pittsburgh), as well as symposia presenters from participating institutions.

The American Association of Immunologists (AAI) will provide 20 Young Investigator Awards to postdoctoral fellows and graduates students chosen to give poster oral presentations based on the quality of their abstract submission.

NIH Program Staff, Dr. Lawrence Prograis and Dr. Katrin Eichelberg, will also attend and give a presentation on trainee fellowships and research awards.

Dr. Fink will give a workshop on submitting papers to scientific journals and the review process.

As part of our team building activities, there will be a cruise on Lake George, an evening bonfire, and movies, games and activities in the Rec Center.

Registration opens in May 2013. Be sure to check the web site for announcements and updates. Space is limited so be sure to register early!

http://www.amc.edu/NYIC/index.cfm

“Trainees have a unique opportunity to talk about science with experts in the field of immunology…”

-a graduate student (NYIC 2012)

Dr. Gosselin Participates in NIH/NIAD Loan Repayment Program Evaluation Process

Edmund J. Gosselin, Ph.D., was invited to participate in the NIH/NIAD Loan Repayment Program (LRP) Review, in an electronic format, during the week of April 8-12, 2013 for the Clinical Research and Pediatrics Research initiatives. Evaluations are based only on the potential of the candidate for a career in clinical or pediatric research and the quality of the research/clinical environment. The science has already been evaluated.

This program is of particular importance because it enables the most talented and qualified clinicians to remain in research despite mounting educational debts, because one of the eligibility criteria is that the candidate has independent research funding or is being supported by the mentor’s research grant.

Conferences, Meetings, and Study Sections

Carlos de Noronha, Sc.D., was invited to give a seminar entitled, “HIV and the CRL4 Ubiquitin Ligase Complex,” at the Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology/University of California at San Francisco, January 31, 2013.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., was recently reappointed as a member of the External Advisory Board for NIH’s Center of Bio-medical Research Excellence (COBRE) at Dartmouth Medical School to review the school’s research programs on February 4-5, 2013.

Kirsi Jarvinen-Seppo, M.D., was an invited member of the Evaluation of Diet-Related Scientific Literature for Children From Birth to 24 Months (B-24 Project) Expert Panel at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Health & Human Development Prime Meeting held in Rockville, MD, February 5-7, 2013.

Lei Jin, Ph.D., was invited to...
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give a seminar entitled, “In vivo Roles of STING in Host Defense and Vaccine Adjuvant Development,” at Tufts University, Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences, Immunology Graduate Program in Boston, MA, February 6, 2013.

Dorina Avram, Ph.D., was invited to participate in the National Institutes of Health Center for Scientific Review Cellular and Molecular Immunology-A(CMIA) Study Section in Dallas, TX, February 21-22, 2013.

Kate C. MacNamara, Ph.D., was invited to give a talk entitled, “Dynamic Behavior of Hematopoietic Stem and Progenitor Cells During Infection,” to the Department of Biological Sciences, Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ, February 21, 2013.

Edmund J. Gosselin, Ph.D., was invited to serve on the National Institutes of Health, Center for Scientific Review, Vaccines Against Microbial Diseases (VMD) Study Section, in Dallas, TX, February 21-22, 2013.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., served on the National Institutes of Health Center for Scientific Review Immunity and Host Defense Study Section in Dallas, TX, February 21-22, 2013, which begins the last year of his 4-year term as a standing member of this Study Section.

Kirsin Jarvinen-Seppo, M.D., Ph.D., was invited to be a Primary Discussion Leader for the “Exercise-Induced Anaphylaxis and Food-Dependent Exercise-Induced Anaphylaxis,” and “How to Assess and Manage a Child with Multiple Positive Environmental and Food Allergy Tests,” seminar session at the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology’s Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX, February 22-26, 2013.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., was invited to continue to be a Scientific Advisory Board Member of the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Human Immunology Project Consortium (HIPC) and participated in the review of progress on >$100M NIH grants previously awarded to study immune responses in humans. The meeting was held in Pottomac, MD, February 27-28, 2013.

Kate C. MacNamara, Ph.D., was invited to serve on the National Blood Foundation Grant Review Committee Study Section in Bethesda, MD, March 4, 2013.

Guangchun Bai, M.D., Ph.D., was selected to give a poster presentation entitled, “CRP Regulates Vitamin B6 Metabolism in TB-Complex Mycobacteria,” at the Keystone Symposia Global Health Series, Tuberculosis: Understanding the Enemy (X8) in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada, March 13-18, 2013.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., was invited to give a seminar entitled, “Death from Influenza-Secondary Infections are the Culprit,” at the University of South Dakota, Sanford School of Medicine, Division of Biomedical Sciences in Vermillion, SD, March 14-16, 2013.

Mario Canki, Ph.D., was invited to serve on the National Institutes of Health Study Section HIV/AIDS Innovative Research Teleconference, April 2-3, 2013.

Karen M. Duus, Ph.D., was invited to participate in the 2013 Keystone Symposia Conference on Molecular and Cellular Biology, D2: Immune Activation in HIV Infection: Basic Mechanisms and Clinical Implications, in Breckenridge, CO, April 3-8, 2013. Dr. Duus also gave a poster presentation of her research entitled, “CIITA-Mediated Increased HIV Replication Efficiency Occurs via Two Distinct Cellular Mechanisms.”

Timothy J. Sellati, Ph.D., was invited to give a seminar entitled, “Molecular Regulators of Lyme Disease Severity: A Tale of Mice and Men,” to the University of Buffalo, School of Dental Medicine, Department of Oral Biology in Buffalo, NY, April 8, 2013.

Peer-reviewed Publications


**Metzger DW, Salmon SL, and Kirimanjeswara G.** Differing effects of IL-10 in cutaneous and pulmonary *Francisella tularensis* LVS infection. *Infect Immun.* In press.


