

# Department of Immunology

## Newsletter

image provided by Frances Yeung

VOL III – ISSUE 2

October 2014

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

I am looking forward to the upcoming seminars from the assistant professor job candidates, which will be starting this week and continue during the next couple of months. These are listed below. I am also looking forward to our next departmental faculty meeting/retreat, during which I will provide an update on the implementation of our department's strategic plan. In the meantime, be on the lookout for the current issue *IMMpress Magazine*, which as with previous issues, it is loaded with wonderful articles and features.

If you are a second year student, you should be heeding the advice that our Graduate Coordinator will be dishing out during Monday morning Student Seminars (for those in the Department of Immunology that forget, and we really miss seeing there, these are held on Mondays at 10:00 am in the MSB-2173; conveniently just before our Easton Seminars, listed on the right), please start planning your second committee meetings.

In the meantime, I look forward to also seeing you at our upcoming *Department of Immunology's 30th Anniversary Symposium and Dinner*, on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

#### **Save the date(s):**

Mark your calendars to be sure to attend the *Department of Immunology's 2015 Summer Retreat*, which will take place on **June 16-17, 2015**, again by the shores of beautiful lake Couchiching in Orillia Ontario.

*The Department of Immunology's 2014 "Winter Retreat" (a.k.a. "the" Immunology Christmas Party)*, which will take place on Friday **December 12, 2014**.

Next year's *Department of Immunology's Faculty meeting/retreat* will be held on **March 23, 2015**.

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## CONGRATULATIONS

### **MSc Exam**

Junyu (Jerry) Zhou (Philpott/Girardin labs) -- September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

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## UPCOMING SEMINARS

### **EASTON SEMINARS –**

**November 2014**

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

**November 3, 2014**

- DoI Faculty Meeting/Retreat –No Seminar

**November 10, 2014**

- David H. Margulies, MD, PhD  
"Structural Evolution of Cytomegalovirus Immuno-evasins: Insight into MHC-I Antigen Presentation."

(Host: Dr. James Carlyle)

**November 17, 2014**

- Manfred Brigl, MD  
"CD1- and MR1-restricted T cells."

(Host: Dr. Thierry Mallevaey)

**November 24, 2014**

- Michael P. Cancro  
"Innate, adaptive and survival receptors: The triple threat of B cell selection."

(Host: Dr. Jennifer Gommerman)

### **GRADUATE SEMINARS –**

**October 2014**

**Room 2173 MSB at 10:00 a.m.**

**November 3, 2014**

- Simon Eng (Supervisor: R. Yeung)
- Mark Gower (Supervisor: C. Guidos)

**November 10, 2014**

- Edward Chen (Supervisor: J.C. Zúñiga-Pflücker)
- Angela Zhou (Supervisor: T. Watts)

**November 17, 2014**

- Michael St Paul (Supervisor: P. Ohashi)
- Charles Maisonneuve (Supervisor: D. Philpott)

**November 24, 2014**

- Marion Parsons (Supervisor: G. Ehrhardt)
- Tian Sun (Supervisors: J. Gommerman/  
D. Philpott)

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### SPECIAL SEMINARS

#### *Candidates for a Faculty Position in Immunology*

**Yosuke Kumamoto, Ph.D.**

Department of  
Immunobiology,  
Yale University School  
of Medicine,  
New Haven, CT

(Host: Dr. Juan Carlos  
Zúñiga-Pflücker)

“The Role of CD301b+  
Mononuclear Phagocytes in  
Immunity and Metabolism.”

Wed., November 5, 2014  
11:00 a.m.  
Room 7231 MSB  
U of T

**Pam Chang, Ph.D.**

Jane Coffin Childs Fellow,  
Department of  
Immunobiology,  
Yale University School  
of Medicine,  
New Haven, CT

(Host: Dr. Juan Carlos  
Zúñiga-Pflücker)

“Regulation of intestinal  
macrophages by microbial  
metabolites.”

Thurs., November 6, 2014  
11:00 a.m.  
Room 7231 MSB  
U of T

**Tim Willinger, M.D., Ph.D.**

Associate Research Scientist,  
Department of  
Immunobiology,  
Yale University School  
of Medicine,  
New Haven, CT

(Host: Dr. Juan Carlos  
Zúñiga-Pflücker)

“Studying Human Immunity  
in the Mouse.”

Wed., November 12, 2014  
11:00 a.m.  
Room 7231 MSB  
U of T

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### IGSA

Hello Immunologists!

Please join us in celebrating the season of cozy scarves, pumpkin spice everything and beautiful foliage by attending our very first departmental **Pumpkin Carving Contest** at *MSB 7231* on *Friday October 24th at 5 pm!*

Lab, group and individual entries are welcome as you show off your artistic carving talent! If interested, please RSVP to Selena at [selena.cen@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:selena.cen@mail.utoronto.ca).

After being crowned Pumpkin Carving King or Queen of the department, bring your most creative costumes to the **Annual Interdepartmental Halloween Party** at *O'Grady's* on *Wednesday October 29<sup>th</sup>* at *8pm* where there will be prizes for the most creative costumes!

See y'all there!

-- IGSA

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### IMMSA

The undergraduate Immunology Students' Association (IMMSA) has had a busy month with the hustle and bustle of a new school year. With September came the events: St. George Street Fair, Club's Day, and Pre-UofT where we were able to reach first and second years early and present the best case for joining the Department of Immunology. In addition, we held the Welcome Back Luncheon at the Trinity College JCR which had a great mix of undergraduates, graduate students and professors, including our Chair of Immunology and Undergraduate Coordinator. A big thanks to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to come mix and mingle!

This month we have more amazing events lined up including an Academic Seminar and a joint games night with other undergraduate student unions in disciplines related to immunology such as molecular genetics, microbiology and biochemistry. The academic talk will be given by Dr. Scott Gray-Owen on October 30th at 1-2 PM in MSB 7231. This event is for everyone who is interested in Immunopathology, vaccines and host-pathogen interactions - with free food included! The B.L.I.M.P. Games night will be held in the University College JCR at 6-9 PM on October 30th and we encourage you to come decked out in your favourite Halloween gear.

As a new initiative of IMMSA, to better embrace the digital age of social media, we have started an Instagram account: @IMMSAgram. Please follow us if you would like to get updates from your favourite and only undergraduate immunology association at UofT! We will also be starting a venture on our website where we highlight and feature three undergraduate immunology researchers every month and the fantastic work they contribute to our academic environment - specifically at [http://immsauoft.com/?page\\_id=1035](http://immsauoft.com/?page_id=1035). If you are an undergraduate researcher in the field of Immunology or relating to Immunology at the University of Toronto, then please contact us for a potential feature on our website. Please check our website <http://immsauoft.com/> for more details.

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

Until next month,  
**Karen Yanan Jia and Johnathan Lau**  
**IMMSA Co-Presidents**

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image provided by Frances Yeung

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### PUBLICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY (Sept. 2014) <sup>(1-9)</sup>

1. Abdullahi, A., S. Amini-Nik, and M. G. Jeschke. 2014. Animal models in burn research. *Cellular and Molecular Life Sciences* 71: 3241-3255.
2. Cheng, K. H. Y., A. Mariampillai, K. K. C. Lee, B. Vuong, T. W. H. Luk, J. Ramjst, A. Curtis, H. Jakubovic, P. Kertes, M. Letarte, M. E. Faughnan, V. X. D. Yang, and C. Brain Vasc Malformation. 2014. Histogram flow mapping with optical coherence tomography for in vivo skin angiography of hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia. *Journal of Biomedical Optics* 19.
3. Fares, I., J. Chagraoui, Y. Gareau, S. Gingras, R. Ruel, N. Mayotte, E. Csaszar, D. J. H. F. Knapp, P. Miller, M. Ngom, S. Imren, D.-C. Roy, K. L. Watts, H.-P. Kiem, R. Herrington, N. N. Iscove, R. K. Humphries, C. J. Eaves, S. Cohen, A. Marinier, P. W. Zandstra, and G. Sauvageau. 2014. Pymidoindole derivatives are agonists of human hematopoietic stem cell self-renewal. *Science* 345: 1509-1512.
4. Gupta, R., H.-A. Michaud, X. Zeng, M. Debbaneh, S. T. Arron, R. B. Jones, C. E. Ormsby, D. F. Nixon, and W. Liao. 2014. Diminished humoral responses against and reduced gene expression levels of human endogenous retrovirus-K (HERV-K) in psoriasis. *Journal of Translational Medicine* 12.
5. Ji, H., W. Zheng, X. Li, J. Liu, X. Wu, M. A. Zhang, J. G. Umans, M. Hay, R. C. Speth, S. E. Dunn, and K. Sandberg. 2014. Sex-Specific T-Cell Regulation of Angiotensin II-Dependent Hypertension. *Hypertension* 64: 573-+.
6. Karimi, M. A., O. A. Aguilar, B. Zou, M. H. Bachmann, J. R. Carlyle, C. L. Baldwin, and T. Kambayashi. 2014. A Truncated Human NKG2D Splice Isoform Negatively Regulates NKG2D-Mediated Function. *Journal of Immunology* 193: 2764-2771.
7. Miyazaki, Y., R. Li, A. Rezk, H. Misirliyan, C. Moore, N. Farooqi, M. Solis, L. G. Goiry, O. de Faria, Jr., D. Van Duc, D. Colman, A. S. Dhaunchak, J. Antel, J. Gommerman, A. Prat, S. Fillatreau, A. Bar-Or, C. M. N. E. T. Grant, and M. C. B. C. M. Team. 2014. A Novel MicroRNA-132-Surtuin-1 Axis Underlies Aberrant B-cell Cytokine Regulation in Patients with Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis. *Plos One* 9.
8. Paquette, S. G., S. S. H. Huang, D. Banner, L. Xu, A. Leon, A. A. Kelvin, and D. J. Kelvin. 2014. Impaired heterologous immunity in aged ferrets during sequential influenza A H1N1 infection. *Virology* 464: 177-183.
9. Sarmiento, J., R. H. Wallis, T. Ning, L. Marandi, G. Y. C. Chao, A. D. Paterson, and P. Poussier. 2014. Genetic dissection of Iddm26 in the spontaneously diabetic BBDP rat. *Genes and Immunity* 15: 378-391.

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