MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR,
DR. JUAN CARLOS ZUNIGA-PFLUCKER

Welcome back to another academic year and to what I hope will be the last term disrupted by the ongoing pandemic. We have made great strides in the fight against COVID19, and as Immunologists we can be proud of what we have learned and implemented over the past 18 months. We can look ahead with some sense of hope and know that we will continue to lead the way forward.

Please join me in welcoming two new faculty members to our Immunology community:

Prof. Matthew Buechler, Assistant Professor, Tenure Stream.

Prof. Amy Berkley, Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream.

Matt is currently setting up his new lab in the Medical Sciences Bldg (7th floor) and is joining us following a very successful postdoctoral period at Genentech, and he brings an interest in stromal immunology to UofT Immunology. Amy will be taking over the running of our very successful 2nd year course, IMM 250, for the Winter term. She also joins us from Genentech where she was a Senior Scientific Researcher in Translational Oncology.

I am also looking forward to another great year of Easton Seminars, which not only features amazing scientists presenting cutting edge work, but also allows for our UofT Immunology community to come together and share our joy for all things Immunology.

I wish all a wonderful start to the new academic year, and I look forward to seeing each and every one in person as soon as possible.

UPCOMING EVENTS

21-22 CHARLES GOULD EASTON SEMINARS

We are excited to announce stimulating series of seminars. 2021-22 Easton Seminar will commence in September via Zoom. More information with the Zoom link will be shared by email closer to the seminar dates. Please mark your calendar for the following Easton seminar series.

- September 13, 2021 - Bebhinn Treanor, PhD
- September 20, 2021 - Michael S. Diamond, MD, PhD
- October 18, 2021 - Gregory Barton, PhD
- October 25, 2021 - Michael Lenardo, MD
- November 8, 2021 - Terri M. Laufer, MD, PhD
- November 22, 2021 - Anastasia Tikhonova, PhD
- November 29, 2021 - Dan Kaufmann, MD
- December 6, 2021 - Hartland Jackson, PhD
- December 13, 2021 - Marco Colonna, MD
- January 10, 2022 - John J. O’Shea, MD
- January 17, 2022 - Robert Thimme, PhD
- January 24, 2022 - Marion Pepper, PhD
- January 31, 2022 - James Di Santo, PhD
- February 7, 2022 - Donna L. Farber, PhD
- February 14, 2022 - Shannon Turley, PhD
- February 28, 2022 - Dario Vignali, PhD
- March 7, 2022 - David G. DeNardo, PhD
- March 21, 2022 - Jacob Kohlmeier, PhD
- April 4, 2022 - Weiguo Cui, PhD
- April 11, 2022 - Yuan Zhang, PhD
- April 25, 2022 - Maria Ciofani, PhD
- May 2, 2022 - June L. Round, PhD
- May 16, 2022 - Daniela Quail, PhD
- May 30, 2022 - Susan Kaech, PhD
SEPTEMBER EASTON SEMINARS

Mondays, 11:00-12:00

September 13, 2021

Bebhinn Treanor, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Biological Science
University of Toronto

Title: "The sweet side of B cell regulation"

Host: Juan Carlos Zúñiga-Pflücker, PhD

September 20, 2021

Michael S. Diamond, MD, PhD

The Herbert S. Gasser Professor, Departments of Medicine, Molecular Microbiology, Pathology & Immunology
Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

Title: Antibody and vaccine mediated protection to emerging SARS-CoV-2 variants

Host: Slava Epelman, MD, PhD, FRCPC

SEPTEMBER STUDENT SEMINARS

Mondays, 10:00-11:00

September 13, 2021

Helen Wang
(JCZP lab)

September 20, 2021

Luke Neufeld
(McGaha lab)

September 27, 2021

Carolina De Amat Herbozo
(Mallevaey lab)

Tiffany Kong
(Danska lab)
Congratulations!

**PhD Qualifying Exams**

Enoch Tin (Zhang lab) – June 9, 2021  
Kitty Liu (McGaha lab) – June 9, 2021  
Lawrence Wood (MacParland lab) – June 23, 2021  
Homaira Hamidzada (Epelman lab) – July 30, 2021

**PhD grads**

Dr. Dennis Lee (Gommerman lab) – June 29, 2021  
Dr. Yoojin Choi (Kaul lab) – June 30, 2021  
Dr. Mark Gower (Guidos lab) – July 6, 2021  
Dr. Lysa Langevin (Yeung lab) – July 27, 2021

**MSc grads**

Shanzeh Ahmed (Gommerman lab)  
Dorota Borovsky (Crome lab)  
Damra Camat (MacParland lab)  
Matthew Cho (Coburn lab)  
Tijana Despot (Mallevaey lab)  
Kirubel Goliad (Wither lab)  
Sofiya Goroshko (Ehrhardt lab)  
Ryan Law (Ostrowski lab)  
Jonah Lin (Ostrowski lab)  
Haadee Lone (Butler lab)  
Xinle Sherry Wang (MacParland lab)  
Zonelle Wijesinha (Martinu lab)

Welcome!

**MSc**

Faisal Abdul Razzaq (Woo lab)  
Johanne Audouze-Chaud (Crome lab)  
Lauren Fernandez (Gehring lab)  
Alvin Han (Gommerman lab)  
Madeline Kern-Smith (Watts lab)  
Kameel Khan (Rojas lab)  
Ammarah Naseer (Treanor lab)  
Eric Sun (Julien lab)  
Anita Tia (Zúñiga-Pflücker lab)  
Carmen Ucciferri (Dunn lab)  
Adriana Vukosich-Pennell (Sacher lab)  
Clare Wang (Yeung lab)  
Yu Chen Thomas Zhou (Zúñiga-Pflücker lab)

**PhD**

Matthew Bianca (rotation)  
Damra Camat (MacParland lab)  
Michelle Cheung (rotation)  
Dong Hoon Han (Hirano lab)  
Manjula Kamath (rotation)  
Jonah Lin (rotation)  
Siran Liu (rotation)  
Yiran Melissa Liu (rotation)  
Zhewei Liu (rotation)  
Robyn Loves (Grunewald lab)  
Ksenia Meteleva (Ohashi lab)  
Yangmin Clay Qiu (rotation)  
Deeva Uthayakumar (rotation)  
Munira Verdwala (Rottapel lab)  
Anqi Yan (rotation)  
Su Diana Yang (rotation)  
Tianning Yu (rotation)  
Yi Fei Evey Zheng (Hirano lab)
IGSA
Hello Immunologists!

IGSA would like to extend our warmest welcome to all new students and faculty joining us this new academic year, and a lovely welcome back to all of the familiar faces in the department. We hope you all had a safe and wonderful summer and are ready for the journey ahead! IGSA is extremely excited to meet each and every one of you and we look forward to celebrating your innovation, achievements, and hard work.

While we will absolutely continue to uphold public health guidelines, we are optimistic at the opportunity to host safe in-person events and activities. However, we encourage everyone to please continue being mindful of the severity of the COVID-19 pandemic. The battle is not over and we must be patient and maintain an active role in reducing the impact of the pandemic to our communities. IGSA will continue to support you in every way we can as we get through this difficult time together.

We thank you for staying engaged with us over the summer, including our picnic celebrations for graduating Applied Master's students, Fundamental students’ successful completion of their PhD Qualifying Exams, and reconnecting with last year's incoming class of 2020.

This September, we have even more to look forward to! Make sure to save the dates for the events that you might be interested in before it’s too late.

- **An Open Discussion about Imposter Syndrome**, *September 15th, 2021* – Have you ever felt like an imposter in grad school? You’re not alone. Join Dr. Jastaran Singh and us as we discuss our experiences in a safe space with peers.

- **Welcome Back Picnic**, *September 18th, 2021* – Join us for a fun-filled day of sun, games, and great food! We encourage all first-year students to come out to meet senior students and faculty (and vice versa). Details coming soon!

- **Immunology Takes Canada's Wonderland**, *September 25th, 2021* – First-years of 2021, this event is for you! This annual icebreaker social is a great opportunity to build meaningful connections with your class. You won’t want to miss it!

- **IGSA Council 2021-22 Elections** – *September 27th-30th, 2021* – Any and all students looking to get more involved in our student community are encouraged to run for council. We will be releasing more information about available positions and the elections process very soon.

- **Virtual Yoga** – every Tuesday at 7pm! Register to receive a Zoom link [here](#).

Please stay tuned to your EMAIL for all IGSA-related updates. If you have any questions or comments, you are always welcome to reach us at utgsu.immunology@gmail.com.

With love,
Anthony Wong and Rashi Gupta
IGSA Co-Presidents 2020-21
IMMSA

Hey Immunologists! (This seems like a long read but we promise it’s worthwhile, so keep on reading!!)

Happy Back-To-School Season! With classes starting on September 9th, we hope you’ve all had a chance to rest, recover, and prep for the upcoming Fall semester.

To our 2nd-years: Welcome! We’re so glad to have you in our program and we hope you love it here. This is the first time many of you will be on-campus, but don’t be shy! Ask upper-years (including us, of course) for any advice you may want and take every opportunity to meet your fellow 2nd-year immunology students - this will definitely help in the future, trust us.

To our 3rd-years: This is when the IMM program really kicks off, so we wish you the best of luck in IMM340/341 and IMM350/352! We know 3rd-year is a stressful year, not only because of classes but also because you may be thinking about life after undergrad. Take the time to figure out where your interests lie, what kind of life you want to live, and what kind of careers will help you meet any goals you may have. Above all though, don’t stress - we’re all just figuring it out as we go, and that’s totally okay! :)

To our 4th/5th-years: You’ve made it! Many of you will be graduating this year while others will keep soldiering on for an extra year (you brave souls), but all of you should be proud of making it this far. There’s a lot on your minds, from applications to your GPA to figuring out what a CV is - trust us, we feel that. We hope you take the year to learn lots, reunite with old friends (maybe make some new ones too?), and get involved in the university community - after all, they say that university is some of the best years of one’s life, so let’s try and make some awesome memories this year!

Before we sign off, we want to let you know about what IMMSA has going on during September:

1. We’re holding our Fall Elections, which you can learn more about on our Instagram (@immsta) or Facebook (@immsa.uoft). If you’re interested in gaining leadership experience, working with an awesome team, and hosting academic/social events, apply by September 15th!
2. We’re also kicking off our Mentorship Program, where we’ll be pairing 1st-year and 2nd-year mentees with 3rd-year and 4th-year mentors! Whether you’re looking to give advice or find advice, this program is a great way to get involved in the Immunology community. You can find more info on our Instagram and Facebook, and the deadline to apply is also September 15th.
3. IMMSA’s annual Immunology Welcome Back Lunch is tentatively scheduled for September 29th - this is a great opportunity for you to mingle with students of all years, meet your profs, and grab free food (the most important part)! If you can’t make it this time, don’t sweat it; you’ll have lots of chances to interact with profs at various IMMSA events throughout the term! Keep an eye on our social media for more info.

And that’s everything! We hope you all have a great 2021-22 year, and we can’t wait to meet you all soon!!!

Your IMMSA Co-Presidents,
Shaivy T. and Kunal K.
Website: http://immsauoft.com | Instagram: @immsta | Facebook: http://facebook.com/IMMSA.UofT
PUBLICATIONS


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Nathan NN, Philpott DJ, Girardin SE. 2021. The intestinal microbiota: from health to disease, and back. Microbes And Infection. 23(6-7).


Miyachi Y, Nishio M, Otani J, Matsumoto S, Kikuchi A, Mak TW, Maehama T, Suzuki A. TAZ inhibits acinar cell differentiation but promotes immature ductal cell proliferation in adult mouse salivary glands. Genes To Cells. Online Ahead of Print


Barrow F, Khan S, Wang HG, Revelo XS. The Emerging Role of B Cells in the Pathogenesis of NAFLD. *Hepatology*. Online Ahead of Print


Shamji MH, Palmer E, Layhadi JA, Moraes TJ, Eiwegger T. Biological treatment in allergic disease. *Allergy*. Online Ahead of Print


Isho B, Florescu A, Wang AA, Gommerman JL. Fantastic IgA plasma cells and where to find them. *Immunological Reviews*. **Online Ahead of Print**


**Temerty Medicine Connect** [https://uoftmedicineconnect.ca/](https://uoftmedicineconnect.ca/)

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