

# Signals

THE ISICR NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY 2011 | VOLUME 18 | NO. 1



## 9th Joint Meeting ISICR-ICS Cytokines & Interferons: From the Bench to the Bedside

We are pleased to invite you to the 9th Joint Meeting of the International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research (ISICR) and the International Cytokine Society (ICS).

[www.cytokines2011.it](http://www.cytokines2011.it)

The overall theme for this Conference is “**Cytokines and Interferons: from the bench to the bedside**”.

We are excited about the prospect of hosting up to **1000 international and local participants at this Joint Meeting in Florence**.

An outstanding international schedule consisting of Plenary Sessions, Symposia, Workshops, and Poster Sessions has been arranged to bring together leading research workers in cytokine biology, cancer, immunology, virology and infectious diseases in a forum that emphasizes the intersection of these expanding fields.

**The topics at this conference** will cover a full spectrum from basic science to clinical, biotechnological and pharmaceutical research. Research in this area of immunology has been directly responsible for the development of growth factors and their application in hematology, for new treatments in oncology, for a new generation of anti-inflammatory drugs, and for treatments for multiple sclerosis, hepatitis and viral syndromes. Leading scientists have already agreed to participate in this conference.

**The International Advisory Committee** is committed to focusing on biomedical advancements and their application in the areas of inflammation, infectious diseases, oncology, neurology and immunology.

**The programme emphasis** is on integrating the major themes of the Conference, and to provide molecular insights into the development of innovative therapies for human disease.

**Scientific themes range** from new cytokines and new technologies, to the roles of cytokines in tumor immunology, cell cycle control, inflammation, host defense, and angiogenesis.

The clinical impact of cytokines in cancer, inflammatory diseases, viral syndromes and the use of cytokines as therapeutics will also be a major focus of the meeting. Fundamental research topics will include signal transduction, apoptosis, gene regulation, and cytokine structure-function.

Scientists in academic institutions, biotechnology, and pharmaceutical industries will be represented as plenary speakers. Senior scientists, young investigators, physician-scientists, post-doctoral fellows, and students will all benefit from the perspectives that are brought together at this unique international conference.

**We would like to invite you** to participate in this year's meeting as an exhibitor. We hope that your company will feel eager to share with our membership your products, research and personal experience.

**We look forward to hearing from you and to seeing you in Florence!**

### Future ISICR Meetings

*2011 Meeting*  
Oct. 9-12, 2011  
Joint ISICR/ICS  
Florence, Italy

*2012 Meeting*  
Sept. 19-22, 2012  
Joint ISICR/ICS  
Geneva, Switzerland

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**ISICR**  
International Society for Interferon  
& Cytokine Research



## 2010 ISICR Milstein Award Winner: ELEANOR FISH

Dr. Eleanor Fish is Director of the Arthritis and Autoimmunity Research Centre at the University Health Network, Head of the Division of Cell and Molecular Biology at the Toronto General Research Institute and a Professor in the Department of Immunology at the University of Toronto. She is a Canada Research Chair of Women's Health and Immunobiology. Dr. Fish is a McLaughlin Scholar and a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiologists.

**Congratulations on receiving the Milstein Award. Where were you when you first learned that you have been selected by ISICR to receive the prestigious Award?**

*Sitting at my computer in my office finishing up a book chapter on the clinical use of Interferons. My computer screen identified an incoming email – and to my absolute delight there was the notification!*

**What does the Award mean to you?**

*Receiving the 2010 Vivian & Seymour Milstein Award is a tremendous honour. That my peers, colleagues and scientific friends acknowledge my contributions to the discipline of cytokine research is the most significant acknowledgement I have received throughout my scientific career. To be in the esteemed company of past recipients is humbling.*

**What do you feel are your most important contributions to the field of cytokine research?**

*That's a tough question to answer. In terms of impact on health care, I'd suggest that my research group's clinical studies that led to the treatment of SARS patients with interferon during the 2003 global outbreak are certainly noteworthy. We continue to 'translate' our bench findings into clinical indications – we are poised to initiate a randomized clinical trial for the use of interferon in severely ill patients hospitalized with influenza-like illness. We contributed to*

*studies that have led to the introduction of interferon-beta as a treatment for coxsackie virus infections of the heart – thereby diminishing cardiac myopathies. In terms of discovery science, our studies on chemokines and their receptors and their roles in autoimmune and infectious diseases – another area my group has played a significant role. Thanks to a very successful collaboration with Dr. Leonidas Platanias, we've worked closely over the years to map out signaling cascades and their contributions to distinct biological responses, for both the interferons and chemokines. And most recently, a very talented graduate student in my group, Jae-Kwang Yoo, identified a novel antigen presenting immune cell that has a critical role in type 2 immunity. All in all – diverse interests – but because of talented members of my research group, we've added to scientific knowledge in what I believe are key areas in health research.*

**And if you had to pick one chemokine receptor or any protein right now, which one would you target for therapy?**

*Let's make that 2! I continue to be convinced that the type I interferons are dramatically underutilized as broad spectrum antivirals for acute, severe virus infections. And, the chemokine receptor, CCR5, also has widespread application in different autoimmune diseases, in virus infections and in cancer. So CCR5 is a target for therapeutic intervention.*

**Who was your mentor or role model in your scientific career?**

*Remarkably, at different times during my scientific career I've had the good fortune to have different individuals as mentors and role models. At high school in the UK, a teacher offered me advice when I was at the cross-roads of choosing between studying sciences or the arts. He suggested that if I chose the sciences, I could always return to and participate in the arts. If I chose the arts, the sciences would be beyond reach. Following my undergraduate degree, Nowell Stebbing encouraged me to take risks with scientific enquiry. Working beside Bryan Williams propelled my interferon research forward. Having the continuing support and encouragement of friends and scientific colleagues, is huge.*

**Thinking back, how has the trajectory of your Ph.D. pursuit influenced your career choices and present position?**

*My Ph.D. defined my career path. Somewhat untraditionally, I had already established a funded research lab in Toronto when I was encouraged to pursue my Ph.D. After receiving my Ph.D. as a result of studies on the earliest structure-function studies of the different interferon-alpha subtypes and interferon-beta, and the receptor, I did not follow the path of post-doctoral fellow, but remained in Toronto and accepted a faculty position at the University of Toronto. The foundations established during my Ph.D. studies provided the basis for subsequent studies on the type I interferons.*

**If you weren't a scientist, what would you be?**

*I'd follow my second passion – painting! Non-objective art.*

**What's your idea of relaxation?**

*Being with family and good friends, enjoying a meal, good wine and good discussion. Swimming in one of Ontario's awe-inspiring lakes. Cross-country skiing in Algonquin Park. Visiting new places around the globe. And painting.*

**Can you describe your role as Chair of Women's Health and Immunobiology?**

*Primarily to encourage research that identifies the distinctions in the innate and adaptive immune responses in women and men. These have largely been ignored, whether in basic research studies or in clinical studies. Most people are completely unaware that failing to address sex-based differences in disease, in drug efficacy and side-effect profiles, reportedly led to the withdrawal of eight out of ten prescription drugs from the United States market in 2005, specifically owing to health issues in women.*

**Do you feel female scientists are still being treated unfairly in academia? What should be and can be done about it?**

*Dare I say, 'that depends.' On where the female scientist is. Certainly, there have been tremendous strides forward in the medical sciences in North America and Europe, where female scientists are being recruited and promoted based on their expertise. Yet, in many countries young women are denied the opportunity to study, let alone enter any realm of academic scientific career. And in the physical sciences – maths, physics, chemistry, engineering – women remain under-represented as students and as faculty, in academia. Acknowledgement of the contributions of eminent female scientists in international awards remains at issue – maybe because of the traditional predominantly male-make up of awards committees. How to promote women in science? Education, education, education.*

**What are you most looking forward to at this year's ISICR Annual Meeting?**

*Being able to thank those many wonderful collaborators and trainees, in a formal setting, who have enabled me to be successful in my research career.*



## 2010 ISICR Milstein Award Winner: SERGEI KOTENKO

Sergei V. Kotenko is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology at UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School. He obtained his M.S. degree in Biophysics from Moscow Engineering Physics Institute, Department of Theoretical and Experimental Physics in 1985. He received his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology in 1990 from the Institute for Genetics of Microorganisms, Department of Biotechnology, Laboratory of Eukaryotic Gene Structure, Moscow, Russia. In 1992 he joined the laboratory of Dr. Sidney Pestka in the Department of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, NJ, USA, as a Postdoctoral Fellow and later as an Adjunct Assistant Professor. In 2001 Dr. Kotenko moved to UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School and started his own laboratory in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. Dr. Kotenko's laboratory is now a part of the recently established University Hospital Cancer Center.

**Congratulations on receiving the Milstein Award this year!  
How did you first find out and where were you?**

*I was in my office when I received the email with the news from ISICR President Leonidas Platanias.*

**What does the Award mean to you?**

*It is a great honor to be nominated and selected by your colleagues to receive the most prestigious award of the ISICR. I feel very fortunate.*

**What do you see as the most exciting new development in the field of cancer and inflammation, one which we could realistically harness or manipulate for therapeutic purposes in the not-too-distant future?**

*That is a million-dollar question. We are lucky that we are doing research at a time when one can learn about exciting new developments almost every day – just talk to colleagues, attend a conference, or read a new issue of a scientific journal. I am intrigued by the multifaceted connection between inflammation, innate immunity and carcinogenesis, and the complex role of cytokines in regulating and*

*interconnecting these processes. Of course, I am biased toward IFNs, and particularly type III IFNs, or IFN-lambdas, that we recently co-discovered with scientists from Zymogenetics. First described in 2003, these IFNs quickly gained the interest of scientists in the field, and are already in clinical trials for the treatment of chronic HCV infections, and have a strong therapeutic potential for cancer treatment and as antiviral prophylactic drugs.*

**What are your current priorities at your University?**

*My priorities are to keep my lab running smoothly, to encourage students and research personnel to think outside the box, and to motivate them to take bold unconventional research directions. Maintaining research support for the lab and finding new unexplored research venues are always on my radar.*

**What do you think are some of the mandatory/key components of a successful lab?**

*It is important to assemble and maintain an interactive and dynamic research team of talented creative people who are*

interested and committed to science, and to develop exciting and competitive research projects for this team. Attracting such people to the lab, finding interesting research directions, plus securing funding for the lab are the great challenges for the PI.

**Who was your mentor or role model in your scientific career?**

I am lucky that I worked, collaborated and interacted with many interesting people. All of them – my friends, students, colleagues, and collaborators – influenced in various ways my scientific career and shaped me as a person. After graduating from Moscow Engineering Physics Institute, I worked on my Ph.D. thesis in the laboratory of professor Vinetskii. The environment there was very stimulating both scientifically and technically. Because it was necessary to work on a shoestring budget with scarce resources and reagents, I learned to be imaginative and creative in designing experiments. When I moved to Sidney Pestka's laboratory, I was submerged into the field of IFNs and their receptors. I enjoyed the freedom to explore different research topics and acquired skills in writing and presentations. I first felt the joy of discovery while involved in cloning the second chain of the IFN- $\gamma$  receptor complex. I then moved to the characterization of an orphan receptor as a second chain of the IL-10 receptor complex. Further database mining, cloning efforts and studies of ligand-receptor interactions led to the discovery of several novel cytokines such as cytomegalovirus-encoded IL-10 (cmvIL-10), IL-19 and IFN- $\lambda$ s, as well as the identification and characterization of functional receptor complexes for these and other cytokines including IL-10, IL-22, IL-26, and IFN- $\lambda$ s.

**If you weren't a scientist, what would you be?**

I like to work with my hands, but I can not do routine repetitive jobs. I always wondered whether I would be a good surgeon, or perhaps an architect.

**What keeps you up at night and what's your idea of relaxation?**

I am a night person – things that require my focused undisturbed attention, like writing grants and papers or planning presentations, can keep me awake well past midnight.

Short term relaxation for me is a change in activity; sports or just physical work do the trick. An ideal vacation is to get integrated into the beauty and wonders of nature. I particularly love mountains and the ocean. I can spend hours swimming, snorkeling or scuba diving somewhere in the Caribbean. In Russia, I used to do rock climbing and mountain hiking. Now I just enjoy mountain skiing. Nothing can be compared to skiing in fresh powder, breathing cold, crisp air, and having the freedom to turn at will and go in any direction you want. Wouldn't it be great if such freedom can be more affordable in scientific research?

**This year's 2010 ISICR meeting will take place in Chicago. What are you most looking forward to?**

I'm looking forward to learning about new trends and research findings, talking to old friends and meeting new people.

**Who would you thank if there was an acceptance speech at the Milstein award ceremony?**

Scientific discoveries are the results of team work, where significant contributions are made by all members of the research team. I am very thankful to the former and current members of the lab, numerous colleagues and collaborators. I would like to thank the ISICR Awards Committee members and the Milstein family. Personally, I am very thankful for the unconditional support of my family.

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# 2010 ISICR Milstein Young Investigator and Christina Fleischmann Awardee MINIBIOs

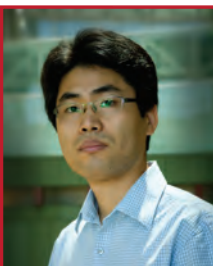
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**Milstein Award Winner**  
**Saurabh Chattopadhyay, Ph.D.**

Research Associate  
Department of Molecular Genetics  
Lerner Research Institute  
Cleveland, OH

Dr. Saurabh Chattopadhyay received his Ph.D. in 2002 from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, in Biotechnology. He joined the laboratory of Dr. Ganes Sen in 2005, when he started to work on the role of IRF-3 in mediating virus-induced apoptosis. He is currently working on the newly discovered IRF-3/Bax mediated apoptotic pathway that is activated by cytoplasmic RLH signaling. In this pathway, IRF-3 does not function as a transcription factor, but it binds to Bax through a BH3 domain located near the C-terminus of IRF-3; the two proteins translocate to the mitochondria and trigger apoptosis. His research on this transcription independent role of IRF-3 in mediating virus-induced apoptosis was published in EMBO J (2010). His on-going studies to understand the specific contribution of this IRF-3 induced apoptotic pathway to the host antiviral responses were presented at Cytokine 2010 in Chicago. Currently he is working as a Research Associate in the Department of Molecular Genetics at Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland. Dr. Chattopadhyay is also a recipient of Boltzmann Award, presented jointly by both ISICR and ICS, in 2008 at the Cytokine meeting in Montreal.



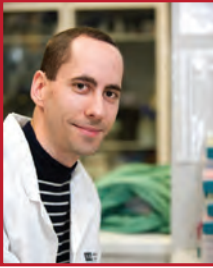
**Milstein Award Winner**  
**Yeonseok Chung, Ph.D.**

Institute of Molecular Medicine  
University of Texas Medical School at Houston  
Houston, TX

Dr. Chung received his Ph.D. investigating the balance between tolerance and immunity in the mucosal immune system from the Seoul National University in 2003. Dr. Chung's research demonstrated a unique subset of dendritic cells in the mucosal area responsible for cross-priming of gut antigens. He also demonstrated the compensatory role of TGF- $\beta$ , and regulatory T cells in inducing mucosal tolerance in vivo. These research activities during his PhD course resulted in 10 publications in peer-reviewed journals including Blood and the Journal of Immunology.

Following completion of his doctoral training, Dr. Chung joined Dr. Chen Dong's laboratory at MD Anderson Cancer Center as a post-doctoral fellow, and later a junior faculty from 2005 to 2009. His main research interest is to understand the biology of pathogenic T cells in autoimmune diseases in the context of helper T cell subsets and cytokines. Dr. Chung described how sequential cytokine stimulation and transcription factors shape the generation and maintenance of IL-17-producing-inflammatory T cells and follicular helper T cells, resulting in publication in Immunity, Science and Nature Immunology.

As a result of his expertise in the area of cellular and mucosal immunology, in June 2010 Dr. Chung was offered as an assistant professor at the Institute of Molecular Medicine, the University of Texas Medical School at Houston. As an independent scientist, Dr. Chung's research goal is to understand the cellular and molecular mechanisms whereby immune responses are regulated in healthy and disease status in the context of cytokine involvement. To this aim, Dr. Chung's research team will utilize genetic and immunologic approaches in diverse animal disease models. Outcome of these studies will help us to better understand our immune system, and to develop novel approaches for treating immune-mediated diseases and cancer.



### **Milstein Award Winner**

#### **Michael P. Gantier, PhD**

Research Fellow  
Centre for Cancer Research  
Monash Institute of Medical Research  
Melbourne, Australia

Dr. Gantier received his Ph.D. from the University College Dublin (Ireland) in 2006 following his work on the roles of double stranded RNAs in mammalian cells, under the supervision of Dr. John Baugh and Dr. Seamas Donnelly. Following his interest in the relationship between the fields of RNA interference and that of innate immunity, Dr. Gantier joined the laboratory of Prof. Bryan Williams in February 2006, in the Monash Institute of Medical Research, Melbourne, Australia.

Accordingly, Dr Gantier's main focus in Prof. Williams' lab has been to characterize the modulation of innate immunity by small RNAs. In particular, Dr. Gantier's work established that human Toll like receptor 7 (TLR7) was involved in the sequence-specific sensing of single stranded RNAs, and that TLR7 and 8 were able to distinguish between different sequences of RNAs. His further studies showed that these findings could be used to design bi-functional short interfering RNAs that can recruit both RNA interference and innate immunity, with possible translational application in the treatment of select cancers. In addition, Dr. Gantier's work has also identified a key role for TLR8 in the sensing of phagosomal bacteria, and demonstrated that human TLR8 response is under genetic regulation. These findings have constituted the grounds for several publications in prestigious journals such as *The Journal of Immunology*, *Molecular Therapy* or *Human Mutation*.

Dr Gantier's current studies focus on the regulation of the innate immune response by another class of short RNAs, call microRNAs. Through the use of microRNA-deficient cell models, his research should help elucidate the regulatory roles of microRNAs in the interferon response and could help better characterize the function of many innate immune genes.



### **Milstein Award Winner**

#### **Estanislao Nistal Villán, Ph.D.**

Research Associate  
Center for Applied Medicine (CIMA)  
Universidad de Navarra  
Pamplona, Spain

Dr. Estanislao Nistal-Villán is originally from Toral de los Guzmanes, León, Spain. He completed his undergraduate studies in Salamanca, Spain. Right after, he moved to Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, where he performed his multidisciplinary training in structural, molecular biology and virology in the laboratories of Dr. Aneel Aggarwal and Adolfo García-Sastre. Dr. Nistal-Villán received his Ph.D. in 2010 in the Microbiology Department under the supervision of Dr. García-Sastre. He is currently conducting his postdoctoral research in the laboratory of Dr. Gloria González-Aseguinolaza at the Center for Applied Medical Research at Universidad de Navarra in Pamplona, Spain.

Dr. Nistal-Villán has dedicated his work to study the regulation of IFN- $\beta$  production, with particular interest in the molecular aspects that mediate the activation of RIG-I by influenza virus infection and the signals that participate in the formation of the IFN- $\beta$  enhanceosome.

His current research is focused to the study of mechanisms that allow hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection to be detected by cells and how the virus infection escapes detection by the immune system and becomes refractory to interferon treatment. Of particular interest is the molecular mechanisms used by hepadnaviridae to establish chronic liver infections, using woodchuck hepatitis virus (WHV) chronic infection in woodchuck as a model.

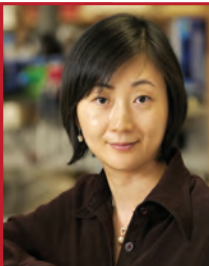


## Milstein Award Winner

### Ram Savan, Ph.D.

Senior Fellow  
Laboratory of Experimental Immunology  
National Cancer Institute-Frederick  
Frederick, MD

Dr. Ram Savan received his Ph.D. in 2004 from the United Graduate School of Agriculture Sciences, Kagoshima University, Japan under Dr. Masahiro Sakai where he discovered that fish contain 2 interferon- $\gamma$  (IFN- $\gamma$ ) genes. Dr. Savan is currently a Senior Fellow in the Laboratory of Experimental Immunology, Cancer and Inflammation Program, National Cancer Institute, NIH in Dr. Howard Young's laboratory. His research is focused on the post-transcriptional regulation of immune genes. He has defined a novel role for microRNAs (miRNAs) in stabilizing IFN- $\gamma$  mRNA based on changes in the mRNA structure upon interaction with the miRNA. This finding represents a new mechanism of action of miRNAs in regulating gene expression. He also defined the role of miRNAs in controlling HLA-C gene expression in collaboration with Dr. Mary Carrington's laboratory. This work on HLA-C has broad implications for the differential susceptibility of individuals to HIV and psoriatic arthritis. Another area of his research interest has been in defining the importance of IL-22 receptor expression in the pathogenesis of ALK+ anaplastic large cell lymphoma. He was a recipient of the Japanese Society for Promotion of Science research fellowship. Additionally, Dr. Savan is a two time recipient of the National Cancer Institute Director's Innovation Award (2009-2010).



## Christina Fleischmann Award Winner

### Xiaoyu Hu

Department of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
New York, NY

Dr. Hu obtained her Ph.D. in Immunology from Weill Graduate School of Medical Sciences of Cornell University in 2004 after receiving her M.D. from Peking University Health Science Center in 1997. After completing her postdoctoral-training at Hospital for Special Surgery, she joined Hospital for Special Surgery Arthritis and Tissue Degeneration Research Program as an Assistant Scientist with a joint academic appointment at Weill Cornell Medical College as an Assistant Professor of Immunology in Medicine. Her research has been published in journals including Nature Immunology and Immunity. Dr. Hu is a recipient of 'Within Our Reach' Rheumatoid Arthritis Research Award from American College of Rheumatology and a principal investigator of a NIH R01 award. The research focus of her laboratory is the role of Notch pathway in regulation of innate immunity and inflammation. Besides her research efforts, Dr. Hu is also actively engaged in teaching activities including medical student education.





**2010 Sidney &  
Joan Pestka  
AWARD WINNER**

**THE SIDNEY & JOAN PESTKA  
POST-GRADUATE AWARD:  
Dr. Anette H. H. van Boxel-Dezaire**

The Cleveland Clinic Foundation  
Lerner Research Institute  
Cleveland, OH

Dr. Anette H. H. van Boxel-Dezaire is an immunologist who received her Ph.D. degree from the Faculty of Medicine at the Vrije Universiteit (VU), Amsterdam, The Netherlands, in 2001. She has a longstanding interest in the involvement of cytokines in the pathogenesis and treatment of autoimmune diseases, in particular multiple sclerosis (MS). To obtain more knowledge of molecular biology and of interferon signaling pathways, she joined the laboratory of Dr. George R. Stark (Cleveland Clinic Foundation) in 2003. She employed a phospho-flow cytometry technique to study IFN $\beta$ -induced signaling in primary human B cells, T cells and monocytes in whole blood cultures, and found major differences in the activation of STAT1, STAT3 and STAT5 between these leukocyte subsets. In B cells and especially in CD4+ T cells IFN $\beta$  activated STAT5 in addition to STAT3, but only few primary human B cells activated STAT1, a finding that could not be explained by decreased levels of IFNAR2 or STAT1 or enhanced levels of SOCS1 or relevant protein tyrosine phosphatases in B cells. The observed differential activation of STATs by IFN $\beta$  finally provides more insight how IFN- $\alpha$ / $\beta$ , increases the survival of primary human B cells and CD4+ T cells, but enhance the apoptosis of monocytes. Besides the cell type-specific signaling responses induced by IFN $\beta$ , *in vitro* and by IFN $\beta$  injection in MS patients, she also found differences in signal transduction between MS patients within given leukocyte subsets. Supported by the Career Transition Fellowship Award from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Dr. Van Boxel-Dezaire is currently testing the hypothesis that, due to more inflammatory disease, clinically non-responsive MS patients have a distinct signaling response in certain leukocyte subsets compared to responders to IFN $\beta$  therapy.



**2010 Sidney &  
Joan Pestka  
AWARD WINNER**

**THE SIDNEY & JOAN PESTKA GRADUATE  
AWARD:  
Seth G Thacker**

Graduate Research Associate  
Immunology Program  
University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, MI

Seth G Thacker is a Ph.D student in the immunology program at the University of Michigan. He is currently doing his thesis research in the lab of Mariana J. Kaplan. His interest in immunology and particularly autoimmunity started when from an early age he was exposed to devastating effects of rheumatoid arthritis. This directed his interest into doing research that could improve the wellbeing of those suffering from autoimmune diseases. His current project is exploring Type I IFNs role in the increased risk of cardiovascular disease in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). Utilizing a microarray technology he has discovered a novel pathway by which IFN- $\alpha$  inhibits vascular repair in endothelial progenitor cells (EPCs) through the modulation of IL-1, and IL-1 associated molecules and inhibition of VEGF. Seth has also characterized several lupus-prone mouse models and demonstrated that in those models dependent on type I IFNs, they also demonstrate an abnormal vascular phenotype. This abnormal phenotype mirrors that seen in human SLE patients and is characterized by decreased numbers of EPC, endothelial dysfunction and impaired vascular repair mediated by EPCs. His current studies are examining the direct role of type I IFNs in the aberrant vascular phenotype observed in the lupus-prone mice.

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



Seymour Milstein (1920-2001)

## The Milstein Awards

For 22 years, the Milstein Awards have represented the pinnacle of scientific achievement in interferon and cytokine research and are conferred each year by the International Society of Interferon and Cytokine Research (ISICR) at a special event during its annual meeting. The Milstein family—Vivian, her late husband Seymour, their son Philip and their daughter Connie—are well-known philanthropists in the United States and abroad. For more than 50 years they have provided essential support for institutions and organizations at a time when funds from government agencies have been drying up.

The preeminent Seymour & Vivian Milstein Award for Excellence in Interferon and Cytokine Research, commonly known as The Milstein Award, recognizes individuals who have made exceptional contributions to interferon and cytokine research, either in a basic or applied field. Many of these achievements have led to the advancement of human health. The Milstein family also supports The Milstein Young Investigator Awards to recognize the work of individuals who have made an impact on interferon and cytokine research early in their careers, and The Milstein Travel Awards to give those who may not otherwise be able to attend the Annual Meeting of the ISICR an opportunity to share the most current interferon and cytokine knowledge with peers from around the world.

## The Seymour and Vivian Milstein Award for Excellence in Interferon and Cytokine Research

The Seymour & Vivian Milstein Award for Excellence in Interferon and Cytokine Research, commonly known as The Milstein Award, represents the pinnacle of scientific achievement in interferon and cytokine research. The Milstein Award is bestowed upon a leading biomedical research scientist who has made outstanding contributions to interferon and cytokine research, either in a basic or applied field. Many laureates have made seminal advancements that have enabled the successful treatment of disease or have the potential to lead to significant health benefits for humanity. The Milstein family understood the importance of interferon research early on and established the Seymour & Vivian Milstein Award for Excellence in Interferon and Cytokine Research in 1988, two years after interferon was first approved for the treatment of hairy cell leukemia. Since that time, it has been widely recognized that interferons and the larger class of cytokines play critical roles in the development

and progression of many major diseases including cancer, viral diseases such as hepatitis and influenza, and autoimmune disorders like multiple sclerosis and lupus. Nominations should be communicated to the President of the ISICR by **June 1, 2011** (see next page).

## The Milstein Young Investigator Awards

The Milstein Young Investigator Awards are bestowed upon individuals who have made an impact on interferon and cytokine research early in their careers. International Society of Interferon and Cytokine Research (ISICR) members [who attend the Annual Meeting of the ISICR and] who have received a Ph.D. or M.D. within the previous 8 years are eligible. Every year up to five awards are granted to individuals who have made notable contributions to interferon and cytokine research, either in a basic or applied field. This award is provided by a generous gift of the Milstein Family.

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS continued

ISICR members may apply themselves or nominate other members for Milstein Young Investigator Awards. Senior laboratory advisers are encouraged to have their associates apply. A curriculum vitae and letter of recommendation should accompany the application. To apply for this award, submit the 2011 ISICR Award Application by **July 1, 2011**.

## The Milstein Travel Awards

ISICR members who attend the annual ISICR meeting are eligible for Travel Awards. They are provided through a grant from the Milstein Family based on the scientific merit of the abstract and financial necessity. However, this award does not exempt payment of the registration fee. A CV should accompany the application for this award. Please note that there are no age restrictions to this award. However if both senior and junior members from the same laboratory apply for an award, preference is given to the junior member. To apply for this award, submit the 2011 ISICR Award Application by **July 1, 2011**.

## ISICR Honorary Membership

Nominees should be individuals who have made substantive contributions to interferon/cytokine research over much of their careers, either in a basic or applied field. Honorary members are the treasures of the society and provide us with an historical perspective and valued research tradition. A brief (one to two page) description of the reasons for your nomination and the curriculum vitae of the nominee should be communicated to the ISICR President by **June 1, 2011** (see column to the right).

## ISICR Distinguished Service Award

The ISICR will on occasion bestow this honor on an ISICR member who has made an extraordinary contribution to the

society. The individual will have devoted significant time and energy over a period of years to elevating the goals of the Society in furthering research on interferon, cytokines and chemokines. A brief (one to two page) description of the reasons for your nomination and the curriculum vitae of the nominee should be communicated to the President of the ISICR by **June 1, 2011** (see below).

Leonidas C. Plataniias, M.D., Ph.D.  
Deputy Director, Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Jesse, Sara, Andrew, Abigail, Benjamin and Elizabeth Lurie Professor of Oncology  
Professor of Medicine  
Northwestern University Medical School  
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Fax. 312-9081372  
E-mail: [lplataniias@northwestern.edu](mailto:lplataniias@northwestern.edu)

Nominations received by the President for the Seymour & Vivian Milstein Award for Excellence in Interferon and Cytokine Research, Honorary Membership, and the ISICR Distinguished Service Award will be passed on to the Chair of the Awards Committee in June and for the other awards in July. This committee will carefully consider all of the applications and vote for those applicants most qualified for the awards. As specified in the ISICR Constitution, the final vote of the Awards Committee is subject to the approval of the ISICR Board of Directors.

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS continued



Dr Christina Fleischmann (1945-1996)

## The Christina Fleischmann Award to Young Women Investigators

The rules for this ISICR award are the same as for the Seymour and Vivian Milstein Young Investigator Award (see above) except for gender and the candidate must have received a Ph.D or M.D. degree within the previous 10 years. This award is made possible through the generosity of the

Fleischmann Foundation and is dedicated to the memory of ISICR member and outstanding interferon research scientist Christina Fleischmann. To apply for this award, submit the 2011 ISICR Award Application by **July 1, 2011**.

## The Sidney & Joan Pestka Graduate and Post-Graduate Award and Post-Graduate Award for Excellence in Interferon Research

Sponsored by PBL InterferonSource

**Criteria:** The Sidney & Joan Pestka Graduate and Post-Graduate Awards are targeted to graduate students and post-doctoral fellows who have begun to make an impact in interferon research. The Awards are designed to fill the gap among the awards currently offered by the ISICR to more senior investigators—The Seymour and Vivian Milstein Young Investigator Award, the Christina Fleischmann Award, Honorary Membership, and The Seymour & Vivian Milstein Award. Candidates must be actively working in interferon research but need not be ISICR members.

**Award:** *\$3500 cash award, \$1500 travel grant, a \$2500 PBL InterferonSource product credit for each awardee, and a complementary one-year ISICR membership.*

Each awardee will receive a check in the amount of \$5000 payable to the awardee at the annual ISICR Awards Ceremony. Should an awardee not attend the annual ISICR meeting, a travel grant will not be awarded and that awardee will receive a check in the amount of \$3500 following the ISICR meeting.

Each awardee will receive a \$2500 product credit from PBL InterferonSource good for one year from the date of the award. This is an annual award, and a recipient may receive an award only once. However, an individual who receives the Graduate Award remains eligible for the Post-Graduate Award. One award will be given to a graduate student and one award to a post-doctoral fellow where candidates of suitable caliber are identified. In years where a suitable candidate is not identified, an award will not be bestowed.

**Process:** The Sidney & Joan Pestka Graduate and Post-Graduate Awards application package consists of a nomination form completed by an active ISICR member (NOT the nominee). Applicants should submit a statement describing his/her current interferon-related research, as well as a curriculum vitae. Additional supporting materials, such as posters and publications, are welcome. No proprietary or confidential information can be included in the application. To apply for this award, submit the 2011 ISICR Award Application by **July 1, 2011**.



# WELCOME

## NEW ISICR MEMBERS

The ISICR welcomes the following new members to the society. We look forward to your participation in the ISICR and your attendance at the annual ISICR/ICS meeting.

**Eugene Anton**

Biocytogen LLC  
St Charles, MO

**Simone Beckham**

Monash Univ  
Clayton, Victoria Australia

**Deborah Charych**

Nektar Therapeutics  
San Carlos, CA

**Steve Crampton**

National Inst of Health  
Rockville, MD

**Mary Crow**

Hospital for Special Surgery  
New York, NY

**Sergei Grivennikov**

Univ of California San Diego  
La Jolla, CA

**Zhong He**

Vaccine and Gene Therapy  
Inst at Florida  
Port St Lucie, FL

**Satoshi Ikeda**

Univ of Tokyo  
Tokyo, Japan

**Sarah Jacobs**

Univ of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC

**Staci Kearney**

National Jewish Health and Univ of  
Colorado - Anschutz Medical Campus  
Denver, CO

**Andrew Kovalenko**

The Weizmann Inst of Science  
Rehovot, Israel

**Laurel Lenz**

National Jewish Health  
Denver, CO

**Clio Mavragani**

Univ of Athens  
Athens, Greece

**Masanori Murayama**

Univ of Tokyo  
Minato-ku, Japan

**Eva Reali**

INGM Foundatione Instituto Nazionale  
di Genetica Molecolare  
Milan, Italy

**Laila Roisman**

Monash University  
Bentleigh East, Victoria Australia

**Awanti Sambarey**

Indian Inst of Science  
Bangalore, KA India

**David Shealy**

Centocor R&D Inc  
Randor, PA

**Rivka Stone**

Univ of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ  
Newark, NJ

**Leslie Summers DeLuca**

Univ of Toronto  
Toronto, ON Canada

**Kristina Todorova**

Massachusetts General Hospital  
Charlestown, MA

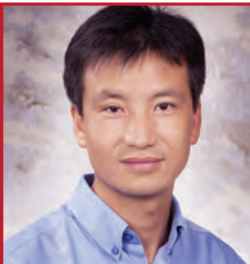
**Mohan Tulapurkar**

Univ of Maryland at Baltimore  
Baltimore, MD

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# New Member MINIBIOs

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**Shunbin Ning, Ph.D.**

Tenure-Track Assistant Professor  
Viral Oncology Program  
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Department of Medicine  
Miller School of Medicine  
University of Miami, Miami FL 33136

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Dr. Ning's laboratory investigates the interaction between the tumor virus Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV/HHV4) and the host innate immune system. Interferon (IFN) Regulatory Factors (IRFs), a small family of transcription factors, play important roles in many cellular processes such as innate immune responses and apoptosis. Of special interest, several IRFs, including the three oncogenic IRFs, IRF7, -2, and -4, as well as IRF5, are intimately associated with EBV latency, which is associated with a large spectrum of lymphomas and carcinomas. Dysregulation of EBV-specific immune responses is not only important for EBV latency and oncogenesis, but also a characteristic of EBV-associated autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). For more information, please visit: [http://sylvester.org/research/research-knowledgebase/scientist?name=s\\_ning](http://sylvester.org/research/research-knowledgebase/scientist?name=s_ning).

Positions open for fresh postdoctoral fellows and graduate students. For more information, please contact Dr. Ning at [sning@med.miami.edu](mailto:sning@med.miami.edu)

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**Laurel L. Lenz, Ph.D**

Assistant Professor of Immunology  
Integrated Department of Immunology  
National Jewish Health and University of Colorado School of Medicine  
Denver, CO. USA

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Dr. Lenz obtained his Ph.D. in immunology from the University of Washington, Seattle. His research involves study of the interactions between pathogenic bacteria and host innate immune cells, including phagocytes and natural killer (NK) cells. Interferons and other cytokines play crucial role in the regulation of anti-bacterial immunity. Dr. Lenz's recent work has shown the importance of cross talk between type I and II IFNs in regulating phagocyte activation and host resistance versus susceptibility to infection. Current studies seek to further define the mechanisms and immune consequences of such cross talk. In addition, he has recently identified and studied bacterial factors that stimulate NK cells and their production of interferon. Current studies address the mechanisms for and therapeutic potential of such stimulation.

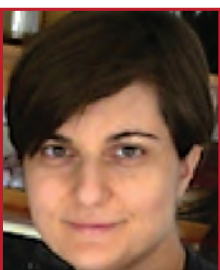
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**Sergei Grivennikov, Ph.D.**

University of California, San Diego  
School of Medicine  
Department of Pharmacology

Sergei Grivennikov did his PhD with Dr. Sergei Nedospasov at Engelhardt Institute for Molecular Biology in Moscow and later on in 2006 joined Michael Karin's lab at UCSD for his postdoctoral training. He studies the role of cytokines in the tumor microenvironment and how immune system interacts with tumors to promote or to inhibit tumorigenesis and tumor growth.



**Clio P Mavragani, MD, PhD**

Lecturer in Experimental/Applied Physiology  
School of Medicine,  
University of Athens,  
Athens, Greece

Dr. Mavragani received her MD and PhD degrees, both with honors, from the National University of Athens, Greece. She also received a Diploma Degree in Internal Medicine from Imperial College, University of London with distinction. She was trained in Rheumatology at the Department of Pathophysiology, University of Athens (Head: Prof. HM Moutsopoulos). Following her clinical fellowship, she joined the lab of Peggy Crow at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York as a recipient of S. Niarchos Foundation International Exchange Fellowship. Her research focuses on the contribution of genomic retroelements in activation of type I IFN system in systemic autoimmune disorders, including Sjogren's syndrome and systemic lupus erythematosus, the interactions between TNF and IFNs pathways, as well as the potential role of type I Interferons as biomarkers of response in patients with rheumatoid arthritis receiving anti-TNF therapies.

# REVIEWS OF INTEREST



Austin PJ, Moalem-Taylor G. **The neuro-immune balance in neuropathic pain: involvement of inflammatory immune cells, immune-like glial cells and cytokines.** *J Neuroimmunol.* 2010 Dec 15;229(1-2):26-50. Epub 2010 Sep 25.

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Browne SK, Holland SM. **Anticytokine autoantibodies in infectious diseases: pathogenesis and mechanisms.** *Lancet Infect Dis.* 2010 Dec;10(12):875-85.

Campa C, Costagliola C, Incorvaia C, Sheridan C, Semeraro F, De Nadai K, Sebastiani A, Parmeggiani F. **Inflammatory mediators and angiogenic factors in choroidal neovascularization: pathogenetic interactions and therapeutic implications.** *Mediators Inflamm.* 2010;2010. Epub 2010 Aug 25.

Campbell JD, Foerster A, Lasmanowicz V, Niemöller M, Scheffold A, Fahrendorff M, Rauser G, Assenmacher M, Richter A. **Rapid detection, enrichment and propagation of specific T cell subsets based on cytokine secretion.** *Clin Exp Immunol.* 2011 Jan;163(1):1-10.

Cianci R, Pagliari D, Pietroni V, Landolfi R, Pandolfi F. **Tissue infiltrating lymphocytes: the role of cytokines in their growth and differentiation.** *J Biol Regul Homeost Agents.* 2010 Jul-Sep;24(3):239-49.

Coll RC, O'Neill LA. **New insights into the regulation of signalling by toll-like receptors and nod-like receptors.** *J Innate Immun.* 2010;2(5):406-21. Epub 2010 May 27.

David M. **Interferons and microRNAs.** *J Interferon Cytokine Res.* 2010 Nov;30(11):825-8. Epub 2010 Oct 12.

Douglas HE. **TGF- $\beta$  in wound healing: a review.** *J Wound Care.* 2010 Sep;19(9):403-6.

Hueber AJ, Asquith DL, McInnes IB, Miller AM. **Embracing novel cytokines in RA - complexity grows as does opportunity!** *Best Pract Res Clin Rheumatol.* 2010 Aug;24(4):479-87.

Kopf M, Bachmann MF, Marsland BJ. **Averting inflammation by targeting the cytokine environment.** *Nat Rev Drug Discov.* 2010 Sep;9(9):703-18.

Noelle RJ, Nowak EC. **Cellular sources and immune functions of interleukin-9.** *Nat Rev Immunol.* 2010 Oct;10(10):683-7. Epub 2010 Sep 17.

Sims NA, Walsh NC. **GP130 cytokines and bone remodelling in health and disease.** *BMB Rep.* 2010 Aug;43(8):513-23.

Trinchieri G. **Type I interferon: friend or foe?** *J Exp Med.* 2010 Sep 27;207(10):2053-63. Epub 2010 Sep 13.



# Clinical Trials



## **Anti-Interleukin-1 in Diabetes Action (AIDA).**

**Contact:** Thomas R. Mandrup-Poulsen, MD, DMSc  
+45 4443 9101 tmpo@steno.dk

**Contact:** Linda MS Pickersgill, MD +45 4442 1867  
lpgi@steno.dk

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT00711503

## **Primary Objectives To Assess the Safety and Efficacy of Combination Immunotherapy With Rituximab and Interleukin-2 in Patients With Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma Secondary Objectives: Investigate Overall Survival.**

**Principal Investigator:** Matthew Carabasi, MD Thomas Jefferson University

**Contact:** Matthew Carabasi, MD 215-955-8874  
Matthew.Carabasi@jefferson.edu

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT00994643

## **Interleukin-7 (CYT107) Treatment of Idiopathic CD4 Lymphocytopenia: Expansion of CD4 T Cells (ICICLE). National Institutes of Health Clinical Center**

**Contact:** Patient Recruitment and Public Liaison Office  
(800) 411-1222 prpl@mail.cc.nih.gov

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT00839436

## **Genetic Polymorphisms of Interleukin-10 and TNF- $\alpha$ on Outcome of HCV-Related Chronic Liver Disease.**

**Principal Investigator:** Jen-Eing Jeng, M.D. Assistant Professor Kaohsiung Medical University Chung-Ho Memorial Hospital

**Contact:** Jen-Eing Jeng, M.D. 886-7-3121101 ext 7223  
jejeng@cc.kmu.edu.tw

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT00630006

## **Efficacy and Safety of IL-11 in DDAVP Unresponsive (IL-11 DDAVP Un).**

**Principal Investigator:** Margaret V. Ragni, MD, MPH University of Pittsburgh

**Contact:** Margaret V. Ragni, MD, MPH (412) 209-7288  
ragni@dom.pitt.edu

**Contact:** Kristen Jaworski, BSN, RN (412) 209-7411  
kjaworski@itxm.org

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT00994929

## **Interleukin-12 Gene in Treating Patients With Liver Metastases Secondary to Colorectal Cancer.**

Mount Sinai Medical Center Recruiting New York, New York, United States, 10029

**Contact:** Max W. Sung, MD 212-241 7902  
max.sung@mssm.edu

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT00072098

## **Phase I Study of Cellular Immunotherapy for Recurrent/Refractory Malignant Glioma Using Intratumoral Infusions of GRM13Z40-2, An Allogeneic CD8+ Cytolytic T-Cell Line Genetically Modified to Express the IL 13-Zetakine and HyTK and to be Resistant to Glucocorticoids, in Combination With Interleukin-2.**

City of Hope Duarte, California

**Principal Investigator:** Behnam Badie

**Contact:** Behnam Badie 626-471-9393  
neurosurgery@coh.org

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT01082926

## **First Time in Human Study of Intravenous Interleukin-18 Antibody (A18110040).**

**Contact:** US GSK Clinical Trials Call Center 877-379-3718

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT01035645

## **Depression, Cytokines and Pancreatic Cancer.**

**Principal Investigator:** Williams Breitbart, MD Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT00582699

**Randomized, Controlled Trial to Test the Efficacy of Interferon Beta in the Treatment of Intermediate Uveitis.**

**Principal Investigator:** Matthias D Becker, MD, PhD, FEBO  
Interdisciplinary Uveitis Center, University of Heidelberg

**Principal Investigator:** Friederike Mackensen, MD, FEBO  
Interdisciplinary Uveitis Center, University of Heidelberg

**Contact:** Friederike Mackensen, MD +4962215638558  
Friederike.Mackensen@uveitiszentrum.de

**Contact:** Matthias D Becker, MD, PhD, FEBO  
+4962215636630 Matthias.Becker@uveitiszentrum.de

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT00344253

**Efficacy of Interferon-gamma in Combination With Anidulafungin for the Treatment of Candidemia.**

**Principal Investigator:** Corine Delsing, MD  
Radboud University

**Contact:** Corine Delsing, MD +31-24-3618819  
C.Delsing@AIG.umcn.nl

**Contact:** Mihai Netea, MD, PhD +31-24-3618819  
M.Netea@AIG.umcn.nl

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT01270490

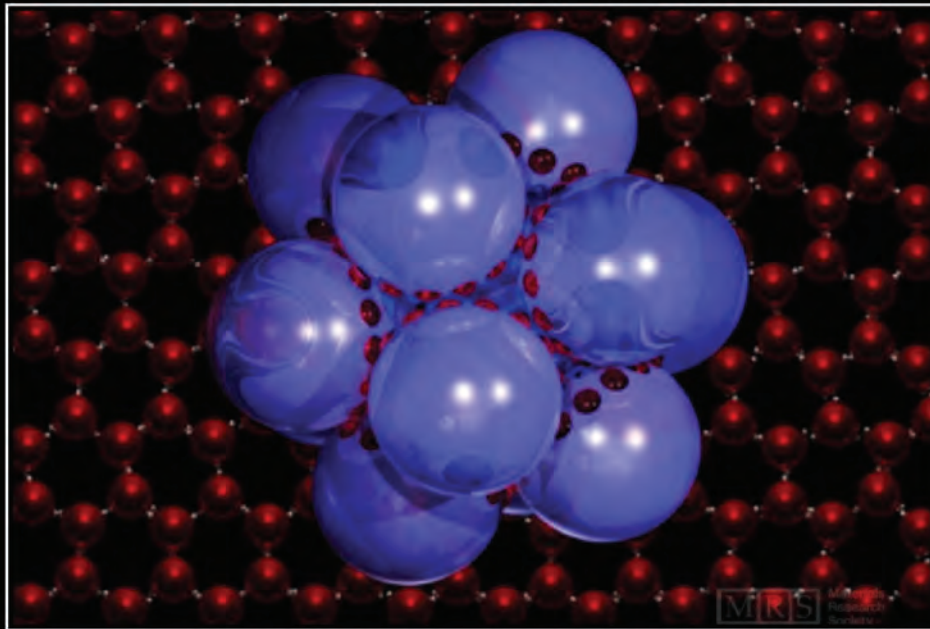
**Evaluating the Safety and the Biological Effects of Intratumoral Interferon Gamma and a Peptide-Based Vaccine in Patients With Melanoma (Mel 51).**

**Principal Investigator:** Craig L. Slingluff, M.D. University  
of Virginia

**Contact:** Kristy Scott 434-982-1902 ks4ww@virginia.edu

**Contact:** Alison Gaucher, BS  
agg5a@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu

**ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:** NCT00977145



# SCIENCE

If you don't make mistakes, you're doing it wrong.  
If you don't correct those mistakes, you're doing it really wrong.  
If you can't accept that you're mistaken, you're not doing it at all.



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## bioDBnet

<http://biodbnet.abcc.ncifcrf.gov/>

biological DataBase network is an application integrating a vast number of biological databases including Gene, UniProt, Ensembl, GO, Affy, RefSeq etc. The databases are created by downloading data from various public resources. They are formatted and maintained in a relational structure at the Advanced Biomedical Computing Center.

In the current release of bioDBnet there are 179 distinct nodes and 626 edges. Brief notes on what bioDBnet currently offers

**db2db** handles all the conversions from one database identifier to another.

**dbWalk** lets you walk through your own bioDBnet path.

**dbReport** reports every possible information that it can get for a particular identifier.

**dbFind** finds the type of identifiers and converts all into a chosen database identifier type

bioDBnet also offers supporting analysis tools to the main functions

**orgTaxon** for finding the taxon ID of an organism

**goTree** to look at the parents of any go accession

**chrView** for visualising data on chromosomes

**bioTaxon** for finding genes, proteins or GO accessions based on search terms

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## Bioinformatics Video Collection

<http://www.abnova.com/abvideo/>

Videos to help with techniques and instruments

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## Clinical Trials Magnifier

<http://www.clinicalresearchclinic.com/>

The World Health Organization (WHO) has established an International Clinical Trials Registry (ICTRP).

The WHO Trials Registry database was downloaded on September 3, 2010 including a total of 118,331 trials. The vast majority (n=99,840, 84.4%) of the studies are clinical trials. About one-third of the trials registered are industry-sponsored and two-thirds are non-industry sponsored trials.

Twenty percent of all non-industry sponsored trials originate from trial registries in Australia & New Zealand, UK and Japan. In contrast, multi-national industry-sponsored trials are predominantly (96%) registered in the US trial registry.

The US trial registry is recommended as the registry of choice for searching for industry-sponsored trials. The US trial registry also offers the user a much more powerful search engine than the WHO Trials Registry.

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## Gene Trail

<http://genetrail.bioinf.uni-sb.de/index.php>

We present a comprehensive and efficient gene set analysis tool, called GeneTrail that offers a rich functionality and is easy to use. Our web-based application facilitates the statistical evaluation of high-throughput genomic or proteomic data sets with respect to enrichment of functional categories. GeneTrail covers a wide variety of biological categories and pathways, among others KEGG, TRANSPATH, TRANSFAC, and GO. Our web server provides two common statistical approaches, “Over-Representation Analysis” (ORA) comparing a reference set of genes to a test set, and “Gene Set Enrichment Analysis” (GSEA) scoring sorted lists of genes. Besides other newly developed features, GeneTrail’s statistics module includes a novel dynamic-programming algorithm that improves the p-value computation of GSEA methods considerably.

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## iBioMagazine

<http://www.ibiomagazine.org/>

iBioMagazine offers a collection of short (<15 min) talks that highlight the human side of research. iBioMagazine goes “behind-the-scenes” of scientific discoveries, provides advice for young scientists, and explores how research is practiced in the life sciences. New topics will be covered in each quarterly issue. Subscribe to be notified when a new iBioMagazine is released.



*Continued*

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## The Immunology Link

<http://www.immunologylink.com/>

**The Immunology Link** is an immunology, cell biology, biotechnology, and molecular biology research resource, which provides information for graduate and medical students, post-doctoral fellows, clinical fellows, faculty in immunology, and research scientists in basic medical sciences and biotechnology.

Visit our site for online job and journal searches, to find a graduate program, to find an address of a scientist, for antibody resources, finding immunochemicals, information on knockout/transgenic mouse strains, and for many other useful databases.

MSEA is a web-based tool to help identify and interpret patterns of metabolite concentration changes in a biologically meaningful context for human and mammalian metabolomic studies.

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## Metabolite Set Enrichment Analysis (MSEA)

<http://www.msea.ca/MSEA/faces/Home.jsp>

MSEA provides three types of enrichment analyses:

ORA performs over representation analysis for a list of metabolites; SSP performs single sample profiling on a biofluid sample by first comparing the measured compound concentrations to their normal ranges reported in literature and then testing for potentially interesting patterns; QEA performs quantitative enrichment analysis directly on a compound concentration table with either discrete (binary, multi-class) or continuous phenotype labels.

The analyses are based on five built-in metabolite set libraries containing over 1,000 biologically meaningful groups of metabolites. In addition, users can upload their self-defined metabolite sets (i.e. defined for other species) for enrichment analysis.

MSEA enables simultaneous biomarker discovery and functional interpretation. The approach has the potential to identify subtle but coordinated changes among a group of related compounds, which may go undetected with conventional methods.

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## multi-Harmony: multi-group Sequence Harmony & multi-Relief

<http://www.ibi.vu.nl/programs/shmrwww/>

The multi-Harmony server provides simplified and powerful interactive access to improved Sequence Harmony (SH) and multi-Relief (mR) methods for detection of sub-family specific residues in alignments. You can input your query alignment and run SH and mR on your alignment. The output provides residues that are different among sub-families in your alignment. In addition, the annotated alignment can be viewed with Jalview, and the results are visualized on the 3D structure (if provided) with Jmol.

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## The Pathways Integration Tool (PINT)

<http://csb2.ym.edu.tw/cgi-bin/pint/index.cgi>

One important goal of pathway study is to reconstruct the regulatory network in a cell. From time to time, biologists may need to integrate a number of initially independent pathways to generate an overview of the entities implicated in a biological function/phenomenon. The Pathways Integration Tool (PINT) was therefore designed to assist users to conduct biological pathway integration (BPI), and to explore the possible phenotypic outcomes under a particular physiological or pathological condition.

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## PhenoHM Server

<http://phenome.cchmc.org/phenoBrowser/view/mainhelpnew.jsp#abt>

PhenoHM Server (Comparative Phenomics of Human and Mouse): PhenoHM Server is a search based tool to mine Human, Mouse and their Orthologous Phenotypes. The goal of this tool is to allow the user to rapidly obtain a mapping between the human and mouse phenotypes. The tool further aids the user by providing a tree ontology view of the mouse phenotypes. The Human Phenotype records are mapped to the mouse phenotype records based upon the common disease CUI (Concept Unique Identifier) from UMLS (Unified Medical Language System). For this common CUI, the human genes from the human phenotype and the mouse genes from the mouse phenotype are fetched. Based upon these two sets of genes, the ortholog genes are calculated. The OMIM Records and Pubmed IDs from human and the MP terms and descriptions are provided in the results as evidence for the mapped human-mouse phenotypes.



Continued

## **SPEED: (S)ignaling (P)athway (E)nrichment using (E)xperimental (D)atsets**

<http://speed.sys-bio.net/>

SPEED is a signaling pathway annotation enrichment analysis tool with annotations based on evidences from pathway perturbation experiments. Thus, genes are annotated based on causal influences of pathway perturbations as opposed to pathway memberships alone. Identifying modulated pathways upstream of differentially expressed genes can facilitate the understanding of involved regulatory mechanisms. Currently only human genes and pathways are supported.



<http://mips.helmholtz-muenchen.de/proj/rspider/#>

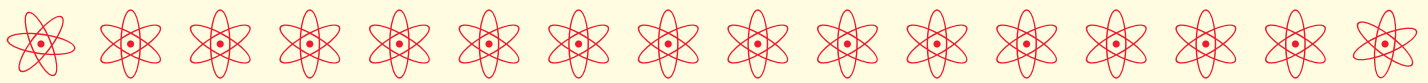
R spider is a web-based tool for the analysis of a gene list using the systematic knowledge of core pathways and reactions in human biology accumulated in the REACTOME and KEGG databases. R spider implements a network based statistical framework, which provides a global understanding of gene relations in the supplied gene list, and fully exploits the Reactome and KEGG knowledge bases.

## THE IL-1 FAMILY NOMENCLATURE

Family Name	Name	Receptor	Co-Receptor	Property
IL-1F1	IL 1 $\alpha$	IL 1RI	IL 1RacP	pro-inflammatory
IL-1F2	IL 1 $\beta$	IL 1RI	IL 1RacP	pro-inflammatory
IL-1F3	IL-1Ra	IL 1RI	n.a.	antagonist for IL 1 $\alpha$ ; IL 1 $\beta$
IL-1F4	IL 18	IL 18R $\alpha$	IL 18R $\beta$	pro-inflammatory
IL-1F5	IL-36Ra	IL 1Rrp2	n.a.	antagonist for IL 36 $\alpha$ , IL 36 $\beta$ , IL 36 $\gamma$
IL-1F6	IL 36 $\alpha$	IL 1Rrp2	IL 1RacP	pro-inflammatory
IL-1F7	IL 37	? IL 18R $\alpha$	unknown	anti-inflammatory
IL-1F8	IL 36 $\beta$	IL 1Rrp2	IL 1RacP	pro-inflammatory
IL-1F9	IL 36 $\gamma$	IL 1Rrp2	IL 1RacP	pro-inflammatory
IL-1F10	IL 38	unknown	unknown	unknown
IL 1F11	IL 33	ST2	IL 1RacP	Th2 responses, pro-inflammatory

n.a. not applicable

Ref: Nature Immunology 11:973, 2010



# You know you've worked too long in a lab when:



1. You use the word "aliquot" in regular sentences.
2. Sometime you momentarily vanish from social activities because of a timepoint.
3. You've never worn a clean lab coat.
4. You don't fear rodents, rodents fear you.
5. You say "orders of magnitude" in regular sentences.
6. You flinch when you hear the word "significant".
7. You've used Kimwipes as Kleenex.
8. You're very good at diluting things.
9. You're also very good at transferring small amounts of liquid between containers.
10. No one in your family has any idea what you do.
11. You can make a short film in Powerpoint.
12. You own Invitrogen t-shirts and actually wear them.
13. You refer to your children as the F1.
14. You've suffered carpal tunnel from the pipetman.
15. A timer clipped to the hip is not only practical but dead sexy.
16. You've played Battleship using tip boxes.
17. You think the following is a quality insult: "I've seen cells more competent than you!"
18. The scent of latex reminds you of work, not play.
19. You wonder what absolute alcohol tastes like with orange juice.
20. You can't watch CSI without cursing at least one scientific inaccuracy.
21. You use acronyms for everything and never stop to elaborate.
22. You can't stand deity-like physicians while secretly wishing you had their job.
23. You always seem to use the microscope after the person with the impossible close together eyes.
24. Accident reports are a badge of honor.
25. You've wondered why you can't drink distilled water in the lab- shouldn't it be clean?
26. You give the lab equipment motivational pep talks "Work for me today or I'll reprogram you with a fire axe" is my favorite.
27. You've worked out that a trained chimp could probably do 90% of your job.
28. When a non-scientist asks you what you do for a living you roll your eyes and talk science at them until they've lost the will to live (mainly for fun).
29. You have to check the web to find out what the weather is outside.
30. You realize that almost anything can be classed as background reading.
31. People wearing shorts under a lab coat disturb you slightly as they look as though they might be naked underneath.
32. Safety equipment is optional unless it makes you look cool.
33. Warning labels invoke curiosity rather than caution.

34. The holiday night out reveals scientists can't dance, although a formula for the movement of hands and feet combined with beats per min is found scrawled on a napkin by a waiter the next day.
35. You know which part of the lab you can chill out undisturbed on Friday afternoon.
36. You decide the courses and conference you want to go on by the quality of the food served.
37. You are strangely proud of the collection of junk you've stolen from vendors at trade shows.
38. You've used dry ice to cool beer down.
39. No matter what the timings in the experiment protocol there is always time for lunch in the middle.
40. As has been pointed out on several occasions, you can no longer spell normal words but have no trouble with spelling things like immunohistochemistry or deoxyribonucleic acid.
41. Burning eyes, nose and throat indicate that you haven't actually turned on the fumehood/ downdraft bench.
42. Your slightly too fond of the smell of (pick one or many) Xylene/Agar/Ethanol/Undergraduates/ Alcoholic handwash.
43. You've left the lab wearing a piece of PPE (personal protective equipment) because you forgot you had it on.
44. You bitch about not being able to pipette by mouth any more (Not me but I've worked with people who do!)
45. You still get amusement out of "freezing" things in liquid nitrogen.
46. You've bent down to pick something up off the floor only to scatter the contents of your top pocket under the largest machine in the lab.
47. You rejoice when grabbing a handful of eppendorfs/bijous/anything and it turns out to be the exact number you needed.
48. When you start making patterns in your pipette tip box as you take the tips out.
49. When you wonder how much it will hurt if I pour just a smidgen of this phenol/chloroform/ trichloroacetic acid/ any random chemical on myself.
50. You can identify organs on roadkills.
51. The fire alarm ceases to bug you. You only evacuate when you see the fire. (Hand on the floor to check for heat is a good indicator).
52. When you've got that callus on the side of your thumb from opening PCR tubes.
53. You open the toothpaste with one hand.
54. You want to have parafilm at home too.



# ISICR COMMITTEES MINUTES



Cytokine biologists, **Scott Durum** (guitar), **Leon Plataniias** (bass), **Ray Donnelly** (drums) and **Curt Horvath** (guitar) gave a surprise performance at the Chicago House of Blues during the closing night gala of the Cytokines 2010 Meeting. They were later joined on stage by **Friedmann Weber** on bass and **Luke O'Neill** on vocals who led the audience in a rousing version of "Roadhouse Blues."

## ISICR Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

### Cytokines 2010/Chicago, IL

Sunday October 3, 2010

2:30pm – 4:00pm CDT, Atlanta Room

#### BOD present:

Eleanor Fish  
Robert Friedman  
Tom Hamilton  
Leonidas Plataniias  
Charles Samuel  
Ganes Sen  
Robert Silverman  
Friedmann Weber

#### Ex officis and guests present:

Christine Czarniecki  
Ferdinando Dianzani  
Otto Haller  
Keiko Ozato  
Bryan Williams  
Howard Young

#### Staff present:

Lisa Hetherington

## 1. Meeting was called to order by Leon at 2:38pm

### 2. President's report (Leon)

- a. Preliminary analysis indicates that the 2010 meeting will be successful with a profit for each society.
- b. The merger with ICS was briefly discussed. Separate agenda item to be discussed later in this meeting.
- c. FASEB contract
  - i. Previously was operated using FASEB's merchant account for ISICR credit card processing, but now must open own merchant account
  - ii. PayPal processor one time setup cost - \$500
    1. Leon moved to use PayPal with associated cost. Unanimously approved by the BOD.
      - a. Howard states that processor and merchant account setups does not commit ISICR to use FASEB for website hosting.

### 3. Secretary Report (Tom Hamilton)

- a. Elections will need to be held in 2011

### 4. Treasurer's report (Bob Friedman)

ISICR is financially solid, and a financial report will be distributed to the Board.

### 5. Website hosting alternative (Howard Young)

- a. Currently FASEB is hosting the ISICR website. Discussed possibility of using alternatives.
- b. B. Discussions were held on the PBL Awards process, and it was recommended that the Call for PBL awards should mirror the Call for Young Investigator and Christina Fleischmann awards (i.e., submit application through website, Awards Committee makes recommendations, then present recommendations to PBL.)
  - i. Additional discussions were held about the relationship of the Milstein family and ISICR, their attendance at the annual meetings and point of contact relationships.
- c. Motivation and advantages of collaborative effort between PBL and ISICR were discussed. PBL's current interactions with the ISICR were summarized by Howard.
  - i. Leon proposes a delay on the decision of website hosting.
  - ii. Recommended that a small committee be formed to manage the relationship with PBL's award process.
    1. Howard, Eleanor and Bob Silverman were nominated to serve as members. Rob Pestka or his designate was recommended to serve as an ex-officio member of the Awards committee for selection of PBL awards only.
    2. The BOD approved the subcommittee formation.

### 6. Other Business – Annual Meetings (Christine Czarniecki )

- a. 2013 – Committee recommends that the 2013 meeting be held in San Francisco. Proposal was distributed for review by Warren Leonard). Needs commitment to the venue to proceed.
  - i. Leon moves to approve San Francisco as 2013 meeting venue. BOD approved this location

- b. 2014 – Melbourne – Paul Hertzog presented the proposal
- c. 2011-Florence

- i. Award committee requests that ISICR contribute \$3K to 2011 Distinguished Service Awardee. Discussed whether amount is based on need and/or whether to continue as ongoing support. Agreed to keep the amount open (not fixed). Agreed to offer membership and travel support upon request (less than \$3K).

### 7. 2012 – Geneva. The proposal for Geneva as the 2012 meeting site was presented to the BOD. The BOD approved this location for the 2012 meeting.

### 8. Other Business - Merger of ISICR & ICS

- a. Discussion held about the Merger, and noted that members of both societies felt strongly to enter into negotiation. Polled membership and 85% in favor of a merger.
  - i. Suggested that a committee be formed with society leaderships to enter into negotiation. Recommended that Leon, Charles Samuel and Otto Haller form the committee. The BOD approved the formation of this subcommittee
  - ii. Committee should state position of the ISICR regarding a merged society and summarize the important issues that will need to be resolved to form a joint society:
    1. Finances
    2. Bylaws
    3. Journal
    4. Awards
      - a. Propose to keep separate awards committee for the different funded awards.
    5. Name of Society
- b. Board agreed that there are pros and cons of the merger
  - i. Can broaden the field of research for sustainability of the Society.
  - ii. Concern that scientific content in the program is heavily weighted towards cytokines and limited focus on interferons.
  - iii. Concern about the difference in cultures of the societies. The BOD does not want to lose the community spirit of ISICR.
- c. Noted that the new President-elect of ICS is supportive of merger.
- d. Joint board meeting Monday at lunch includes merger as an agenda item.
  - i. Need to come to solution quickly, so as not to lose momentum.
  - ii. After concrete issues are discussed, the proposal will be presented to the BOD for final approval

### 9. Other Business – iPhone App (Howard Young)

Board approves of iPhone App concept for future meetings. Howard to get costs for iPhone and Droid phone Apps.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm



# Joint Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

## Cytokines 2010/Chicago, IL

Monday October 4, 2010

11:30am – 1:00pm CDT, Truffles Room

### ISICR BOD & Ex officis present:

Eleanor Fish	Robert Friedman
Tom Hamilton	Keiko Ozato
Leonidas Plataniias	Charles Samuel
Ganes Sen	Robert Silverman
Friedmann Weber	Howard Young

### ICS Council & Ex officio present:

Alberto Mantovani  
Nancy Ruddle  
John Schader  
David Wallach

### Staff present:

Lisa Hetherington (ISICR)  
Sherwood Reichard (ICS)

Meeting was called to order by Alberto Mantovani at 11:38 am

### 1. Assessment of meeting and future meetings (Alberto Mantovani)

- a. Alberto commented that the meeting is going very well and thanks Leon and all of the representatives of the societies who helped put together this event.
- b. Alberto Mantovani reported that the ICS Council approved the schedule and location of future joint meetings.
- c. Leon reports that the current meeting's budget projection indicate a positive return to both societies. Final budget will be available in upcoming months after all awards and expenses have been accounted for. 585 attendees participated in the meeting.
- d. Noted that presentations/abstracts were mostly interferon based, and questions arose why more cytokine based abstracts were not submitted.
  - i. Other competing/overlapping cytokine based meetings took place. Same trend occurred in Lisbon (2009). Need to be aware of other competing meeting dates. Cytokine meetings are more prevalent than interferon meetings.
  - ii. Travel budgets are being cut – impacted this year's submissions
  - iii. Noted that ISICR and ICS may have different philosophies when it comes to the objective of the annual meeting.
- e. Future meetings. 2011 & 2012 locations are excellent venues
  - i. 2011-Florence, Italy. After review of list of speakers, concern noted about the lack of female scientist representation. Nancy will add to agenda item for further discussion with Alberto.
  - ii. 2014 – Melbourne, Australia. Noted that societies will try to increase travel awards. Cautioned that the currency exchanges might impact final outcome. Stressed good communication is critical with meeting organizers.
  - iii. Eleanor noted that Montreal's 2008 conference organizer, Gabriella Di Pancrazio has offered her assistance and has historical knowledge to assist with 2011 meeting. Additional discussion about

standardized planning organizers and how it is inefficient that each year the meeting organization process is reinvented with respect to Mechanics and negotiations

1. Mechanics: need someone to organize abstracts, exhibitors, and all of the regular functions (same each year)
2. Negotiations: need someone from local venue to better negotiate with vendors.
3. Recommend that Gabriella put a proposal together and submit.

### 2. Collaboration and Merger between ISICR & ICS

- a. ICS reports that an opinion poll was sent to membership to gauge feelings on merger. Received 15% response from 430 members, indicating positive feedback. Alberto is confident that the membership feels positive that we should enter into negotiations of a merger. The science has already merged.
- b. Pros and cons of merger discussed.
- c. Reviewed and discussed the validity of concerns from both societies.
  - i. Discussion focused on how the ISICR considers itself very much a community of scientists and that this fellowship is a fundamentally important aspect of the Society to be fostered.
  - ii. Balance of cytokine and interferon science is important
  - iii. Management of the different awards. Will need separate committees to handle the different awards
- d. Recommended that a Joint Merger Committee be formed to discuss details and logistics, develop a business type plan and present to Joint BOD.
  - i. From ISICR: Leon, Charles Samuel and Otto Haller
  - ii. From ICS: Nancy Ruddle, Luke O'Neill and David Wallach Recommend that the committee discuss the practical issues and develop list of points of friction by January 15th.
    1. Present to Joint BOD/Council for approval in January
    2. If approved, a vote will go to the membership as to whether to merge or not.

### 3. Meeting adjourned at 12:38pm

## ISICR Awards Committee Minutes

10:30 am – 1:00 pm • Sunday October 3, 2010  
Hyatt Regency Atlanta Room, Chicago

### Present:

Robert Silverman (Chairperson)  
Ganes Sen  
Peter Staeheli  
Takashi Fujita  
Daniela Novick  
Eleanor Fish

### Absent:

Michael Gale  
Jeanne Wietzerbin

### Review of 2010 awards:

In 2010, \$50,000 (Milstein Family), \$10,000 (R&D) and \$10,000 (PBL) was received in support of the ISICR Awards.

There were two winners of the Seymour and Vivian Milstein Award (Eleanor Fish and Sergei Kotenko); one Honorary Member (Keiko Ozato); two ISICR Distinguished Service Awards (Howard Young and Sid Pestka), five winners of The Seymour and Vivian Milstein Young Investigator Award (Yeonseok Chung, Saurabh Chattopadhyay, Michael Gantier, Ram Savan, Estanislao Nistal Villan), a winner of The Christina Fleischmann Award to Young Women Investigator (Xiaoyu Hu) and two winners of The Sidney & Joan Pestka Graduate and Post-Graduate Awards for Excellence in Interferon Research: Graduate Award to Seth Thaker and Post Graduate Award to Anette van Boxel-Dezaire. Travel awards were made to 67 ISICR members based on the quality of the abstracts and the travel distance.

The PBL Awards and the ISICR Awards selection process was discussed with recommendations made to the Board of

Directors of the ISICR that the PBL Awards be selected at the same time, and as part of the same process, as the The Seymour and Vivian Milstein Young Investigator Award and The Christina Fleischmann Award to Young Women Investigator.

There were two motions:

- 1) Based on the history of the ISICR Awards the Awards Committee wishes to maintain a separate committee for the Milstein Awards (and possibly other awards) in terms of adjudication. Unanimously approved, 6 of 8 members present.
- 2) Request that the ISICR contribute to support the travel expenses of the Distinguished Service Award winners if a request is made for support by the Awardees

Suggestions for two new additions to the ISICR Awards Committee were made and will be discussed with the individuals being considered.

Respectfully submitted,

**Robert Silverman**

Chair, ISICR Awards Committee

## Joint ISICR/ICS Meetings Committee minutes

December 28, 2010  
Chicago, Illinois

The meeting was called to order on Sunday, October 3, 2010. The meeting was well-attended. The following voting members represented the ISICR: Divaker Choubey, Santo Landolfo, Allen Lau, Leon Plataniyas, Nancy Reich, Michael Tovey and Committee Co-Chair Christine Czarniecki. The following voting

members represented the ICS: Alberto Mantovani, Amanda Proudfoot, Stefan Rose-John, Nancy Ruddle, John Sims, David Wallach and Committee Co-Chair Carl Ware. A quorum of voting members was present.

Also attending were guests from the ISICR Board of Directors (Eleanor Fish, Howard Young, Fernando Dianzani) and Paul Hertzog, Brendan Jenkins, Warren Leonard and Cem Gabay as guests presenting proposals for future meetings.

## 2009 – Lisbon, Portugal

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Michael Tovey (ISICR) presented the final report from the 2009 Joint Meeting of the SLB, ICS and ISICR which took place at the Lisbon Congress Center in Lisbon, Portugal on October 17-21, 2009. The theme of the conference was “Cellular and Cytokine Interactions in Health and Disease”. The number of registrants was reported as a total of 771 participants coming from 51 countries with a breakdown as follows: 98 ICS members; 190 ISICR members; 129 SLB members; and 354 nonmembers. Registrants included 353 students. There were 117 invited speakers. The Organizers reported income of \$629,586 (US) which includes seed start-up funds of \$20,000 (US) from each of the 3 Societies and expenses of \$554,665 (US) - leading to a profit to each of the 3 societies of \$24,973 (US) which includes the \$20,000 (US) seed start-up funds received from each. The committee members thanked the Organizers for their efforts for a very successful meeting.

## 2010 – Chicago, Illinois USA

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Leon Platanius (ISICR) provided the update for the current 2010 Joint ISICR/ICS meeting “Cytokines in Infectious Diseases, Autoimmune Disorders and Cancer”. The meeting is taking place at the Hyatt Regency on Chicago’s “Magnificent Mile”, October 3-7, 2010. Leon reported the current number of registered attendees as 580 from 36 countries with the largest number of attendees coming from the United States. The early financial reports indicate conservative estimates of \$562,000 (US) for income and \$476,500 (US) for expenses, indicating that the organizers will be able to repay the \$20,000 (US) in seed funds provided by each Society as well as provide a profit to be shared by the two Societies.

Howard Young summarized his efforts towards advances in communications at Joint Society Meetings; i.e. future uses of Applications for iPhones, iPads, iTouch and Droid based devices. Howard will continue by communicating with the future meeting Organizers to assure appropriate use of these applications for the meetings. The committee members all support Howard’s endeavors in this area of use of new technologies to enhance communications.

# 2011 – Florence, Italy



The Scientific Program is being developed by a committee that is chaired by Alberto Mantovani and includes representatives from each society. The ISICR representatives on this committee are: Santo Landolfo, Nancy Reich, Michael Tovey and Kathy Zoon. ICS representatives are: Nancy Ruddle, John Schrader, Giorgio Trinchieri and David Wallach, Alberto Mantovani. The Organizing committee is currently finalizing the list of topics and invited speakers for the scientific program. There was discussion regarding the scientific program and corporate sponsorship/donations; and the Meetings committee members strongly recommended that the Organizers and Scientific Program Committee for this meeting and future meetings insure the independence, integrity and balance of the scientific program.

Santo Landolfo (ISICR) presented an update on the 9th Joint ISICR/ICS Conference which will take place in Florence, Italy on October 9-12, 2011. The scientific theme for this Conference is "Cytokines and Interferons: from the bench to the bedside. Scientific themes range from new cytokines and new technologies, to the roles of cytokines in tumor immunology, cell cycle control, inflammation, host defense, and angiogenesis.

The clinical impact of cytokines in cancer, inflammatory diseases, viral syndromes and the use of cytokines as therapeutics will also be a major focus of the meeting. Fundamental research topics will include signal transduction, apoptosis, gene regulation, and cytokine structure- function.

The venue, Firenze Fiera is located in Florence City Centre. The Congress center is located close to the train station in Florence within close proximity to hotels of varying price range. The Congress Secretariate is M.A.F. SERVIZI SrL. Proposed early registration fees range from 250 Euros for students to 570 Euros for industry non-members. Seed funds of \$15,000 (US) from each society have been provided to the Organizers and fundraising activities are in progress. The Organizers of the 2010 Chicago Meeting provided a working list of sponsor contact information to Santo to assist with fundraising. The proposed working budget is based on 700 attendees and 40 invited speakers, as a start, and estimates expenses of 440,000 Euros (including the VAT). The plan is to add more invited speakers if finances and the budget will allow it.

## 2012 - Geneva

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Cem Gabay (ICS) presented an update on the planning for the 10th Joint ISICR/ICS Conference which will take place in Geneva, Switzerland on September 11-15, 2012. The scientific theme for this conference is “Cytokines: From Basic Biology to Clinical Application.” The Organizing Committee has been established with Cem Gabay as the Chair and Amanda Proudfoot as Co-Chair. They are contemplating disease-oriented symposia with Industry sponsorship and there was discussion of ideas for possible satellite symposia. MCI has been hired as the Conference Secretariate and meetings committee members suggested that the Organizers compare MCI’s costs of establishing a new website vs using the website that has been used for past meetings.

The current working budget is based on expense estimates of 620,000 Swiss Francs and income estimates of 634,500 Swiss Francs (current exchange rate is Swiss Franc vs US Dollar = 1:1). The organizers are requesting seed funds of \$20,000 from each society (ICS and ISICR).

# 2013 – San Francisco, CA, USA

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Warren Leonard (ICS) presented a proposal for a 2013 Joint Society Conference in San Francisco, California, USA. The proposed dates are Sunday, September 29 – Thursday, October 3, 2013. Broad scientific themes are proposed that will broadly incorporate basic and clinical research on cytokines, including aspects of the biology, signal transduction mechanisms, gene regulation, and epigenetics of cytokines/cytokine receptors related to innate and adaptive immunity, host-pathogen interactions, inflammation, autoimmunity, tumor immunity, hematopoiesis and stem cell biology. The meeting will aim to provide advances in cytokine biology and their clinical applications to therapy of human diseases.

The proposed local organizing committee is Warren Leonard (NIH, USA); Sarah Gaffen (University of Pittsburgh, USA); Robert Schreiber (Washington University, USA); and Karen Mossman (McMaster University, Ontario Canada). The Scientific Program Committee will include ICS and ISICR members (5 each) nominated by their respective society.

San Francisco is an internationally renowned and beloved city with a long-standing experience in hosting scientific meetings and it is easily accessible by airplane and train. The proposed venue is the Hyatt Regency, Embarcadero located in the heart of San Francisco, at a confirmed rate of \$229/night with a block of rooms for students at a lower rate and a “shared option” as well, for other participants who have limited resources.

The 2007 ICS stand-alone meeting was held at this hotel with good success. It offers 802 guest rooms, 67,000 square feet of flexible event space with several areas for small meetings or discussions. There are many restaurants in close proximity, as well as the world famous Chinatown, Union Square and Financial District nearby. Public transportation (BART subway, cable car, MUNI buses and ferries) are easily accessible to the hotel.

A budget was proposed, based on approximately 700 registrants and 50 invited speakers. This budget estimated needed income of \$581,000 for equal expenses and included proposed registration fees ranging from \$350 for students to \$800 for Industry non-members. The Organizers need a commitment/decision from the two societies at this time in order to lock in the venue contracts.



## 2014 – Melbourne, Australia

At last year's committee meeting in Lisbon, Paul Hertzog (ISICR, ICS) presented a proposal for Melbourne, Australia (proposing October 2013). At the current committee meeting, Brendan Jenkins re-summarized this proposal. Since both societies feel that we should attempt to hold our joint conference in the US every 3 years, it was agreed that we should consider this Melbourne proposal for 2014.

The broad themes proposed will incorporate "traditional" basic and clinical (translational) research on inflammation, cancer, innate immunity, vaccines, infectious diseases, haematopoiesis and tumor immunity, as well as emerging areas (such as systems biology).

These themes are consistent with the well-recognized strengths of many of Melbourne's world class research institutions (Monash Institute of Medical Research, MIMR; Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, WEHI; Ludwig Institute; Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute), as well as the research interests of both the ICS and ISICR societies. We also note that in addition to cytokine- and interferon-based research, sessions will focus on the rapidly growing pathogen recognition receptor (PRR) field. The proposed local organizing committee is comprised of individuals from: Melbourne [Brendan Jenkins (MIMR), Paul Hertzog (MIMR), Bryan Williams (MIMR), Ashley Mansell (MIMR), Warren Alexander (WEHI), and Sandra Nicholson (WEHI)]; Sydney: [Iain Campbell (University of Sydney)]; Adelaide: [Angel Lopez (Hanson Institute)]; Brisbane: [Matt Sweet (Institute for Molecular Bioscience); and Nigel McMillan (University of Queensland)]; and Perth: [Cassie James (Murdoch University)].

The proposed venue is the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre which is located on the banks of the Yarra River in central Melbourne. The plan is to reserve a block of rooms at the Hilton Hotel. Other hotels of varying price-ranges

are located within walking distance. Assistance with the strategic planning and professional running of the conference will be provided by ASN Events, an Australian-based company with over 15 years experience at successfully costing, managing and organizing conferences, scientific meetings and public events ranging in size from 100 to 25,000 participants, throughout Australia and overseas

A proposed budget for 600 delegates is being developed. The Organizers have obtained a confirmed commitment of AUD\$65,000 / USD\$61,465 from Melbourne Convention & Visitors Bureau (MCVB), and Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre (MCEC). Proposed registration fees range from AUD \$400-500 for students to AUD \$750-850 for Industry non-members. The organizers acknowledge a likely reduction in attendance from researchers from Europe and North America compared to previous conferences held in the northern hemisphere; however, they anticipate a large proportion of delegates from within Australia (especially Melbourne) and the Asia-Pacific region considering the strong research focus in the cytokine, interferon and pathogen recognition receptor (PRR) fields.

### Committee Vote

At the conclusion of the presentations, the presenters left the room to allow discussion and voting on the 2013 and 2014 proposals. Discussion of the two proposals was positive and the committee vote was recorded as unanimously in favor of the two proposals for the dates proposed.

#### *Post meeting note:*

*Carl Ware (ICS) and Christine Czarniecki (ISICR) subsequently informed their respective Societies of the Joint Meetings Committee's recommendations to support Joint Meetings in San Francisco, CA, USA for 2013 and*

*Melbourne, Australia for 2014. The Boards of each of the societies voted in favor of these recommendations and Carl and Christine conveyed the approvals to Warren Leonard and Brendan Jenkins.*

There was no other business to discuss and the Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Christine Czarniecki**

Co-Chair of the Joint ISICR/ICS Meetings Committee

## ISICR Membership Committee Minutes

Cytokines 2010/Chicago, IL

Sunday October 3, 2010

9:00am – 10:30am CDT, Atlanta Room

### Committee Members present:

Eleanor Fish – President  
Ana Gamero  
Ben-Zion Levi  
Howard Young

### Staff Present:

Lisa Hetherington

#### 1. Meeting was called to order by Eleanor Fish at 9:06am Central Daylight Time.

- a. Objective of committee is to maintain and grow the membership of the ISICR. Noted that this year's membership figures have steadily grown over the past few years.
  - i. 2010 = 675
  - ii. 2009 = 628
  - iii. 2008 = 638
  - iv. 2007 = 677

#### 2. Initiatives were discussed to make students and younger members aware of the society and appreciate the benefits.

- a. Renewal Initiative
  - i. In the renewal effort for 2011, include a message to PIs reminding how younger students and trainees in their lab could benefit from student membership. List benefits and ask that they encourage students to join.
  - ii. On the membership form, add space for members to recommend new member(s) with email address(es) for follow up and marketing.
- b. Promotion of member publications
  - i. Every two months, the business office will blast a Call for Publications to the membership for any abstracts, posters or other publications that is currently at press.
  - ii. After every call, a separate blast will be sent to the membership listing the publications received
  - iii. Members are encouraged to contact authors of Interferon/Cytokine papers they read and let them know about the ISICR since it is recognized that many investigators in the field are unaware of the society.
  - iv. Howard to draft the messages

- c. Electronic promotional slide
  - i. Howard to create a one page electronic slide/flier to include logo, website, membership benefits and membership rates. Flier can be posted on website for download.
  - ii. Eleanor to create text message to blast to membership, requesting help to distribute the slide if attending a related meeting.
- d. Printed material (Annual Meeting fliers, ISICR brochures, etc)
  - i. Communicate to colleagues to distribute to exhibitors whenever possible. Exhibitors will especially be interested in annual meeting fliers.

#### 3. Discussion of different social networks available and needed

- a. Twitter account, but nothing posted: "CYTOK"
- b. LinkedIn account: ISICR
- c. Facebook opportunity – Eleanor will ask one of her grad students to set up a Facebook account, after receiving approval from Board.
- d. iPhone App for meeting: CTYOKINES 2010
  - i. Discussion about the different features (schedule, speaker list, awards), and the wish for an Abstract feature and a Speaker Contact feature.
  - ii. Versions for other smart phones (ie, the Droid) were discussed.
  - iii. Committee recommends that the application continues for Cytokines 2011, and request consideration for an App for ISICR. Costs will be obtained and presented.

#### 4. Meeting adjourned at 9:50am Central Daylight time.



*Note: The ISICR Nomenclature Committee did not have a formal meeting in Chicago due to the fact that only 2 members were present. The committee decided that the following letter from the committee, in response to an inquiry, would reflect the recent committee activity.*

**Ruth Seal, PhD**

HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee (HGNC)  
European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI)  
Wellcome Trust Genome Campus  
Hinxton, Cambridgeshire  
CB10 1SD, UK

Dear Dr. Seal

The nomenclature committee of ISICR discussed the proposal from HGNC according to your letter and agreed that the designations i.e. the numbers given to the alpha genes in humans, rats and mice is not based on their isogenicity or orthology. However, the committee decided to reject all three proposals from HGNC for alternative numbering of IFN-alpha genes, and suggested to keep the present numbering, with additions of the latin species designation. The reason for that is the following.

The nomenclature committee has followed certain rules over the years, which could be summarized as follows:

A nucleotide sequence should be called an IFN gene, only if an encoded peptide is demonstrated to have the functional properties of interferons, according to induction of an antiviral state, certain signal pathways and effects on expression of certain genes.

They should be categorized as type I, II or III interferons according to receptor usage, serology, genomic structure and sequence.

The genes should be written with capital letters in italics, e.g. *IFNA1*

Designations with greek letters according to serology and sequence should be given according to sequence similarities and serology. It should be written in standard mode, e.g. IFN-1. The corresponding gene with latin letters, e.g. *IFNA1*

The numbering of the genes should be done in the order of description in published literature for each species.

These rules have been implemented and followed the last twenty years, and is accepted by the community. We are, as a rule, contacted before publication when new sequences are detected.

The committee agrees that the present numbers of the IFN-alpha genes in the three species are not the same for **isogenic** or **orthologous** sequences. Thus, human *IFNA1* does not correspond to mouse *ifna1*. We also note that the human designations use capital letters in contrast to the mouse and rat designations. We do not agree that a rule based on **orthologous/isogenic** sequences could be helpful for designations in more remote species. This is already true for the chicken IFN genes, and is obvious for the fish IFN genes. Thus, following the proposals from HGNC, when **isogenicity/orthology** is not possible to demonstrate, there is no clear added value, but probably a source for confusion.

A proposed change in the current established designations of the IFN-alpha genes would create a lot of confusion with scientist now working with the human, mouse and rat IFN genes and peptides. It will also make established literature obsolete and be frustrating for new scientists, as probably both the new and the old designations have to be given in publications. Part of that problem is solved by solution #3, although it lacks transparency. In particular, species are designated by suffix numbers with mouse being "2", rat being "3", etc. If the genomic world decided as a whole to designate species by a number suffix, and it applied to all gene families (interleukins, etc), then this might be sensible, since people would become accustomed to seeing a "2" and relating it to mice, etc. However, if this applies only to IFNs, then everyone would need a conversion table to remember the correspondence between an arbitrary number and a species. In addition, it is likely that it will be very difficult if not impossible to assign many IFN-alpha genes from distantly-related species to a particular "root symbol".

Solutions #1 and #2, as argued above, will cause confusion and frustration among scientists now working with these proteins and genes. Moreover, they probably will require revisions when applied to other species than homo, rat and mouse.

Thus, the committee recommends that the present designations should be kept as they are. Authors should be recommended to add the Latin designations, as given in the databases, or use transparent abbreviations when necessary. Thus, the present *IFNA1* gene could be designated as *IFNA1* (homo sapiens) and as now often is the case be abbreviated by the authors in publications as HuIFNA1 or Hs IFNA1.

The proposal to designate the present IFNP11, IFNP12 and IFNP22 as IFNA11P, IFNA12P, IFNA22P is accepted. Their sequences fit best to IFN alpha genes, and the designations are consistent with that of other pseudogenes, e.g. *IFNA20P*.

However, we note that the designation IFNNP1 and those of the IFN-omega genes do not end on a P. It seems consistent that the first letter after IFN reflects the greek letter. Whether the P should be given before or after a number relates to how other pseudogenes are designated in the databases.

With best regards,

**Erik Lundgren**

Chairman of the Nomenclature committee of ISICR

# ISICR Standards Committee Meeting Minutes

ISICR/Standards Committee

Sunday October 3, 2010

Chicago IL. USA

The meeting was called to order on Sunday, October 3, 2010. Committee members: Anna Costa-Pereira, Evert Lamme, Amy Rossenberg, Huub. Schellekens, Martin Schiestl, Steve Swanson, Meena Subramanyam, Robin Thorpe and Michael Tovey (chair).

The following topics were discussed:

## 1. New Cytokine Reference Preparations

Robin Thorpe, NIBSC, UK, submitted a report on new cytokine reference preparations.

### - Replacement standards

- G-CSF 2nd IS (Study completed; 13 labs from 9 countries)
- replacement standard proposed (WHO ECBS – Oct'10)
- IL-2, GM-CSF, IL-8 (will require replacements within 2-3 years)

## 2. New standards

- TGF-beta3 (2 candidate preparations lyophilised)
  - Collaborative study launch Oct'10, 7 participants, more needed
- IL-29 (2 candidate preparations lyophilised – not pegylated),
  - Collaborative study to commence, participants needed
- IL-23 (1 candidate lyophilised, development of NIBSC ref reagent)
- BlyS (1 candidate lyophilised, development of NIBSC ref reagent)

## 3. Standards in development

- Donations & Collaborations required
- Provision of Novel cytokines
  - IL-21, IL-27 etc
- Provision of cytokines for replacement standards
  - GM-CSF, IL-8
- Provision of Growth factors
  - Placental growth Factor, soluble VEGFR1
- Provision of Antagonists.
- Participation in Collaborative Studies
  - TGF-beta3 (Oct 2010) & IL-29 (January 2011), BlyS

Those interested in participating in the studies outlined above please contact :

[Meenu.Wadhwa@nibsc.hpa.org.uk](mailto:Meenu.Wadhwa@nibsc.hpa.org.uk)

## II. - Initiatives to promote the use of cytokine standards

The Committee discussed initiatives to promote the use of cytokine standards including the recent publication in the journals Cytokine, JICR, and JLB of an editorial outlining the role of the ISICR Standards Committee, the WHO, and the NIBSC in the establishment of international cytokine standards and reference preparations together with a list of reagents available from the NIBSC.

## III. - Reference Preparations for Human Anti-drug Antibodies

Patients treated with cytokines such as interferon-beta or growth factors such as erythropoietin may produce antibodies against the product that can adversely affect the efficacy of treatment. There is a need to standardize immunogenicity data obtained in different clinical studies using different drugs and different assays.

Two initiatives have been undertaken:

- The establishment of a standardized neutralizing antibody assay for detection of antibodies against IFN-beta (EMA/CHMP/BWP/580136).
- The establishment of an antibody reference panel for the standardization of EPO antibody assays (WHO – ECBS proposal, Oct 2010). In addition a panel of human antibodies of different characteristics (isotypes, affinities) for use as performance indicators for different EPO antibody assays is currently being established.

## IV. - Other Business

Co-ordination of the Committee's initiatives with other bodies such as World Health Organization (WHO), the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control (NIBSC), the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Biodefense and Emerging Infections Resources Repository (BEI Resources), pharmaceutical manufacturers, and regulatory agencies (FDA, EMA, JPMDA) was also discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

**Michael Tovey**

Chair, ISICR Standards Committee

# WHO International Cytokine Standards and Reference Preparations

The ability to quantify the activity of cytokines is an essential part of experimental and clinical investigation and is to a large extent dependent upon the availability of suitable cytokine standards and reference reagents. The ISICR Standards Committee was established two decades ago to make recommendations regarding interferon and cytokine standards and standardization to the ISICR membership, and thereby to the international cytokine scientific community. The Committee works closely with the World Health Organization (WHO), the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control (NIBSC), the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Biodefense and Emerging Infections Resources Repository (BEI Resources), pharmaceutical manufacturers, and regulatory agencies.

The Committee includes members from several of these organizations. Current topics under analysis by the Committee include the establishment of appropriate standards for biosimilars, pegylated biopharmaceuticals, and antibodies directed against protein-based drugs. The role that the Committee plays as a source of information and recommendations to the ISICR membership, and to the international cytokine scientific community as a whole, is very much dependent upon suitable standards and reference materials being made available by the NIBSC. Similarly, the Standardization and Nomenclature Committee of the ICS reviews the need for cytokine standards and their usage.

The accompanying table lists cytokine and growth factor preparations available from the NIBSC. International Standards and Reference Reagents are established by the Expert Committee on Biological Standardization of the WHO. The use of these International Standards and Reference Reagents to calibrate commercially available or laboratory made reagents will facilitate comparisons of data between assays, different laboratories, and individual studies.

Michael G. Tovey Ph.D.,  
Chair, ISICR Standards Committee,  
[tovey@vjf.cnrs.fr](mailto:tovey@vjf.cnrs.fr)

Meenu Wadhwa PhD,  
Leader, Cytokine & Growth Factors Section,  
&  
Robin Thorpe PhD FRCPATH,  
HEAD - Biotherapeutics Group,  
National Institute for Biological Standards and Control,  
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Emails : [Meenu.Wadhwa@nibsc.hpa.org.uk](mailto:Meenu.Wadhwa@nibsc.hpa.org.uk),  
[Robin.Thorpe@nibsc.hpa.org.uk](mailto:Robin.Thorpe@nibsc.hpa.org.uk)  
Inquiries concerning NIBSC products should be addressed to  
Meenu Wadhwa PhD,  
Leader, Cytokine & Growth Factors Section;  
[Meenu.Wadhwa@nibsc.hpa.org.uk](mailto:Meenu.Wadhwa@nibsc.hpa.org.uk)

## National Institute for Biological Standards and Control

A wide range of WHO International Biological Standards and reference materials are available for the calibration of assays of therapeutic substances and immunoassays and bioassays used in basic research.

These materials are available from Standards Processing Division, NIBSC, Blanche Lane, South Mimms, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3QG, UK, e-mail [standards@nibsc.hpa.org.uk](mailto:standards@nibsc.hpa.org.uk) or Fax 01707641064. NIBSC does not charge for these materials, however there is a handling charge to cover the costs of

administration, storage, and dispatch. The handling charge is currently £63 per ampoule. A comprehensive catalogue of reference materials is available from the above address or from the NIBSC website; [www.nibsc.ac.uk](http://www.nibsc.ac.uk).

## Human Cytokine Standards and Reference Reagents

Preparation <sup>1</sup>	Product Code	Status <sup>2</sup>
Interleukin 1 alpha	86/632	IS
Interleukin 1 beta	86/680	IS
Interleukin 2 cell line derived	86/504	IS
Interleukin 2	86/564	RR
Interleukin 3	91/510	IS
Interleukin 4	88/656	IS
Interleukin 5	90/586	WRR
Interleukin 6	89/548	IS
Interleukin 7	90/530	WRR
Interleukin 8	89/520	IS
Interleukin 9	91/678	WRR
Interleukin 10	93/722	WRR
Interleukin 11	92/788	WRR
Interleukin 12	95/544	WRR
Interleukin 13	94/622	WRR
Interleukin 15	95/554	WRR
Interleukin 17	01/420	WRR
Interleukin 18	03/200	WRR
M-CSF	89/512	IS
G-CSF	09/136	2nd IS
GM-CSF	88/646	IS
Leukemia inhibitory factor	93/562	WRR
Oncostatin M	93/564	WRR
Stem cell factor	91/682	WRR
Flt 3 ligand	96/532	WRR
Bone morphogenetic protein-2	93/574	WRR
RANTES	92/520	RR
MCP-1	92/794	RR
GRO-alpha	92/722	RR
IFN alpha leukocyte	94/784	1st IS
IFN alpha 1 (D)	83/514	1st IS
IFN alpha 1/8	95/572	1st IS
IFN alpha 2a	95/650	2nd IS
IFN alpha 2b	95/566	2nd IS
IFN alpha 2c	95/580	1st IS
IFN alpha n1 lymphoblastoid	95/568	2nd IS
IFN alpha n3 leukocyte	95/574	1st IS
IFN alpha consensus	94/786	1st IS
IFN omega	94/754	1st IS
IFN beta	00/572	3rd IS
IFN beta ser17	00/574	RR
IFN beta fibroblast	00/576	RR
IFN gamma	87/586	RR
IFN gamma leukocyte	82/587	BWS
TGF beta 1	89/514	RR
TGF beta 2	90/696	RR
TGF beta 3	98/608	RR
Thrombopoietin	03/124	RR
TNF alpha	88/786	2nd IS
TNF beta	87/640	WRR
TRAIL	04/166	WRR

### Human Growth Factor Standards and Reference Reagents

Preparation <sup>1</sup>	Product Code	Status <sup>2</sup>
Basic Fibroblast Growth Factor	90/712	IS
Brain-derived neurotrophic factor	96/534	WRR
Ciliary Neurotrophic Factor	94/684	WRR
Epidermal Growth Factor	91/530	IS
Epidermal Growth Factor (1-52)	91/550	WRR
Hepatocyte Growth Factor	96/564	WRR
Hepatocyte Growth Factor precursor	96/556	IS
Keratinocyte Growth Factor	03/150	WRR
Keratinocyte Growth Factor (24-163)	03/148	WRR
Leptin	97/594	IS
Nerve Growth Factor	93/556	WRR
Neurotrophin-3	98/718	RR
Platelet derived Growth factor BB	94/728	IS
Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor	165 02/286	WRR

### Murine Cytokine Reference Reagents

Preparation <sup>1</sup>	Product Code	Status <sup>2</sup>
GM-CSF	91/658	RR
Interleukin1-?·??	93/672	RR
Interleukin1-	93/668	RR
Interleukin 2	93/566	RR
Interleukin 3	91/662	RR
Interleukin 4	91/656	RR
Interleukin 6	93/730	RR
Interleukin 7	93/740	RR
Interleukin 9	93/504	RR
Leptin	97/626	IS
TNF- $\alpha$	88/532	RR

1-All preparations listed above are rDNA derived unless specified ;

2-IS - International Standard; WRR - WHO Reference Reagent; RR – NIBSC Reference Reagent; BWS – British Working standard

## ISICR Publications Committee Minutes

Sunday October 3

1:00pm Hyatt Regency, Chicago.

### Members in Attendance:

Bryan Williams, Chair  
Jerome Tilles  
Anthony Sadler

### Representing JICR:

Ganes Sen  
Thomas Hamilton  
Apologies received from Karen Mossman

### AGENDA

Acknowledgement of service of retiring members

Minutes from 2009

Update from JICR Editors

Relationship with Publisher

ISICR membership linkage to JICR subscription

Interactions with Cytokine, official Journal of ICS.

The chair acknowledged the service of retiring members Jerry Tilles, Cassy James, Margaret Sekellick and Deborah Vestal and particularly long-standing Chair Robert Fleischmann. New members appointed to the committee were Allan Lau, Karen Mossman and Anthony Sadler.

There were no minutes tabled from 2009.

The JICR Editors Thomas Hamilton and Ganes Sen gave an update on JICR noting that it was the 30th anniversary of the Journal. This would be acknowledged by a special Editorial Board luncheon scheduled at the conference attended by the publisher Mary Ann Liebert. The publication of 2 special review issues of the Journal with a third in press was reported along with 7 solicited reviews. Although the impact factor of the Journal was unchanged this was expected to move up once the review were disseminated. Further review issues were under consideration. Editorial Board turnover was being encouraged with a new group of candidates expected to be distributed to the Publications committee for approval (this was completed December 20th, 2010).

Relationship with Publisher. The committee recommended that electronic access to the Journal being tied to ISICR membership should be pursued. This was to be taken up in discussion with the Publishers at a breakfast meeting during the conference.

Interactions with Cytokine. It was acknowledged that Cytokine was the official journal of the ICS as JICR was the official journal of ISICR. In the event of a merger of the societies the relationships of the two publishers needs to be considered although it was noted that it is was not uncommon for scientific societies to have more than one official journal. It recommended that the JICR publisher be made aware of the merger discussions between the societies.

The meeting concluded at 3.00pm

Respectfully submitted

**Bryan Williams**

Chair, ISICR Publications Committee

# International Society for Interferon & Cytokine Research, Inc.

Statement of Revenue and Expense  
For the 08th Period Ending 08/31/10

	Current	Y-T-D
<b>Revenue</b>		
42200 - INTEREST-BOA SAVINGS & CHECKING	0.00	3.59
42201 - INTEREST INCOME-CDs	0.00	300.17
43100 - DUES - REGULAR MEMB	200.00	17,440.00
43102 - DUES - POST DOC	0.00	310.00
43103 - DUES- STUDENT	30.00	1,170.00
43104 - DUES- EMERITUS MEMB	0.00	190.00
43901 - CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS	10,000.00	10,000.00
45100 - CORPORATE FUNDING/CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS	1,500.00	1,500.00
49900 - MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	0.00	7.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>11,730.00</b>	<b>30,920.76</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
52200 - ADDRESSING, MAILING, AND SHIPPING	0.00	56.81
52300 - TELEPHONE EXPENSE	35.31	280.70
53200 - PRINTING AND GRAPHICS	0.00	574.00
53900 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	1,292.00	10,336.00
53903 - COMPUTER SERVICES EXPENSE	51.00	198.00
53909 - FINANCIAL SERVICES	1,270.80	11,106.40
53922 - WEB RELATED CHARGES	342.50	3,065.00
53964 - CONTRACTED PRIORITY SHIPPING	0.00	34.55
55101 - Milstein Travel Award	(2,850.00)	(2,050.00)
59900 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	0.00	91.25
59966 - CREDIT CARD DISCOUNT FEES	31.51	625.69
59967 - HANDLING FEES	11.40	292.60
59977 - MISC EXPENSE - BANK CHARGES	0.00	117.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>184.52</b>	<b>24,728.00</b>
<b>Net Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>\$11,545.48</b>	<b>\$6,192.76</b>

Intl Soc. for Interferon & Cytokine Research, Inc.  
Balance Sheet As of 8/31/2010

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**ASSETS**

11100 - CASH-BANK OF AMERICA \$18,471.51  
11111 - BUSINESS INTEREST MAXIMIZER 6,215.78  
11112 - BANK OF AMERICA CD 109,176.88  
**Total 133,864.17**  
12200 - INTERFUND 11000 (3,002.81)  
12800 - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - ANNUAL MTG 15,000.00  
16900 - PREPAID EXPENSE-OTHER 20,000.00

**TOTAL ASSETS \$165,861.36**

**LIABILITIES**

21500 - UNIDENTIFIED RECEIPTS -\$2500  
21800 - DUE TO PUBLISHER-PRINT ONLY 894.00  
21801 - DUE TO PUBLISHER-PRINT & ONLINE 59.00  
21802 - DUE TO PUBLISHER-ONLINE ONLY 528.00  
**Total 1,481.00**

23102 - DEF DUES - EMERITUS MEMB 2011 50.00  
23111 - DEF DUES - REGULAR MEMB 2011 5,760.00  
23112 - DEF DUES - REGULAR MEMB 2012 3,220.00  
23113 - DEF DUES - REGULAR MEMB 2013 1,580.00  
23114 - DEF DUES - REGULAR MEMB 2014 880.00  
**Total 11,490.00**

23212 - DEF DUES - STUDENT MEMB 2011 1,150.00  
23213 - DEF DUES - STUDENT MEMB 2012 600.00  
23221 - DEF DUES- POST DOC 2011 310.00  
23222 - DEF DUES- POST DOC 2012 90.00

**Total 2,150.00**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES \$12,621.00**

**CAPITAL**

31100 - RETAINED EARNINGS 77,811.64  
31101 - NET ASSETS-PRIOR YR CUM EFFECT & UNREALIZED  
69,235.96

**Total \$147,047.60**

Current Year Profit (Loss) 6,192.76

**TOTAL CAPITAL \$153,240.36**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL \$165,861.36**

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The poster features a dark background with a pattern of colorful cherry blossoms and a traditional Japanese building. At the top right, there are three small images: a traditional Japanese building, a pagoda, and a festival float. The main text is in red and white.

**13th International TNF Conference**  
**TNF 2011**  
 May 15 (Sun) - 18 (Wed), 2011  
 Venue : Awaji Yumebutai International Conference Center, Hyogo, Japan  
 Chairs : Shigekazu Nagata (Kyoto Univ.)  
 Masayuki Miura (The Univ. of Tokyo)  
 U R L : <http://www.aeplan.co.jp/tnf2011/>  
 Abstract Submission: Nov. 1 (Mon), 2010 - Feb. 15 (Tue), 2011  
 Registration: Nov. 1 (Mon), 2010 - Apr. 15 (Thu), 2011

Organizing Committee	Advisory Board
Jun-ichiro Inoue (The University of Tokyo, Japan)	Art Ashland (Cambridge, USA)
Hiroyasu Nakano (Osaka University, Japan)	Fran Balkwill (Sheff and The London, UK)
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	David Wallach (Research Institute, Israel)
	Carl Ward (La Jolla Institute of Allergy and Immunology, USA)

TNF 2011 Secretariat c/o A & E Planning Co., Ltd.  
 3rd floor, Shobunkan Bldg, 3-2-8, Jimbo-cho, Kanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 101-0051, Japan  
 Tel: +81-3-3230-2744 Fax: +81-3-3230-2479  
 E-mail: [tnf2011@aeplan.co.jp](mailto:tnf2011@aeplan.co.jp)  
 URL: <http://www.aeplan.co.jp/tnf2011/>

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you very much for your attention to the 13th International TNF Conference (TNF 2011) which will be held in Awaji Island, Japan, from May 15 to 18, 2011. Every 2-3 years, TNF researchers from throughout the world gather at the conference to share ideas and discuss the latest scientific advances.

At this 13th meeting, the foremost TNF scientists will speak on 11 featured topics, and will enjoy academic interactions with the young and the experts of this field of research. Your earnest proposals for poster session and short talks are highly welcome to make this event more meaningful. Please join us and share your accomplishments at the meeting. Registration and abstract submission system are now open at our website.

\*\*\*\*\* **Important Dates** \*\*\*\*\*

Abstract submission: by February 26 (sat)  
 Registration by April 15 (fri)

\*\*\*\*\*


We are waiting for your enthusiastic participation in TNF 2011.

Sincerely yours,  
 Shigekazu Nagata (Kyoto Univ.)  
 Masayuki Miura (Tokyo Univ.)


\*\*\*\*\*

TNF 2011 Secretariat  
 c/o A & E Planning, Co., Ltd.  
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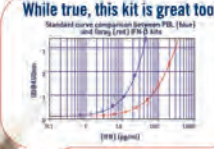


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ARE AVAILABLE)

# Signals

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& Cytokine Research

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