

N E W S L E T T E R

Australasian Society for Immunology Incorporated

PP 341403100035

ISSN 1442-8725

July 2002

The Search for the Missing Bursa

I enjoyed the article by Phil Hodgkin in the March ASI Newsletter highlighting the ingenuity of ASI Members when it comes to expressing themselves in limericks.

Limericks have long held a special place for immunologists, but this is to be expected for eminent scientists such as immunologists, since Fadiman (1957) stated: "There are few poetical forms that can boast the limerick's perfection. It has progression, development, variety, speed, climax and high mnemonic value". The best short reference source on limericks is a short book *The Lure of The Limerick* W S Baring-Gould (1970).

Not many may know there are various forms of limerick, which is basically an anecdote in verse. In most-but not all-limericks there are usually 9 'beats' in lines 1, 2 and 5 (with accents on beats 3, 6 & 9) plus 6 beats in lines 3 and 4. This most common form of limerick is "anapestic rhythm" (2 short syllables and a long syllable). Of course immunologists always look for the "other side" of any setting. So you have the reverse limerick, the "dactyl" (one long accented syllable followed by 2 short).

So we have had an Annual ASI Limerick Competition, although with support has varied over the years.

In the early 1980s The Bursa of Fabricius Award was established with a perspex-mounted Bursa being awarded to the ASI poet who composed the winning limerick. Some may remember a previous ASI President, the late Prof. David S Nelson, consistently won the Competition, and I remember the ghastly-looking official ASI Mounted Bursa had a permanent position on his office

mantelpiece in the Kolling Institute.

David's widow, Dr Peg Nelson, has kindly provided me with a few original hand-written limericks by David, who died in 1989.

In 1984 the ASI Annual Dinner was held in Perth. At that time Perth was still basking in the kudos from winning some sailing Cup from America; Bob Hawke was in his heyday as PM; and a pair of Perth brothers were well known to us. Roger Dawkins as a very active leading WA immunologist, and John Dawkins as Labour Federal Treasurer. David Nelson won the Bursa Award that year with the following limerick:

In attempting to walk on the sea
Young Dawkins has buggered his knee,
After failing this walk
He was told by Bob Hawke You forgot-
you're just Dawkins – not me!

After some work with some Tasmanian immunologists, including Prof Kon Muller, he won another year with this limerick:

A genetically troubled Taswegian
Whose double recessives were legion
Said "Though I'm a twister
My mother's my sister
I'm the only back-cross in the region."

With his repeated successes he grew weary of the ghastly Bursa and thought of a legitimate way to 'get rid' of the Bursa. He donated it back to ASI – to be awarded to the LOSING team in the ASI Debate between Australian and New Zealand Immunologists. I think it was first awarded when the ASI Debate occurred in the ski resort above Queenstown, South Island. The debate was hotly contested

with each Kiwi speaker referring to 'sux wuckets', because during that ASI Meeting a rare event occurred - NZ beat the Australian cricket team, by 6 wickets.

I think it was also at that meeting that David offered his best limerick – "The Ode to Gus". I can remember three lines, including the punch-line but not the whole limerick. Now I know it is not exactly on a par with "The Search for the Holy Grail" but just think – what other physical item but a Bursa could represent past ASI history – except perhaps a shrivelled involuted thymus? So can anyone help in these two tasks?:

1. Find the Missing Bursa
2. Locate the full text of "The Ode to Gus"

Dr John Wells
Department Head, Clinical Immunology,
Royal North Shore Hospital

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Website

The ASI web site (www.wehi.edu.au/collegiate/ASI/) has been fully remodelled and updated. New services include:

- Downloadable forms for ASI awards,
- Positions vacant pages,
- Jobs wanted pages,
- Upcoming conferences listings,

as well as a plethora of links to sites of immunological interest at home and abroad. If you'd like your lab home pages linked to the site, would like to advertise a job or conference, or have a favourite immunology-related site that doesn't currently appear on the ASI site, please e-mail Judy Greer at j.greer@medicine.uq.edu.au

Email bulletin board

To subscribe to the ASI bulletin board, send an email to majordomo@explode.unsw.edu.au with the message: subscribe anz-imm.

EDITORIAL

There are many reasons for members to be pleased at the continued success of the journal *Immunology and Cell Biology*. A decade ago many libraries began to cut back on journal subscriptions as world wide funding shortages took effect. ICB was vulnerable. Its relatively low impact factor at the time, and its roots as a local journal (it used to be called the *Australian Journal of Experimental Biology and Medicine* – AJEBAK) meant it was an easy target. Hard work from consecutive ASI presidents, Geoff Shellam, Roland Scollay and Anne Kelso, allowed ASI to oversee and eventually 'own' the journal. Since then, excellent work by the enthusiastic and tireless Editor-in-Chief, Chris Parish, has seen the journal's reputation and standing grow. In addition, many members have responded fantastically by submitting papers, helping organise special issues, and where possible, citing articles in ICB to help the impact factor. Obviously more of the same can only continue to benefit the journal.

When we scan the list of immunology journals, ICB is very well situated now to attract more quality papers from our members and from overseas. Omitting review journals and those focussed on one or more infectious disease, the list of immunology journals with mid-

range impact factors runs: *Journal of Immunology*; *European Journal of Immunology*; *International Immunology*, followed by ICB not far behind. This is impressive. To be ahead of *Immunology*, *Cellular Immunology*, *Molecular Immunology* and the *Scandinavian Journal of Immunology* makes our journal a serious consideration for anyone submitting a paper.

With a little more help we can make ICB a leading journal carried in all important libraries. This will mean additional revenue to our society and, more significantly, it provides a focus for ASI and its members to take an international role in helping shape and report immunological advances.

Other news in this issue of the newsletter is the fascinating account of the Bursa of Fabricius award by long-time member John Vivian Wells. The bursa is a famous piece of bird anatomy that played a prominent part in the development of our discipline. The mounting of a bursa within perspex and presenting it as an award at the annual ASI meeting illustrates again the humour and community spirit that helped found and forge the traditions of the ASI. David Nelson was clearly a very talented limerick writer who

should serve as inspiration and benchmark to our next generation of budding poets. We look forward to finding out the complete Gus Nossal limerick and publishing it here (if it is not libellous)!

As for the current location of the bursa – we have a sneaking suspicion that NZ members may be sequestering the great icon. A full investigation is underway and will be reported upon in the next issue.

John Wells' fascinating article may trigger the memories of other long time members to contribute articles of historical interest, particularly the lively goings on in the early years – we would love to hear more tales and will be happy to publish them here.

You should also receive your flyers in this issue for the Brisbane Annual meeting. Don't forget to get your abstracts and registrations in on time and start making plans for what promises to be another fantastic ASI meeting.

HONORARY SECRETARY'S NEWS

Every time I receive another parcel item from the Department of Medicine, Fremantle Hospital, I take a deep breath, for it usually means more ASI documents from previous years. This of course reflects my lack of understanding of the 'nuts and bolts' of the Society. And each time I think I probably understand how things work now, there is another aspect for which I need to rely on the helpful collective memories of Jane Allan (past Honorary Secretary), Judi Anderson (from the Secretariat) and the current Executive. So, I would really like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their patience and assistance.

New presentation of the ASI Membership Directory

It was decided at the AGM in Canberra last December that the ASI membership directory will no longer be produced as a booklet but instead be produced as a PDF file. This will be delivered by email as a confidential, not

for disclosure, read-only document. A hard copy of the document will be mailed out to members who do not have access to email and may also be requested from the secretariat.

To remind everyone, for a member to be included in the membership list that is distributed from 2002, the person must have agreed to have their details be included. This is to conform to the new Privacy Law. You may recall, there was a box to tick on your renewal or new application form relating to publication of your contact details.

ASI webpage

I would like to thank our Webmaster, Judy Greer, for her ongoing efforts maintaining the ASI web pages. If you haven't visited our site recently, try it out, it's great. It has quite a lot of useful information and links. Our current address is: <http://www.wehi.edu.au/collegiate/ASI/> but we may be getting a new

web address in the near future. We'll keep you posted!

Awards and Bursaries of the Society

We are pleased to announce the winner of last year's *Immunology and Cell Biology Publication of the Year*. It was a paper by Gleeson, M and Pyne DB. Exercise effects on mucosal immunity. *Immunology and Cell Biology*, **78** (5), 536-544, 2000. Congratulations!

The judging for the ASI Postgraduate and Postdoctoral International Travel Prizes is currently underway. Also, a reminder that the deadline for the Student Travel Prizes to attend the ASI Annual Scientific Meeting in Brisbane is 1 September 2002. For more details, please check the ASI website.

Cheers from a very chilly Canberra.
Geeta Chaudhri

Stop Press: ICB Impact Factor Rises to 2.665!

I have just received some great news from Blackwell Science Asia, the publishers of *Immunology and Cell Biology*. The impact factor for *ICB* has risen for the fifth consecutive year (see Figure 1), with it increasing from 2.201 in 2000 to 2.665 in 2001, a whopping 21% increase in the last year! As a result of the large increase, *ICB* is now ranked 35th out of a total of 114 immunology journals, jumping from 47th in the previous year. This ranking is even better than it sounds as at least 9 of the journals with higher impact factors than *ICB* only publish review articles, not research papers. Thus *ICB* has now entered the top 25 percentile of general immunology journals.

Although the 2001 rankings for the other immunology journals is not yet in the public domain, based on last year's data (see Table 1) readers can get some idea of the ranking of *ICB* versus other well known immunology journals. *ICB* is well ahead of journals such as *Scand. J. Immunol.*, *Human Immunol.*, *Immunogenetics*, *Cellular Immunology*, *Molecular Immunology* and *Immunology*. Our ranking relative to *Immunology* is extremely encouraging as *Immunology* could be considered a sister journal as it is the official journal of the British Society of Immunology. Journals with a similar impact factor to *ICB* are *Clin. Exp. Immunol.*, *Tissue Antigens* and *J. Inflamm.*, with *Int. Immunol.* now being in reach.

Of course, the implications of all of this is that *ICB* has now reached such a high international standing that all ASI members should consider submitting their next paper to *ICB*. With granting bodies and promotions committees now emphasising the importance of publishing your research in high impact journals, it is in your interest to consider *ICB* as the journal in which to publish your work.

If you don't have a research paper to submit you can:

- Write a theoretical article for *ICB*
- Suggest a topic for a Special Feature in *ICB*, with your lab contributing one of the papers
- Write a topical review for *ICB*. In particular, I am very willing to consider the publication of reviews based on Literature Surveys prepared for PhD theses

My "in tray" is waiting.

Chris Parish
Editor-in-Chief

Immunology and Cell Biology

Contributions
sought for the
ASI Newsletter

Deadline for the
next issue

1st September

Please email your contributions
to the Secretariat by the above
date.

asi@21century.com.au

From: ISI Journal Citation Report 2000*
Subject: Immunology

Rank	Journal	F
2	Immunity	21.08
3	J Exp Med	15.24
7	AIDS	8.02
9	J Immunol	6.83
12	Eur J Immunol	5.24
14	J Leukocyte Biol	4.34
15	Infec Immunity	4.20
17	Transplantation	4.04
19	J Clin Immunol	3.38
21	Genes Immun	3.22
23	Int Immunol	3.13
24	J Acq Immun Defic Synd Hum R	3.05
25	J Immunother	3.03
26	Clin Infect Dis	2.97
29	Cancer Immunol Immun	2.82
30	J Inflamm	2.71
31	Neuroimmunomodulat	2.70
34	Tissue Antigens	2.61
35	<i>Immun Cell Biol</i>	2.66
	We are now here!	
35	Clin Exp Immunol	2.54
36	Cytokine	2.49
37	Vaccine	2.48
38	Immunobiology	2.41
41	Allergy	2.39
42	Clin Immunol	2.38
43	Immunology	2.29
44	Mol Immunol	2.24
45	Cell Immunol	2.20
47	<i>Immun Cell Biol</i>	2.20
53	Microb Pathog	2.14
54	Immunogenetics	2.14
57	J Immunol Method	2.00
58	Hum Immunol	1.95
62	Scand J Immunol	1.78
73	Immunol Lett	1.55
114	Asian Pac J Allergy	0.19

* 2001 Report is not yet available in the public domain

He had a dream to cure insulin-dependent diabetes

THOMASE.MANDEL

TRANSPLANT IMMUNOLOGIST

26/09/1938 – 28/05/2002

Tom Mandel was a medical doctor and renowned transplant researcher, but above all the loving husband of Lorrie and doting father of Cath and Liz. Family, friends and scientific colleagues farewelled Tom on May 31, in a warm celebration of his life and achievements.

Tom was born in Vienna and was raised in Czechoslovakia during the Second World War after his mother died when he was a year old. The Red Cross united him with his father and they emigrated to Australia in 1947 to "get as far away as possible from the atrocities that had beset Europe". He had a happy childhood in Melbourne, and developed a very Australian outlook and personality, not to mention sense of humour. He did well at school and entered Medicine at the University of Melbourne, graduating in 1961. After residencies at the Royal Melbourne and the Royal Children's Hospitals, being a very practical kind of character, Tom set out for a career in surgery. He became an expert anatomist and passed the postgraduate exams for the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1964. While a Senior Lecturer at Monash University, he became interested in the microscopic aspects of anatomy and, in particular, in the application of the electron microscope.

In 1968, Tom was appointed to the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (Melbourne University) as a Research Fellow, to work "on problems relating to the thymus, leukaemia and cellular immunity" and to run the new electron microscopy laboratory – where he worked until his retirement as Head of the Transplantation Unit in 1997. Tom's sharp intellect and superb technical skills enabled him to develop and perfect techniques for growing the thymus in the laboratory and transplanting it. This led into his pioneering work on the fetal pancreas and the isolation and transplantation of the cells in the pancreas that produce the hormone, insulin. Tom had a dream – to cure insulin-dependent diabetes by transplanting these cells. He succeeded in showing this was

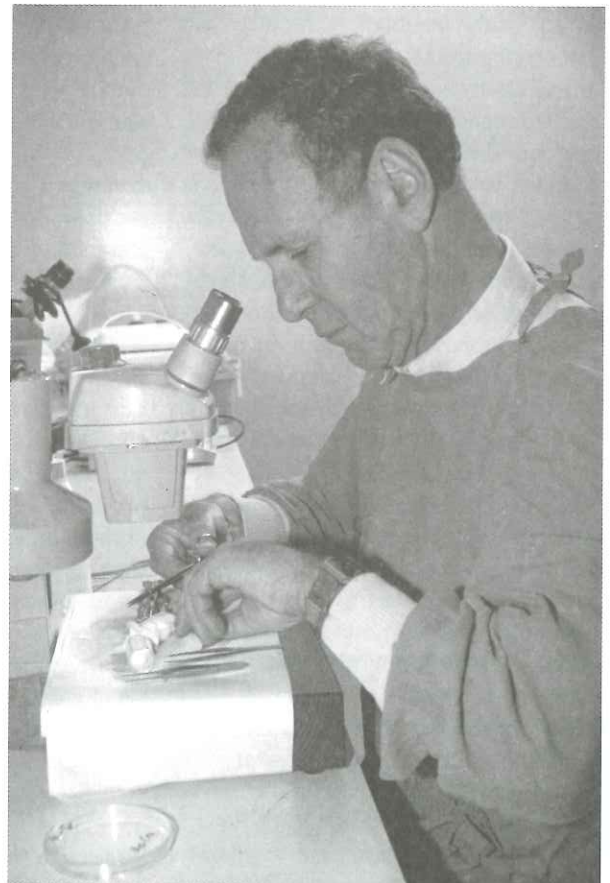
possible in mice and his work is a basis for current efforts to bring this dream to reality. His 250-odd research papers testify to his contribution to transplant science. He supervised and trained an academic family – basic scientists and clinicians from specialties ranging from dermatology to nephrology to ophthalmology. If you travelled to North America, Europe or Japan and mentioned pancreas transplantation, you would be asked "Do you know Tom Mandel?".

Tom was President of the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand, whose members enjoyed his leadership and legendary after dinner speeches.

The tributes paid Tom attest to his persona as the "most unforgettable character I have ever met". His happy-go-lucky attitude, his self-deprecating and vile sense of humour and his humility and lack of pomposity set him apart. He could always be relied upon never to take himself seriously and saw something funny or absurd in the most serious situation, even until the end. Despite his career achievements, he never let his work dominate or control his life, particularly his family life. The love and respect between Tom and Lorrie, their two daughters, Cath and Liz, and between Tom and Liz's husband Trevor, was evident to all who knew him. Numerous friends from all walks of life enjoyed the frequent hospitality of the Mandels at the Glen Waverley home in which they lived for 39 years of marriage. Tom and Lorrie spent the last few years on their newly-acquired property just this side of the Otways. When Tom was diagnosed with cancer only

weeks before he died, his consolation, expressed to his friends, was that he had made the decision to retire early and had "experienced the happiest five years of my life with Lorrie on the farm". It seems incomprehensible that Tom Mandel, always larger than life, is no longer with us. Mercifully, the effects he suffered from his terminal illness were short-lived. He was a unique individual who left his mark on the world.

In addition to his immediate family, Tom is survived by his Auntie Puci in Slovakia by whom he was raised for the first seven years of his life; he always regarded her as his mother. From her he gained his love of family, an appreciation of the value of friends and his zest for life.



César Milstein: Affable Brilliance

I was flying to Brisbane in April to attend a conference on *in vivo* uses for antibodies (Antiboz 2002) when I saw an obituary in the Sydney Morning Herald for César Milstein, who had died a few days earlier on March 24. This was a shock as I knew César from my time spent in England, and because the conference I was attending would not have been possible without the breakthroughs he achieved.

César was born in Argentina and graduated with a PhD from the University of Buenos Aires. He won a scholarship to the University of Cambridge, where he completed a D.Phil. (no doubt the Oxbridge Establishment would not have recognised César's first PhD at the time!). Whilst César was in Cambridge in the late 1950s, Fred Sanger, who had just won the Nobel Prize for determining the primary structure of insulin, invited him to join the Medical Research Council's Laboratory of Molecular Biology (MRC-LMB) in Cambridge. César moved there in 1963, and spent the rest of his extraordinarily productive professional life there. The LMB's key strength at that time (and still today) was structural biology, so in response to Sanger's urging, César set out to study antibody structure. He reasoned that the key to antibody diversity and specificity would lie in understanding their 3-dimensional structures. His work, often in collaboration with his wife Celia, produced a veritable river of papers in Nature and other major journals. It became clear that the "one gene – one protein" paradigm was being pushed to the limit by antibodies, so in 1966, César, with Sydney Brenner, proposed that antibody genes were diversified by the introduction of somatic mutations targeted selectively to the V region and not to the C region (Nature. 1966.211:242-3). This audacious proposal turned out to be half right – the primary mechanism of antibody diversification was later shown to be V(D)J-rearrangement, but as every third year immunology student now knows, somatic mutation is an important step in the secondary production of memory B cells. What's more, in some species at least (e.g. chickens and sheep) somatic mutation *is* used to produce the primary naïve repertoire, although only after V(D)J recombination has produced a suitably rearranged target substrate (see *Immunol.*

Today 1996. 17:92-96).

After almost a decade of describing the structures of Ig chains, César decided that new approaches were needed to tackle the problem. He started sequencing Ig mRNAs and characterised an Igκ precursor – making one of the first identifications of a secretory peptide. He brought the established technique of somatic cell fusion into his laboratory and began to experiment with the fusion of different myeloma cell lines to see what effect the shuffling of heavy and light chains would have on antibody characteristics. Then Georges Köhler joined the lab as a postdoc from the Basel Institute for Immunology. Together, the two devised a method to fuse splenocytes participating in induced immune responses with an Ig-null mutant myeloma cell line they had developed, and used newly emerging immunoassays to isolate colonies producing antibodies of desired specificity. This momentous work was published in 1975 (Nature 1975. 256:495-7) and monoclonal antibody (Mab) technology was born. Prior to publication, César suggested to the MRC that the technology might be patentable, but Council decided that it was not of commercial value. With the benefit of hindsight, the royalties from Mabs used in the following 20 years could have paid for all medical research carried out in the U.K. with quite a bit of spare change! César however, could easily see the potential of the new technology he had developed and went rapidly on to identify surface markers unique to different cell types, and another mainstay of modern immunology was established – the CD antigens. César was also involved in early attempts to develop Mabs as "magic bullets" that could specifically target tumours for destruction. This idea has finally reached maturity in the clinic in only the last few years as a result of the development of engineered Mabs – a product of the group of Cambridge immunologists inspired by César. In 1984, César Milstein, Georges Köhler and Niels Jerne were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for developing the techniques of monoclonal antibody production, but this was only one of many honours earned by César. Meanwhile, César's abiding interest in antibody diversity never waned. He used Mabs isolated from primary, secondary and tertiary responses to a model antigen to clearly demonstrate that the maturation of the humoral immune response



involved Ig somatic mutation-induced increases in Ab affinity (Nature 1984. 312:271-275; Nature 1985. 316:412-418).

César's love of deep incisive thought and capacity for innovative thinking were never lost. In 1996, careful analysis of hybridomas carrying Ig nonsense mutations produced by somatic mutation demonstrated the possible existence of a nuclear mechanism to detect nonsense mRNAs (Cell 1996. 85:415-22). This work was received with a certain degree of muttering scepticism by those with less imagination (well by me anyway...), but it inspired a flurry of research that has established that nuclear mechanisms do indeed contribute to nonsense-mediated mRNA decay.

César was a dedicated and passionate scientist, and a person who inspired friendship easily. He enjoyed getting off the beaten track. He never forgot his origins, often lending his time and support to projects in Argentina and elsewhere, and to teaching students. He wasn't interested in scientific prestige, but instead was always hands-on involved with his lab's research. True to form, he submitted a publication within a week of his death. In conversations it was frequently obvious just how far ahead of you in his thinking he usually was, but he was never belittling or unapproachable. He would argue passionately (for hours if necessary) with you, but was always on the verge of a broad smile and a laugh. I, for one, am deeply grateful to have met him, and I am sure he will be sorely missed by very many.

I have cited only five papers as examples of César's greater than 200 publications. If you would like to learn more visit: <http://www.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk> <http://www.nobel.se/medicine/laureates/1984/index.html>

Mucosal Immunology Special Interest Group

This report was accidentally omitted from the March 2002 Newsletter.

The Mucosal Immunology SIG met at the ASI annual scientific meeting held in Canberra in December 2001. Allan Cripps advised that whilst the quality of mucosal immunology abstracts received were excellent, there were insufficient number to have more than one general symposium and workshop.

For the first time, it was possible to fund a poster prize in memory of Professor Graham Jackson. The award was made to Abu Rahman, a Master's student from Bangladesh studying at University of Melbourne for his poster entitled "Intraepithelial lymphocyte population of sheep uterus during the peri-partum stage". The poster was co-authored by Els NT Meeusen and Chee Seong Lee

At the SIG meeting, there was significant enthusiasm to revitalise the SIG over the next

couple of years. The following future directions were agreed to:

- Re-establish the electronic data base of members of the SIG
- Raise the profile of mucosal immunology within ASI and generate sufficient interest of members in the annual scientific meeting to enable organ specific symposia and workshops to be viable (eg reproductive immunology)
- Find a home for the SIG Secretariat. For the next two years, Allan Cripps will carry on the role as Convenor of the SIG and his office will provide secretarial support for the SIG.
- Incorporate the previous SIG newsletter (now defunct) into a regular report in the ASI newsletter.

- Establish the Graham Jackson Memorial Poster Prize as a regular event of the ASI Annual Scientific Meeting – value \$250.00.

- Liaise with future organising committees of ASI annual scientific meets to ensure that mucosal immunology is appropriately represented in the scientific programs.

If you are interested in joining the SIG, please contact Allan Cripps with your name, contact details and organ interest (eg lung, middle ear etc).

SIG contact:
allan.cripps@canberra.edu.au

Allan W Cripps
Convenor
February 2002



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Comments on ASI from Members

On the Membership Information Update form which accompanied the membership renewal, members were asked to comment on whether ASI met the member's expectations for a Scientific Society. Twenty comments were received which simply said that the member's expectations were met, or that the member was happy with ASI, or words to that effect. In addition, the following more substantive comments were received:

Annual meeting needs re-vitalization.
?More international speakers.

ASI has always been a devoted group - conferences are great. Very pleased with ASI. However, other societies probably have more political or academic influence which supports and publicises their discipline (e.g. Biochem, Genetics Soc.) Could you add a new category [in Fields of Interest] for Exercise Immunology?

I consider ASI efficient as to the conferences and workshops available as well as career opportunities.

I think the Annual Scientific Meeting need only be held every two years.

It will update my knowledge in immunology because I will be able to know about the current experiments in this field

Meetings a bit too focussed on particular cells (T, DC) and not enough on the integrated system, including B cells.

More attention to clinical relevance and content would help both scientists and clinicians.

More meetings during the year.

My problem is not ASI but my time commitments which too often leave me strictly focussed on clinical practice aspects only.

Please publish the abstracts of ASI annual conference in ICB yearly to be always in the hands of the members.

Promote research of young scientists. More invited speakers (international) to conferences.

The ASI should include more broad fields of interest.

There is a dire need for a symposium on Veterinary Immunology at ASI meetings; weak attendance in the past.

Why do we have to do this every year [complete questionnaire]? These categories are silly. How could you not be in multiple overlap categories, as an immunologist? There is no hierarchy or set organisation. It's one of the most expensive societies, if not the most, for one scientific meeting and a newsletter.

Would be good if more awards were available for technicians, maybe lectures etc. for them.

Would like more ASI sponsored visiting speakers to visit New Zealand and New Zealand considered in general more by ASI (e.g. political issues, even greenform! - funding)

ICB is very useful. Newsletter always has interesting and often useful articles, plus humour.

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Sustaining Membership

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- Bioquest Limited
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UPCOMING LECTURES & CONFERENCES

August 21 – 25, 2002	2002 Congress of the Asian Forum of Immunology and Oncology (AFIO 2002) Beirut, Lebanon Website: www.congressorg.org
September 7 – 10, 2002	8th Congress of the Alps Adria Society for Immunology of Reproduction (AASIR) Weimar, Germany, Website: www.conventus.de/aasir/information
September 15 – 18, 2002	Vaccines and Immunotherapeutics VIII Conference Sea World Nara Resort, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia Website: http://www.vaccinesconference.net

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

WEHI Seminars on the Web: www.wehi.edu/seminars/



CENTENARY INSTITUTE

CANCER MEDICINE & CELL BIO

2002 POSTGRADUATE TEACHING SEMINARS AND TUTORIALS LEVEL 6, CENTENARY INSTITUTE, ROYAL PRINCE ALFRED HOSPITAL, SYDNEY

A seminar series to provide overviews of some key areas of biomedical research of interest to postgraduate students in immunology.

Each Wednesday afternoon seminar (5–6 pm) will be followed by a Friday morning (8–9 am) tutorial held in the level 6 meeting room**.

Dates:	Speaker:	Title:
Seminar: August 7 Tutorial: August 9	Dr Stuart Tangye	Human B cell development.
Seminar: August 14 Tutorial: August 15**, . 9:30 a.m	Assoc. Prof. John Rasko	Gene Therapy.
Seminar: September 4 Tutorial: September 6	Dr Chris Jolly	Multiple mechanisms for antibody diversification? – give us a break.
Seminar: September 11 Tutorial: September 13	Dr Mark Gorrell	Pathogenesis of liver cirrhosis.
Seminar: September 25 Tutorial: September 27	Prof. Warwick Britton	When a stranger calls.
Seminar: October 2 Tutorial: October 4	Dr John Allen	Cancer Drug Resistance.
Seminar: October 30 Tutorial: November 1	Dr Alex Bishop	Rejection or acceptance of organ transplants: Paradigms gained and lost.

****Note:** John Rasko's tutorial is on THURSDAY August 15 at 9.30 a.m.

Enquiries: Chris Jolly, phone 02 9565 6188, c.jolly@centenary.usyd.edu.au

ASI Councillors' News

Victorian News

Plenty of IgV events on in Victoria the remainder of this year and I urge all Victorian and Tasmanian members to renew their ASI membership and encourage other colleagues to join – it is great value. First cab off the rank for winter is the **IgV Graduate Careers Forum on Wednesday June 26th, 6.30pm-9.30pm** at the Ground Floor Seminar Room, AMREP Building, Alfred Hospital, Commercial Rd, Prahran (Location map for AMREP seminar room: www.med.monash.edu.au/cccs/cccsmap.html). This is an evening designed especially for all science graduates. Confirmed speakers include:

Peter Simpson, Research and Development Officer, Norwood Abbey; Claerwen Jones, Lab Manager, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, Melbourne University; Debbie McAteer, Training Manager Servier Laboratories; Tania Obranovich, Patent Attorney, Davies Collision Cave Solicitors; Martin Pearse, CSL.

Drinks and finger food from 8.30pm. Please register your interest by Wednesday 20th June for catering purposes. Contact Rachael Keating on 99030761 or rachael.keating@med.monash.edu.au

Second event is **IgV Techniques Workshop 2002 on 9am-4pm, Friday July 5th** at the Woodruff Theatre, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne. **See registration insert in this ASI newsletter.** Topics will include: Proteomics, Small animal PET, Mass Spectrometry, Phage Display, DNA Vaccination, Real Time PCR, Antibody Engineering and Ribosome Display, Yeast 2-hybrid, Lipo chip: multi parameter analysis, and many others.

Lastly, we have elected to hold the 2002 Annual IgV meeting at Beechworth on October 6-8th.

See www.beechworth.latrobe.edu.au
The new venue looks fun and a bit closer for those Melbournians up for a road trip. International and national speakers to be

advised soon. We are looking for all major immunology groups from Victoria, Tasmania and ACT to be represented at this year's meeting.

Mark Smyth
Councillor

S.A./N.T. News

The South Australian group will hopefully enjoy a very active speaker program this year. To be able to get as many speakers to Adelaide as possible we try to co-host ASI speakers and share costs with other institutions. Mark Smyth from Melbourne will open this years ASI sponsored speakers program, co-hosted by Keryn Williams from Flinders Medical Centre. He will come over in mid August. Later in August we will be delighted to host Nilabh Sastri as international guest speaker. He is on a tour through Australia, organized by Norbert from the Queensland group. Thanks Norbert! In November Pat Holt from WA will visit the Women's and Children's Hospital here in Adelaide. Negotiation with one or two other possible guests are currently on their way.

As a social event and to give all South Australian ASI members and everybody who is interested a chance to get know each other better we organized a little wine tasting which will be in conjunction with Mark Smyth's visit here in Adelaide. Hopefully this will be a start for a more regular get-together of the local ASI members and a lot of fruitful collaborations between ASI members in different institutions.

Su Heinzl
Councillor

W.A. News

The WA program of events kicked off over the past couple of months with several excellent immunology seminars given by national and international speakers.

In April, Dr. Chris Andoniou from Dr. Mariapia Degli-Esposti's group in the Dept of Microbiology, University of Western Australia, gave a seminar entitled "Murine cytomegalovirus-mediated inhibition of apoptosis in dendritic cells". Following on from this in May we had Dr. Robert van der Most from the University of Utrecht who presented a seminar titled "Flaviviruses in man and mice: a first glimpse on the antiviral T cell response".

In June, Prof. Bruce Robinson from the Tumour Immunology Group at the Dept of Medicine, UWA will be hosting Dr. Michael Lotze from the University of Pittsburgh, who'll be giving a joint Danny Hill/ASI seminar entitled "The Acute and Chronic Immune Response in Cancer - Views of a DC Chauvinist".

The WA branch is also busy planning for the ASI Annual Scientific Meeting, which is to be held in Perth in December 2003.

Tony Scalzo
Councillor

Queensland News

There are exciting times ahead of us, Queensland immunologists will organize two important meetings, thus giving us the opportunity to shine in the 'bright' state. The organizing committee for the national ASI conference in Brisbane is in full swing and establishes right now an exciting program. To wet your taste buds, please have a look in the program flyer accompanying this newsletter.

The other important event coming up soon is the 3rd meeting of the Brisbane Immunology Group, BIG, to be held at the lovely Noosa Lake Resort from the 29th to 30th of August 2002. This is the very place to meet all sorts of immunologists from different areas in greater Brisbane and the Queensland state (however, ASI members from other states are

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more than welcome to attend). The aim of this annual meeting is to socialize, both on the scientific and personal level. Infused by an eclectic mixture of distinguished international & national speakers, this meeting will provide a fantastic opportunity to discuss hot issues in immunology, start up and maintain scientific interactions amongst us, and last but not least, 'having a good time' together. Indeed the success of the past two meetings raises high expectations; but no worries, it only can get better. For more details about the program and to register, please consult BIG's webpage at <http://www.qimr.edu.au/BIG>

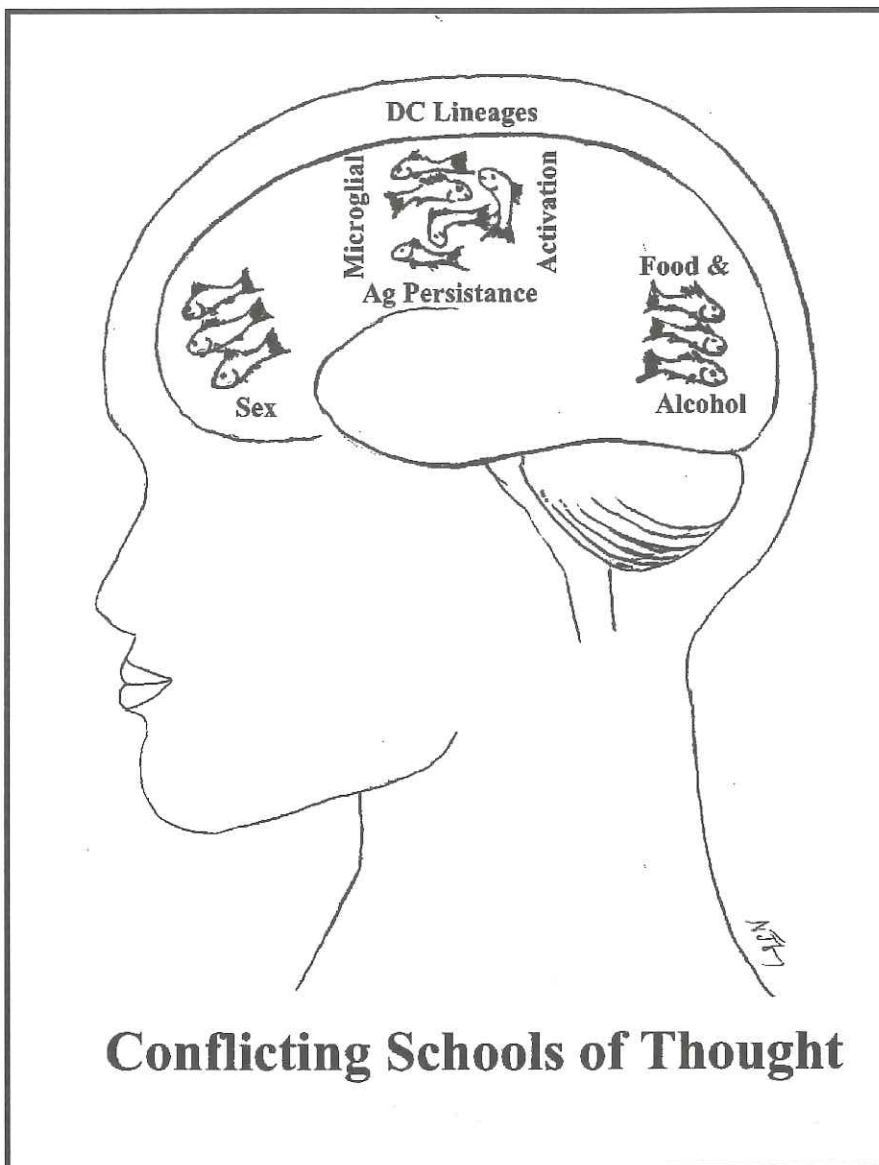
As part of the BIG meeting, we have invited Prof. Nilabh Shastri from UC Berkley to Australia. Prof. Shastri is famous for his work on antigen processing and mechanisms of immunesurveillance (for details see <http://mcb.berkeley.edu/faculty/IMM/shastrin.html>). Together with ASI's international speaker coordinator Dr. Bernadette Scott, we organized for Prof. Shastri an ASI-cosponsored lecture tour including Adelaide, Brisbane and Melbourne. I want to use this opportunity here to give Bernadette a big Thank You for her efficient and un-bureaucratic help in securing Prof. Shastri's visit to Australia.

Big applause goes to our new member, Lisanne Bosworth from the James Cook University in Townsville. Lisanne topped her class in the Biomedical Sciences & Medical Laboratory Services, and this achievement earned her a free student ASI membership for this year.

Another round of congratulations goes to the Centre for Immunology & Cancer Research, which has moved into a brand new research building. This move is part of the redevelopment of the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane and will certainly boost Immunology research there (so, watch this space!).

Finally, I want to mention the inaugural Resident Fellow program of the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, which sponsored in 2001/2002 a two times 6 week-long visit of Prof. Jonathan Sprent from the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California. Quite a few ASI members benefited from Jonathon's visit, for example in brain-draining tete-a-tete discussions (like myself), practical hands on mice-dissecting advice, and by a series of seminars highlighting his cutting-edge research on the development and maintenance of T cells. This program is certainly worthwhile to be watched in future, and we are eagerly waiting for the next fellow, Prof. Allen Rickinson from the University of Birmingham Medical School in Birmingham, UK, who is renowned for his work on the immunology and molecular biology of Epstein-Barr virus. Prof. Rickinson will stay at QIMR for four weeks starting at the end of June, and if you want to meet him, please contact Prof. Dennis Moss at QIMR.

Norbert Kienzle
Councillor



BIG-2002

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