



N E W S L E T T E R

## Australasian Society for Immunology Incorporated

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### In memoriam: Dr Charles Alderson Janeway, Jr.

*My long two-pointed ladder's sticking  
through a tree  
Toward heaven still,  
And there's a barrel that I didn't fill  
Beside it, and there may be two or three  
Apples I didn't pick upon some bough.  
But I am done with apple-picking now.*

– an excerpt from “After Apple-Picking”  
by Robert Frost

Dr Charles Alderson Janeway, Jr., a Professor of Pathology and Immunobiology at the Yale University School of Medicine, passed away at home in New Haven, Conn. on April 12<sup>th</sup> following a long battle with lymphoma. He was 60 years old. His passing marked the end of a career of one of the world's pre-eminent immunologists, whose intellectual insight sparked a paradigm shift, transforming the way in which we perceive the role of the innate immune system in protecting the host against infection.

Charlie was born and raised in Massachusetts and completed his medical training at Harvard University and the Peter Brent Brigham hospital in Boston. In going into medicine, he was following in the footsteps of his father, grandfather and great-grandfather, however at an early stage in his medical training Charlie's interests shifted away from the clinic and towards medical research. His early scientific training was with John Humphrey in England, and after finishing his clinical training, Charlie went to work as a postdoc at the NIH under Bill Paul. After leaving the NIH, Charlie spent a couple of years at the University of Uppsala before moving to the medical school at Yale University, where he was a founding member of the Department of Immunobiology.



Much of Charlie's research was based on his often iconoclastic ideas, which he was not afraid to vigorously defend. In a groundbreaking presentation at the 1989 annual Cold Spring Harbour symposium on Quantitative Biology, Charlie outlined his vision of the innate immune system acting as a first line of defense against infection, with specialized receptors recognizing common 'molecular patterns' expressed by pathogens. The cues delivered by these pathogen-associated molecular patterns to the cells of the innate immune system would enable them to prime and direct the differentiation of the adaptive immune system. Experimental evidence supporting his theory was provided by Ruslan Medzhitov, then a postdoc in Charlie's laboratory, who cloned the first mammalian homology of the Toll protein, which is involved in the innate immune response in *Drosophila*.

Charlie also made significant contributions to numerous other areas of immunology, including the mechanisms by which T cells recognize antigen, as well as the roles of CD4 and CD8 “co-receptors” (a term coined by Charlie) in T cell activation. Charlie's work also investigated thymocyte selection, as well as the mechanisms underlying T and B cell tolerance, and more recently, the pathological basis of cell-mediated autoimmune disease.

Charlie's passion for science was also reflected in his teaching. He was the principal author of the highly acclaimed textbook, *Immunobiology: The Immune System in Health and Disease*, arguably the leading textbook in immunology, and was a truly gifted teacher and inspiring mentor who took a great deal of pride in training numerous medical students, graduate students and postdocs.

*cont. p5*

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### Website

The ASI web site ([www.wehi.edu.au/collegiate/ASI/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:majordomo@explode.unsw.edu.au) with the message: subscribe anz-imm.

## EDITORIAL

It was sad to hear the news that Charlie Janeway had lost his long battle with cancer. Charlie visited Australia a number of times and was our inaugural ASI visiting speaker submitting to a gruelling schedule of stops around the country. He left a trail of goodwill wherever he went and is fondly remembered for his generosity and sharp intellect. James Rush's obituary for Charlie is printed here. James was a PhD student attending the ASI meeting in Melbourne in 1998 when Charlie came by to talk about his poster. During the conversation Charlie offered James a postdoctoral position in his laboratory, which he happily accepted. About 18 months later, and just weeks before James was due to travel to Yale to begin work in Charlie's laboratory, he received a brief email from Charlie that said "Unfortunately my tumour has returned and I do not have long to live. I have talked to other members of the department and have arranged some alternative positions and projects". Charlie survived for almost another three years, however, his concern for James in the face of such news was extremely impressive and fits with many other stories of his humanity and generosity. No doubt his famous exposure of the "immunologists' dirty little secret" and the verification of his theoretical insight regarding innate recognition of pathogenic patterns will ensure his contribution to our subject is long remembered.

The SARS virus is having an impact on our discipline forcing the postponement of the FIMSA meeting in Beijing that many were planning to attend. This ironic reminder of our impotence as immunologists in the face of new diseases serves only to reinforce the great need for understanding how to manipulate immune responses and rapidly develop vaccines when necessary. Hopefully, the Chinese efforts to isolate and contain the epidemic will be successful soon with little further loss of life. Please note the rescheduled meeting in 2005 and look forward to attending if you can.

Everyone should have their travel plans for the Perth meeting in December well in train. We have an update on the meeting in this issue from Tony Scalzo. See the registration form included with this newsletter. It looks like being a great meeting so don't miss out.

Phil Hodgkin

## Are you using ANZ-IMM?

The ANZ-IMM email mailing list was established 5 years ago, to facilitate communication between immunologists in Australia and New Zealand. In addition, it has proven a useful forum for ANZ immunologists working around the world. Over the years, it has principally been used by investigators seeking technical advice, or seeking cell lines and other reagents. It has also commonly been used to advertise laboratory positions, at all levels. Email mailing lists commonly fall into one of two categories. Many lists are so busy that irrelevant messages clog the in-tray of any subscriber. Others have so little traffic that they never come to mind, and so fail as a means of communication. The ANZ-IMM list falls somewhere between these positions. It is not so busy as to be intrusive, but delivers a message or two most weeks.

Over the years, many subscribers have changed their email addresses. Institutional email changes have affected many people. The ANZ-IMM list obviously can not track such changes, and so these subscribers are no longer linked to the community. If you think you are an ANZ-IMM subscriber, but have noticed that the ANZ-IMM list has fallen silent, this may be the explanation!

It is easy to subscribe to the list. To subscribe you simply send an email message to

majordomo@explode.unsw.edu.au. Your message should say "subscribe anz-imm", but without the "". Before you send the message, you should turn off the signature on your email, as it will interfere with the automatic subscription process. Appropriate links to help you subscribe can be found at the ASI website.

Once you have subscribed, the server will automatically forward a message to you providing you with instructions on the operation of the list. It is really very simple.

To send a message to all the people currently subscribed to the list, just send an email to ANZ-IMM@explode.unsw.edu.au. You have to subscribe to the list before you can send a message. Certain messages are automatically blocked, if they show evidence of being spam. In this way, we have been able to exclude irritating messages, without significantly restricting communication.

If you experience any difficulties subscribing to or using ANZ-IMM, please contact me at a.collins@unsw.edu.au

Andrew Collins

### 11<sup>th</sup> Frank and Bobbie Fenner Conference Adventures in Immunology and Microbiology

28 – 29 November 2003

The John Curtin School of Medical Research, Canberra

Speakers: Gordon Ada, Robert Ashman, Robert Blanden, Gerry Both, Peter Bretscher, Peter Doherty, Frank Fenner, Andrew Franklin, Guna Karupiah, Ursula Kees, Nick King, Mario Lobigs, Arno Mullbacher, Tikki Pang, Matthias Regner, Edward J. Steele, Rolf Zinkernagel

Full details available on the web at  
<http://jcsmr.anu.edu.au/FennerConference2003/>

## ASI Annual Scientific Meeting, Perth 2003

Planning for this year's ASI Annual Scientific Meeting to be held in Perth is well advanced. The meeting, to be held from 7–11 December on the lovely University of Western Australia campus, will continue on with the tradition of the first ASI meeting that was held in the Tropical Grove just south of Winthrop Hall on the UWA campus in 1970\*. The theme of the meeting is "The interface between innate and adaptive immunity" and will explore how this relates to disease states and their successful treatment.

The confirmed keynote speakers for this year's meeting are:

- Ruslan Medzhitov, Yale University, Yale, USA
- Jonathon Yewdell, NIH, Bethesda, USA
- Giorgio Trinchieri, Schering Plough Research Institute, Dardilly, France
- David Cosman, Amgen, Seattle, USA
- Wayne Yokoyama, Howard Hughes Institute, St. Louis, USA
- Kees Melief, Leiden University Medical Center, The Netherlands
- Jason Cyster, Stanford University, USA.

This year's Burnet Orator will be Nobel Laureate Prof. Rolf Zinkernagel, Institute for Experimental Immunology, Zurich, Switzerland whose Oration will be entitled: "On tolerance and reactivity".

The Kevin Lafferty Debate now in its second year will be on the theme: "Two signals are not enough – Lafferty was wrong!"

Preceding the main meeting will be the Postgraduate Immunology Training Day to be held at the TV Telethon Institute of Child Health Research in Subiaco, and the Tumour Immunology Workshop to be held at the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre in Nedlands.

The Conference Dinner will be held at City Beach at the Oceanus Restaurant, which has great views of Rottnest Island.

The Organising Committee would like to encourage you all to attend this year's ASI meeting, and to submit your abstract and registration either by filling out the registration brochure enclosed with this newsletter, or by going to the meeting website following the links from the ASI homepage or directly on: [www.congresswest.com.au/ASI2003](http://www.congresswest.com.au/ASI2003)

We look forward to seeing you all here in Perth this December for an exciting meeting.

Tony Scalzo  
Chair, ASI2003 Organising Committee

(\* see Turner, 1981. Australian Society for Immunology: The 1970s, Immunology and Cell Biology 69: 309–312)



*Some views of Perth, host city for for the ASI annual meeting this year.*



## Preliminary Meeting Programme

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December

Postgraduate Immunology Training Workshop  
Tumour Immunology Workshop  
Registration  
Welcome Reception at St George's College

### Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Official Welcome  
Plenary Sessions:  
*Interface and interplay between innate and adaptive immunity*  
Morning Tea  
Symposia  
*Innate immunity*  
*Antigen presentation and costimulation*  
*Vaccines*  
Lunch  
Symposia  
*Host-pathogen interactions*  
*Cell signalling*  
*Mucosal immunology*  
Afternoon Tea and Poster Presentations  
Workshops  
Drinks  
Burnet Oration

### Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December

Plenary Sessions:  
*New advances in leukocyte activation and differentiation*  
Morning Tea  
Symposia  
*Adaptive immunity*  
*Inflammation, cytokines & chemokines*  
*Autoimmunity & transplantation*  
Lunch – AGM  
Poster Presentations  
Afternoon Tea  
New Investigator Awards  
Annual Dinner at Oceanus Restaurant

### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December

Plenary Sessions:  
*Understanding and exploiting antigen recognition processing and presentation*  
Morning Tea  
Symposia  
*Cell death and the immune system*  
*Immunogenetics*  
*Clinical perspectives*  
Lunch & Poster Presentations (& Education SIG meeting)  
Workshops (incl. BD Science Communication)  
Afternoon Tea & Poster Presentations

Workshops  
Social Hour  
Kevin Lafferty Memorial Debate

### Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Plenary Session  
*Immune control of infections and tumours*  
Morning Tea  
Postgraduate Lecture  
Presentation of Prizes  
Close of meeting



### *In Memoriam (cont.)*

Charlie's scientific contributions earned him the deserved respect of colleagues and peers alike, and this was reflected in a recent memorial service in New Haven where notable immunologists from all over the US came to pay tribute, along with his family, friends, relatives, students, staff and other colleagues.. It was at this service too, that I realized that Charlie was much more than a brilliant scientist. I learnt that he was a dedicated, loving father, a great fisherman, a formidable snow skier and ice hockey player and loved Robert Frost's poetry, even carving wood-block prints depicting scenes from his favourite poems. I also learnt that Charlie's integrity and humility in science was a true reflection of who he was as a person.

My own experience of working with Charlie confirmed his dedication and passion for science, as well as his generosity and his courage. Dedicated and passionate in that despite being sick, he would come to work as

often as he could, competently running his devoted lab and finding time to regularly update his textbook. Generous in that despite me having a go at him for wearing his favourite trademark red pixie felt hat at the last Melbourne ASI meeting, he still offered me a postdoc position in his lab at Yale! And finally, his courage and positive attitude in response to his chronic illness and the physical and mental indignities that it conferred.

With Charlie's death, the immunological community has lost an insightful and gifted scientist. In his eulogy to Charlie, Ruslan Medzhitov referred to a Jewish proverb, paraphrased below. In dying, a man dies twice: once in the physical sense, and secondly, when his legacy is forgotten. The fundamental contributions made to immunology by Charlie will mean that he will only ever have died once.

James Rush

Yale University Medical School

### Sustaining Membership

ASI Inc acknowledges the support of the following sustaining members:

- Bioquest Limited
- Dynal Pty Ltd

## FIMSA and IUIS News

### 3rd FIMSA Congress Postponed

The 3rd FIMSA Congress, scheduled to be held in Hangzhou, China on 22–26 October 2003 has been postponed due to the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic currently gripping China and several other countries. The Congress has been tentatively rescheduled to June 2005, but further details will be available in the near future. The long delay is necessary to allow sufficient time for the SARS epidemic to be controlled and to ensure that the FIMSA Congress is not held in the same year as the International Congress of Immunology, scheduled for Montreal, Canada on 18–23 July, 2004.

In other news, FIMSA has been busy over the last year and despite the problems caused by the postponement of the 3rd Congress, 2003–2004 will still provide opportunities for the advancement of immunology in our region. The 6th Advanced Training Course was held in Ayutthaya, Thailand on 20–25 October, 2002. Nevin Abernethy (generously sponsored by Genesis Corp.) and Alan Baxter (also generously supported by ASI) were members of the teaching faculty at this highly successful course. FIMSA supported Robyn O'Hehir as a guest speaker at the inaugural conference of the Allergy and Immunology Society of Sri Lanka and the Sri Lanka Medical Association meeting. FIMSA and ASI together supported Dr Sadhna Sharma from India to attend the ASI meeting in Brisbane in December, 2002. Jon Sprent (Scripps Institute) was the inaugural FIMSA Distinguished Visiting Speaker and travelled to Thailand and China in October and November, 2002.

SARS has disrupted FIMSA plans for training courses and conferences in 2003 and so additional contributions will probably be made in the form of travel awards to students and early career scientists wishing to attend the ASI meeting in Perth (not available to ASI members) and the Japanese Society for Immunology meeting in Fukuoka, Japan on 8–10 December (ASI members are encouraged to apply). JSI will also offer travel awards to applicants from the FIMSA region for the JSI meeting. ASI

members have been successful in the past in winning both FIMSA and JSI awards for this meeting. FIMSA will again be offering travel awards for the ICI, this time for Montreal in 2004. Two ASI members (Nicola Harris and Diane Muller) won FIMSA travel awards for the ICI in Stockholm in 2001 and our members are encouraged to apply for these awards when they are advertised through the FIMSA website ([www.fimsa.org](http://www.fimsa.org)) in late 2003 or early 2004. FIMSA may also hold a small training meeting in late 2003 in one of the smaller immunological communities in our region, though this idea is still in its infancy and will be dictated by the impact of SARS over the next few months. FIMSA is also keen to hold the 7th Advanced Training Course in Immunology in Adelaide as a satellite to the HLDA8/ASI meeting scheduled for 12–17 December, 2004. More news on this possibility should be available soon.

### IUIS News

The 46th meeting of the Council of the International Union of Immunological Societies was held in Havana, Cuba on 8 December 2002, to coincide with and support the 6th Latin American Congress of Immunology.

IUIS revenue has decreased over the last year and this will restrict activities supported by the Union. IUIS derives its funds from subscriptions paid by or on behalf of member societies and from investment income. The International Congresses of Immunology can also return profits to IUIS and the 11th ICI in Stockholm returned a net profit of \$US35,000. Receipt of subscriptions continues to lag behind expectations and a downturn in international stockmarkets has resulted in negative growth for IUIS investments. As a consequence IUIS was unable to provide support for the FIMSA Congress scheduled to be held in China in October 2003. However as this Congress has now been postponed due to the SARS epidemic, the impact of the new financial constraints will now not be so drastic for our region.

IUIS has provided \$US15,000 to each of the immunology Federations for Asia-Oceania (FIMSA), Africa (FAIS) and Latin-America (ALAI) and \$US1,000 to the European federation (EFIS). These funds are used to support regional initiatives such as education and training programmes, Congresses,

visiting speakers and travel awards for young scientists. The SARS epidemic and the rise in international war and terrorism are sure to impact on the activities of IUIS and the Federations and many plans are currently being reconsidered.

In the latest budget the Education, Clinical Immunology and Veterinary Immunology Committees were allocated \$US21,000, \$US10,000 and \$US11,500 respectively and this will be used for a range of educational and professional development activities throughout the world. For example in 2002 the Education committee has supported publication of an immunology textbook in Latin America and a WHO Refresher course in Immunology, Vaccinology and Biotechnology Applications in Infectious Diseases held in Vietnam. The Clinical Immunology Committee supported conferences and training courses in Brazil, Lebanon and Singapore. The Veterinary Immunology Committee allocated small sums (\$1,000–3,000) to a wide range of workshops and programs, including the HLDA8 meeting to be held in Adelaide in 2004.

Reports were received from these committees and from committees for Nomenclature and Standardization and from affiliated societies and organizations (e.g. Developmental and Comparative Immunology, WHO, International Union of Scientific Unions - ICSU).

Most IUIS committees are very active in furthering their respective areas of immunology and use their modest budgets to great effect. Antipodeans (some of them expats) are well represented on the committees through people such as Jim McCluskey, Hedy Zola, John Schrader, Wayne Thomas (Nomenclature) and Greg Bancroft (Education). These committees are often looking for nominations of new members, so if anyone in ASI would like to contribute, please contact IUIS either directly ([www.iuisonline.org](http://www.iuisonline.org)) or via your IUIS Councillor, Lindsay Dent.

The Standardization Committee has subcommittees working on such diverse areas as cytokines, allergens, organ-specific antibodies, CD molecules, antibodies to rheumatic and related diseases and antineutrophil cytoplasm antibodies

## Comments on ASI from Members

(ANCA). The Nomenclature Committee has subcommittees on allergens, chemokines, collectins, complement, human TCR genes, interleukins and leukocyte differentiation antigens. Reports and commentaries from these groups are published in the Journal of Immunological Methods and Trends in Immunology.

ICSU can be a source of funds for IUIS and it is currently calling for proposals for funding of \$US50,000—100,000 to be used for capacity building and new knowledge in science and technology. IUIS and the Federations and other immunology bodies are encouraged to lodge joint applications for these funds.

The next International Congress of Immunology is to be held in Montreal, Canada on 18–23 July, 2004. This will be a joint meeting with FOCIS, the Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies. Considerable efforts have been made to ensure that ASI and immunologists from our region are well represented as invited speakers. The Montreal ICI website is [www.immuno2004.org](http://www.immuno2004.org).

Reports and contact details for the many committees and Federations covered by IUIS are available on request from Lindsay Dent, IUIS Councillor from ASI (email: [lindsay.dent@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:lindsay.dent@adelaide.edu.au)).

The next IUIS Council meeting, which was to be held in China in October, will probably now be held in Vienna sometime between during 17–26 October, 2003.

### Two New Immunology Societies in Our Region

The Immunology Association of Papua New Guinea (IAPNG) was founded in 2002 and the initial contact person is Dr. Clement Anyiwo (email: [ceanyiwo@yahoo.com](mailto:ceanyiwo@yahoo.com)). The Allergy and Immunology Society of Sri Lanka (AISSL) held its first national meeting in November 2002. This society was most appreciative of Prof. Robyn O'Hehir's contributions as an invited speaker, sponsored by FIMSA.

Lindsay Dent  
Secretary-General, Federation of  
Immunological Societies of Asia-Oceania  
(FIMSA).  
Councillor, International Union of  
Immunological Societies (IUIS)

*On the Membership Information Update form which accompanies the membership renewal, members are asked to comment on whether ASI meets the member's expectations for a Scientific Society. Eighteen 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:*

Active lobbying at a political level re the impact of grant funding.

ASI covers my fields of interest even as changing employment modifies them and expands the range. Thank you. The Society provides good coverage of an evergrowing speciality with increasing fields of knowledge and endeavour.

ASI does meet my expectations for what a scientific society should provide.

ASI generally meets my expectations. Perhaps more inclusion of veterinary immunology.

ASI generally performs well relative to other societies. I would like to see more opportunities for new investigators to chair sessions at meetings and network.

ASI is pretty good. The fact that you get a "high-ish" quality journal with your membership is a good feature.

Better overlap of Clinical and Basic Science Areas to interest more clinicians (and scientists). The Information Update form needs to be modified since several fields are overlapping/synonymous, i.e. Cancer/Tumours, Immunosuppression/Tolerance. Why not combine the similar terms?

I attended last year's conference and thought it was excellent.

I believe that ASI does meet my expectations from the little I have experienced of ASI in the last few months.

I feel ASI should inform student members about travel grants that are available through the Society.

I find ASI a valuable scientific society. There may come a time when it needs to merge with a more generic molecular biology society as immunologists are getting a bit thin on the ground.

I find the ASI workshop during the annual meeting very helpful and wonder if there could be more of something similar (not necessarily at the same scale) for students at other times of the year.

I think that the Society meets my expectations except for the lack of participation by leading Australian academics in Immunology, which for whatever reason are too busy to attend conferences.

*cont. next page*

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*Members' comments (cont)*

I would like to see a more active pursuit of interaction between the basic science and clinical application.

I would like to see more veterinary immunology (not just mice!). My particular interest is native fauna (marsupials in particular) and how this may be related to disease. I would be happy to develop a Special Interest Group in this area.

Invoicing reminders would be useful to those of us who intend to pay but forget. This is fundamental to the ASI revenue stream as well as our strength as a Society and I don't think it should just be left to Branch councillors to follow up.

It's a good scientific organisation.

It's OK. Suggestions: (1) Training courses as in one day courses in each capital city (for instance) using same speakers; (2) Updated website - especially the Immunology Meetings, ASI conference and Training Course sections.

More emphasis should be put on the fact that this is an Australasian society - please don't neglect New Zealand.

More visitors (speakers) to NZ.

Quality of the annual meeting needs improving. There needs to be an oversight committee to ensure the local organising committee has the correct balance of everything to ensure an excellent conference.

The Society needs to be sensitive to the fact that New Zealand is NOT a state of Australia. The name is Australasian not Australian Society. this is often forgotten especially at conferences.

Very good meeting, great guest speakers. Disappointing to see B cells and Autoimmunity talks on at same time - very big overlap in topics of interest. Food at unsponsored lunches needs improving.

Yes, conferences are good. ICB is very useful reference.

**Contributions  
sought for the  
ASI Newsletter**

**Deadline for the  
next issue**

**1st August**

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

[asi@21century.com.au](mailto:asi@21century.com.au)



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# ASI Councillors' News

## S.A./N.T. News

The year has started out fairly quiet here in SA.

Congratulations to Mr Brenton Reynolds from the Child Health Research Institute (CHRI), who won the prize for the best presentation at the 2002 SA ASI student meeting for his talk on "The identification of genes associated with myeloid leukaemia and differentiation". All seven presentations have been of outstanding quality and the judges found it hard to decide which talks to give the award to. Well done everyone!

In breaking news, the local ASI community is very pleased to hear that Dr Sarah Robertson (Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology & Reproductive Medicine Unit, Adelaide University), former SA ASI state councillor, has been appointed to the National Health and Medical Research Council. This is great news for her. We are delighted that a South Australian Immunologist is represented on the NH&MRC. Congratulations Sarah!

The organisation for the ASI 2004 meeting to be held here in Adelaide is running to plan. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the 8th International Workshop and Conference on Human Leucocyte Differentiation Antigens (HLDA8) chaired by Prof. Heddy Zola. The local organising committee is looking forward to a busy 18 months to organise this exciting event.

The speakers program for our branch has started off very slowly this year but we are delighted that Prof Anne Kelso (Director CRC for Vaccine Technology, QIMR) has agreed to come to Adelaide in late July to give two talks to the local ASI community. We are also very much looking forward to Prof David Hume's (Institute for Molecular Bioscience, University of Queensland) visit to Adelaide in mid-July. He has been invited by The Child Health Research Institute and has agreed to spend some more time and give a second talk to the local ASI community.

There are plans for a small 'Immunological Research in Adelaide Retreat' to be held later this year and this is being organised at the moment.

Su Heinzl  
SA/NT councillor

## N.S.W. News

NSW branch has been busy planning events for later in the year. ASI will sponsor a series of post-graduate teaching seminars. These will be held at Centenary Institute fortnightly on Wednesday evenings at 5pm. The aim is to bring the audience up to date with the latest information on a particular topic. They will be a great way to keep abreast of topics peripheral to your own research. 'Post-graduate' should be interpreted in the widest possible sense, all are welcome.

Chris Jolly will start the series on 28 May with a talk entitled 'Ig genes and DNA repair. Give us a break'. Other presenters include Stuart Tangye (Centenary), Fabian Mackay (Garvan), John Allen (Centenary), Alex Sharland (Centenary), David Martin (Victor Chang), Rob Brink (Centenary) and John Rasko (Centenary).

Details shortly will be sent to NSW members by email. We are investigating possible conference venues and hope to make an exciting announcement soon.

Helen Briscoe  
Councillor

## Queensland News

Brisbane Immunology Group (BIG) members enjoyed a series of highly stimulating seminars, which were given by international and national speakers during the last few months at QIMR. Profs Alexander Rudensky (Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Seattle, USA), Matthias von Herrath (La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology, San Diego, USA) and Klaus Erb (University of Wuerzburg, Germany), all of them en-route to or from the ThymOZ meeting on Herron Island in April, stunned with their high profile research in regulatory T cells, viral immune responses and understanding the riddles of asthma. In May, Dr Miles Davenport (University of New South Wales, Sydney) gave us insight in the mathematical modeling of HIV infection during monkey vaccine trial. It is worthwhile to reiterate that the financial support of ASI and the CRC for Vaccine Technology make these kinds of seminars happen (just in case anybody doubts the

benefits of being a member of these wonderful organizations).

An important event coming up soon is the 4<sup>th</sup> BIG meeting to be held at the Rydges Oasis Resort in Caloundra, Queensland, from 21-22 August 2003. This is the very place to meet all sorts of immunologists from different areas in greater Brisbane, Queensland and even other states. The aim of this annual meeting is to socialize, both on the scientific and personal level. Infused by an eclectic mixture of distinguished international and 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, 'have a good time' together. This year's highlights are Profs Andreas Radbruch (Berlin, Germany), Alan Rickinson (Birmingham, UK), Chris Parish (Canberra), Gus Nossal (Melbourne) and Ian Frazer (Brisbane). For more details about the program and how to register, please have a look at the accompanying announcement in this ASI newsletter.

Finally, big applause goes to our new member, Louise Ganly from the James Cook University in Townsville. Louise topped her third-year immunology class, and this achievement earned her the ASI prize for James Cook University for 2002 and a free student ASI membership for this year.

Norbert Kienzle  
Councillor

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## W.A. News

A number of local members have suggested that the WA branch of ASI hold a mini-conference. The preliminary idea is that such a conference would be a one-day event and would be targeted at early career scientists (Post-Doc/Ph.D/honours). I emphasise that these are very preliminary ideas and I am very interested in getting comments from local members. Please contact me if you have any ideas regarding the structure, timing, location etc. of such a conference (email: cadoniou@cyllene.uwa.edu.au).

Astrid van Halteren (Leiden University, Netherlands) was in Perth in April and presented a seminar entitled "Fate of autoreactive T cells in vitro and in vivo". I would like to thank Astrid for taking some time out of her holidays to present her work. The local speaker program is due to recommence shortly with A/Prof Wallace Langdon the first presenter for the year. A big thank-you to Chemicon Australia for providing snacks and drinks for the event. Finally, local members can also look forward to a visit from A/Prof Ranjeny Thomas in early July (details announced soon).

Christopher Andoniou  
Councillor

## N.Z. News

This year has been an exciting one so far for ASI members in New Zealand. We were lucky enough to have been visited by two very interesting speakers and have had two new immunologists set up shop at Otago University. Both visitors came in March and first up was Dr Rebecca McHugh. Rebecca came down to Dunedin from Wellington where she has just started working as a senior research fellow at the Malaghan Institute. The Malaghan enticed Rebecca away from Ethan Shevach's lab at the NIH, which will give you a hint as to the topic of Rebecca's seminar. Yes you guessed it – regulatory T cells or suppressor cells (Rebecca isn't afraid to use the 's' word!). Rebecca gave a very entertaining and informative talk and will be a great resource for immunologists on both sides

of the ditch. Rebecca's visit was sponsored by Otago University's 'Immunet'.

Our second visitor was Professor Gary Halliday from the University of Sydney. As our Visiting Professor sponsored jointly by ASI and Otago University's 'Immunet', Gary spent time in Dunedin, Christchurch and Wellington, delighting us all with his excellent presentations. He delivered three completely different talks whilst he was on the Dunedin campus. We believe that more were lurking in his briefcase. Our postgraduate and honours students were buoyed by his infectious enthusiasm (just what they needed right at the beginning of a daunting year). He didn't even wilt under the punishing round of 'consultations' with scientists, clinicians and the local newspaper. That Aussie constitution takes some beating. Thanks, Gary, for reassuring us that immunology is alive and well south of Tasmania.

Next our new and returning immunologists: Dr Alexander McLellan has been appointed to a lecturing position at the Department of Microbiology. Last year he returned from a post doctoral position in the laboratory of Professor Eckhart Kaempgen at the Dermatology Department, Wuerzburg, Germany. There he investigated dendritic cell sub-populations in lymph node and spleen. Dr McLellan's recently established laboratory in the Department of Microbiology will investigate dendritic cell populations in lymph nodes draining the stomach and intestine. These studies will complement other projects investigating the role of DC in oral vaccination strategies as well as the interaction of gut, spleen and liver dendritic cells with intracellular parasites, such as *Leishmania donovani*. The group also has an interest in the investigation of disease markers in autoimmunity and bacterial inflammation. This work is targeted to the development of non-invasive diagnostic tests for auto-immune disorders and other inflammatory condition.

Our returning immunologist is Dr Sarah Young. She has just returned to Otago university after a three year stint working in the UK as a post doc for Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) and Cancer Research UK. During this time her research investigated different immunotherapies to different cancers. The two main therapies used were recombinant *Mycobacterium smegmatis* and tumour- and DC-derived Exosomes. She has

been awarded an HRC Fellowship to investigate Vaccine Delivery Systems in conjunction with Assoc Prof Glenn Buchan and Dr Margaret Baird.

Thanks Alex, Sarah and Margaret for your input into this update.

Sarah Hook  
Councillor

## Victorian News

There are several IgV events slated for 2003 and I urge all Victorian and Tasmanian members to renew their ASI membership and encourage other colleagues to join – it is excellent value. We will be staging the 2003 IgV Techniques Workshop tentatively scheduled for Friday July 4th and again at the Woodruff Theatre, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne. Topics will include: Antibody engineering ; Small animal PET; Confocal microscopy; X-Ray crystallography; RNA interference; and Biacore.

We are still in the process of deciding on a venue for the 2003 Annual IgV meeting. Choices include a return to Mt Buffalo, again at Beechworth, or another venue such as the Yarra Valley or Daylesford. The meeting will be in the second week of October and 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.

The 5th Peter Mac Symposium on the Molecular and Cell Biology of Cancer will be held in Melbourne from November 10-12th. This year's meeting includes a large section of cancer immunology and immunotherapy, including the following invited speakers: Robert Schreiber, James Allison, Phillip Greenberg, Josef Penninger, Chris Parish, Ian Frazer, Denis Moss, and Chris Schmidt. It is always a very high standard meeting and all ASI members are encouraged to attend. More information about the meeting and registration can be found at: [www.pinci.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.pinci.unimelb.edu.au)

Mark Smyth  
Councillor

# UPCOMING LECTURES & CONFERENCES

August 14–16, 2003

1st Australian B-Cell Dialogue

Information: David Tarlinton, Phil Hodgkin, Lynn Corcoran or Stephen Nutt.

E-mail: [surname@wehi.edu.au](mailto:surname@wehi.edu.au)

21–22 August 2003

4th Brisbane Immunology Group Meeting

Caloundra, Queensland

Email: [gleggatt@cicr.uq.edu.au](mailto:gleggatt@cicr.uq.edu.au) or [mmcguckin@mmri.mater.org](mailto:mmcguckin@mmri.mater.org)

Website: [www.qimr.edu.au/big](http://www.qimr.edu.au/big)

11–13 October 2003

Monoclonal Antibodies in the Treatment of Hematological Malignancies

Paris, France

Email: [eshdi@chu-stlouis.fr](mailto:eshdi@chu-stlouis.fr)

Website: [www.esh.org](http://www.esh.org)

22–25 October 2003

15th Annual Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Conference:

Global Crisis – Local Action

Cairns, Australia

Abstract deadline: 18 July 2003. Submit online at [www.ashm.org.au/conference2003](http://www.ashm.org.au/conference2003) or by email as an attached document to [nadine@ashm.org.au](mailto:nadine@ashm.org.au)

October 2003

Third Euroconference on Angiogenesis

Dublin, Ireland

Email: [eshdi@chu-stlouis.fr](mailto:eshdi@chu-stlouis.fr)

Website: [www.esh.org](http://www.esh.org)

28–29 November 2003

11th Frank and Bobbie Fenner Conference:

Adventures in Immunology and Microbiology

Canberra, ACT

Website: <http://jcsmr.anu.edu.au/FennerConference2003/>

November 2003

Fourth International Translational Conference –

Cell Death and Disease: Advances in Therapeutic Intervention

Cancun, Mexico

Email: [eshdi@chu-stlouis.fr](mailto:eshdi@chu-stlouis.fr)

Website: [www.esh.org](http://www.esh.org)

**7–11 December 2003**

**33rd Annual Scientific Meeting of ASI**

**Perth, Western Australia**

**Website: [www.congresswest.com.au/ASI2003](http://www.congresswest.com.au/ASI2003)**

October 2004

1st International Conference on Basic and Clinical Immunogenomics

Budapest, Hungary

Website: <http://www.diamond-congress.hu/bci2004/>

## The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research – Seminars

June 24 (11.30am, Lecture Theatre)

Primate Modelling

Professor Charanjit Bamba

June 26 (4pm, Seminar Rooms B&C)

Bim, Bcl-2 and degenerative diseases

– Phillippe Bouillet

June 26 (4.30pm, Seminar Rooms B&C)

An inducible gene knock-out system for the study of pancreas development, function and regeneration – Andrew Holland

July 2 (1pm, Lecture Theatre)

SOCS3 is a key physiological negative regulator of IL-6 – Ben Croker

July 9 (1pm, Lecture Theatre)

Trafficking & Invasion: The function of the cytoplasmic domain of EBA-175 – Tim-Wolf Gilberger

July 16 (1pm, Lecture Theatre)

Playing with FIRE: Targeting vaccine antigens to dendritic cells for enhanced immunity – Alexandra Corbett

July 23 (1pm, Lecture Theatre)

An automated allele-calling system for high throughput microsatellite genotyping – Asa Wirapati

July 30 (1pm, Lecture Theatre)

Dissecting the tissue-specific functions of SOCS-1 through conditional knockout and transgenic mouse models – Mark Chong

August 6 (1pm, Lecture Theatre)

Evidence that SOCS-2 is a regulator of growth hormone action – Chris Greenhalgh

August 13 (1pm, Lecture Theatre)

Massive proliferation, catastrophic death: Homeostasis in immunity and haematopoiesis – Marc Pellegrini

August 20 (1pm, Lecture Theatre)

Gene mapping in mouse and man – from simple to complex diseases – Melanie Bahlo

August 27 (1pm, Lecture Theatre)

What's transcription got to do with it? Development, Leukemia, Autoimmunity and Down Syndrome – Hamish Scott

**WEHI Seminars on the Web:  
[www.wehi.edu/seminars/](http://www.wehi.edu/seminars/)**



## BIG Retreat – 2003

August 21-22, 2003



For further details and registration forms, please go to [www.qimr.edu.au/big](http://www.qimr.edu.au/big)

Dr Graham Leggatt  
CICR, PA Hospital, Woolloongabba, Qld 4012  
[gleggatt@cicr.uq.edu.au](mailto:gleggatt@cicr.uq.edu.au)

Dr Michael McGuckin  
Senior Research Fellow, MMRI, Level 3, Aubigny Place,  
Mater Misericordiae Hospitals, South Brisbane, Qld 4101  
[mmcguckin@mmri.mater.org](mailto:mmcguckin@mmri.mater.org)

## 1st Australian B-Cell Dialogue

August 14 – 16, 2003

**Goal:**

To promote the use of the B cell as a model system in cell biology and immunology and to forge links between basic science and clinical studies

**Venue:**

All sessions will be at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Royal Parade Parkville, 3050. Scientific sessions will be in the 7<sup>th</sup> floor lecture theatre and social functions in the tearoom.

**Registration:**

Full: \$150 *Early-Bird Student Registration:* \$110 (limited number as this is subsidised)

*Deadline: July 11, 2003.*

Registration is physically limited to 70, so please be prompt.

Fee includes Welcome Reception, tea/coffee, lunches and Conference Dinner.

**Further Information:**

David Tarlinton, Phil Hodgkin, Lynn Corcoran or Stephen Nutt.

E-mail: [surname@wehi.edu.au](mailto:surname@wehi.edu.au)

Phone: 03-9345 2555 (Reception) Fax: 03-9347 0852