

SOCIETY FOR
MUCOSAL IMMUNOLOGY



NEWSLETTER

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Lori Rathje Named
SMI Executive Director



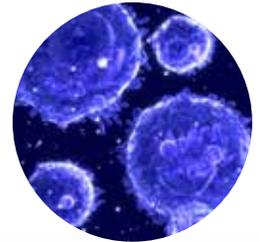
Pillars In
Immunology



ICMI 2015
Speakers



SMI at
Immunology 2015



Featured
Papers



Submit your Late Breaking Abstract!

ICMI2015

17th International Congress of Mucosal Immunology
July 14th - 18th • Berlin, Germany

Still want to present your science in Berlin? Submit your abstract to the only meeting that focuses exclusively on the mucosal immune system. Late breaking abstract submission closes on Wednesday, April 15th. Submit today!

To submit your abstract, [click here](#).

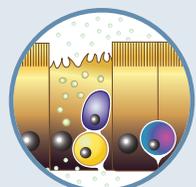
Lori Rathje, CAE Named Executive Director of SMI



Lori Rathje, CAE, has been named Executive Director of the Society for Mucosal Immunology. Lori was previously Association Manager for SMI and served in that position since 2008.

“I am honored to serve as Executive Director of SMI, and to have the opportunity to work with such distinguished leaders to advance their mission.”

Lori has worked in the association management industry for the past ten years. Through her experience, she has developed a diverse skill set across all areas of association management. She is proficient in developing membership and marketing campaigns, drafting development plans and achieving funding goals. She is experienced in facilitating strategic planning, rebuilding and redesigning websites based on the latest industry standards, supporting and leading Boards of Directors and developing and managing organizational budgets. She has worked with association leadership to coordinate the development of more than 20 medical education programs, ranging in size from 100 to 1,000 participants. Lori has extensive knowledge and experience with Continuing Medical Education (CME) and adult learning principles. In addition to SMI, she is also the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Occupational Therapy Association (WOTA) and the Ophthalmic Anesthesia Society (OAS). She achieved her Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential in 2014.



SOCIETY FOR
MUCOSAL
IMMUNOLOGY

Mucosal Immunology School: Pillars in Immunology

Mucosal Immunology School Chairs



**Ifor Williams,
MD, PhD**
Emory University



**Chiara Romagnani,
MD, PhD**
German Rheumatism
Research Center Berlin

SMI has programmed a one day Mucosal Immunology School: Pillars in Immunology, which will take place on Tuesday, July 14, before ICMI 2015. The overall aim of this program is to facilitate a deeper understanding of the fundamentals of the immune system at mucosal surfaces. It will provide a broad overview of several core mucosal immunology topics and has been designed for graduate students and post-docs who have recently entered the field, as well as more experienced researchers who are interested in a concise refresher course.

The faculty of this special educational event is comprised of outstanding international experts who have made seminal contributions to the field. In addition to delivering introductory lectures on relevant and emerging topics (including microbiota, and mucosal inflammatory diseases), the faculty will engage in interactive discussions on these topics with the participants in an informal setting.



Scientific Lectures Include:



*Historical/General
Overview*
Per Brandtzaeg, PhD
University of Oslo



Mucosal Antibodies
Jo Spencer, PhD
GKT Medical School



The Mucosal Barrier
Arthur Kaser, MD
University of Cambridge



Innate Lymphoid Cells
**Chiara Romagnani,
MD, PhD**
German Rheumatism
Research Center Berlin



Microbiota
Charles Elson, MD
University of Alabama,
Birmingham



*Special Features
of the Uniquely
Vulnerable Lung*
Peter Openshaw, MD
Imperial College of London



Antigen Presentation
Maria Rescigno, PhD
European Institute
of Oncology



*Diseases at the
Intestinal Surfaces*
Thomas MacDonald, PhD
Barts and the London School
of Medicine and Dentistry



T Cells
Nadine Cerf-Bensussan, MD, PhD
Université Paris Descartes

Meet the ICMI 2015 Keynote and State of the Art Speakers



Sidonia Fagarasan, MD, PhD, RIKEN University

Sidonia Fagarasan completed training in clinical medicine at Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy in 1990. She did residency and speciality in the Clinical Laboratory for Microbiology, Biochemistry and Hematology at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, and was appointed to Assistant Professor in 1995. It was during this clinical period in Romania that Dr. Fagarasan developed a fascination into the mechanisms governing intestinal immune homeostasis. In 1998, Dr. Fagarasan was invited to Japan as a Mombusho Visiting Researcher and earned PhD from Kyoto University Faculty of Medicine in 2000. In Kyoto she contributed to the discovery of Activated Induced Deaminase (AID) with Tasuku Honjo and colleagues. She subsequently demonstrated the critical role of AID in gut homeostasis. Since 2002, Dr. Fagarasan has been team leader of the Laboratory for Mucosal Immunity at the Research Centre for Allergy and Immunology (RCAI), RIKEN Yokohama, Japan. Dr. Fagarasan's research primarily aims to elucidate mechanistic regulation and function of the mucosal antibody IgA in the gut.



Shimon Sakaguchi, MD, PhD

Shimon Sakaguchi is a Distinguished Professor at the World Premier International Research Initiative (WPI)-Immunology Frontier Research Center (IFReC) at Osaka University, Japan. He is an immunologist recognized for his work on the control of immune responses. He is known particularly for his discovery of regulatory T cells, an indispensable constituent of the immune system for the maintenance of immune self-tolerance and homeostasis. Sakaguchi was born in Japan in 1951, obtained an M.D. in 1976 and a Ph.D. in 1982 from Kyoto University, Japan, where he was trained as a pathologist and immunologist. After performing postdoctoral studies at Johns Hopkins University and Stanford University as a Lucille P. Markey Scholar, he served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Immunology at the Scripps Research Institute. He returned to Japan in 1991 and continued his immunology research at RIKEN Institute as an Investigator of the Japan Science and Technology Agency and subsequently as the Head of the Department of Immunopathology at Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Gerontology, Tokyo. From 1998 to 2011, he was a Professor and the Chairman of the Department of Experimental Pathology, Institute for Frontier Medical Sciences Kyoto University and served as the Director of the Institute for several years.



Arthur Kaser, MD, University of Cambridge

Arthur Kaser is a mucosal immunologist and clinically trained gastroenterologist. Arthur has qualified from Leopold Franzens University Innsbruck with an intercalated thesis on type I interferons, and received post-doctoral training in Innsbruck and as a Max Kade and Schroedinger Fellow at Harvard Medical School's Brigham & Women's Hospital at the Mucosal Immunology Laboratory. Arthur's laboratory at the University of Cambridge, where he holds the Chair in Gastroenterology, studies mechanisms of inflammation at the host – microbiota interface that are affected by genetic variation conferring risk for inflammatory bowel disease. His laboratory has a particular interest in the biology of the intestinal epithelium and the role of the unfolded protein response and autophagy within these cells. Arthur also serves as a clinical investigator and is involved in the design and delivery of early and late phase clinical trials in inflammatory bowel disease.



Charles Elson, MD, University of Alabama, Birmingham

Dr. Elson received his MD from Washington University in St. Louis, trained in Internal Medicine at New York Hospital/Cornell, then did his Gastroenterology fellowship at the University of Chicago. After doing full-time research in immunology at National Institutes of Health, he joined the Faculty of the Division of Gastroenterology at the Medical College of Virginia. He moved to the University of Alabama at Birmingham to become Director of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and subsequently served as Vice-Chair for Research in the Department of Medicine. He holds the Basil I. Hirschowitz Chair in Gastroenterology and is an active consultant in immune-mediated intestinal disorders. The author of numerous peer-reviewed manuscripts, reviews, and book chapters, Dr. Elson has held major positions in national organizations, and has served on a number of advisory boards, including the Advisory Council of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. He has been elected to many professional societies in the field of academic medicine and has a long history of service to the Society for Mucosal Immunology for which he is a co-founder and past president.

ICMI 2015

Unique Lymphocyte Populations at Mucosal Surfaces: SMI at IMMUNOLOGY 2015



Symposium Chair:
Tim Denning, PhD
Emory University



Symposium Chair:
Marielle Gold, PhD
Oregon Health & Science University

SMI's Extramural Programs Committee will host a symposium at IMMUNOLOGY 2015 on May 10th in New Orleans, Louisiana.



10:15 - 10:45 am:
Control of Mucosal Th17 Cell Homeostasis
Ivaylo Ivanov, PhD, Columbia University



11:15 - 11:45 am:
NKT Cells Orchestrate Critical Barrier Protective Functions in Mucosal Tissues
Richard Blumberg, MD, Brigham & Women's Hospital



10:45 - 11:15 am:
DN TCRab+ IEL: Mix and Match MHC Reactives
Florence Lambolez, PhD, La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology



11:45 am - 12:15 pm:
Human Pathogen Reactive MAIT Cells
Marielle Gold, PhD, Oregon Health & Science University



Japanese Society for Immunology 2014 Poster Winner Announced

Congratulations to Dr. Yoshiyuki Goto! Goto received the Japanese Society for Immunology 2014 poster prize sponsored by Nature Publishing Group and the Society for Mucosal Immunology. The poster prize consisted of a small monetary award and a two-year membership to SMI!

Congratulations Dr. Goto.



February and March Featured Papers

February:

Role and Species-specific Expression of Colon T Cell Homing Receptor GPR15 in Colitis
Nguyen LP, Pan J, Dinh TT, Hadeiba H, O'Hara E 3rd, Ebtikar A, Hertweck A, Gökmen MR, Lord GM, Jenner RG, Butcher EC, Habtezion A.
Nat Immunol. 2015 Feb;16(2):207-13. doi: 10.1038/ni.3079. Epub 2014 Dec 22.

Commensal Gram-positive Bacteria Initiates Colitis by Inducing Monocyte/Macrophage Mobilization
Nakanishi Y, Sato T, Ohteki T.
Mucosal Immunol. 2015 Jan;8(1):152-60. doi: 10.1038/mi.2014.53. Epub 2014 Jun 18.

MyD88 Signaling in T Cells Directs IgA-Mediated Control of the Microbiota to Promote Health
Kubinak JL, Petersen C, Stephens WZ, Soto R, Bake E, O'Connell RM, Round JL.
Cell Host Microbe. 2015 Jan 22. pii: S1931-3128(14)00463-6. doi: 10.1016/j.chom.2014.12.009.

Interleukin (IL)-21 Promotes Intestinal IgA Responses to Microbiota
Cao AT, Yao S, Gong B, Nurieva RI, Elson CO, Cong Y.
Mucosal Immunol. 2015 Jan 14. doi: 10.1038/mi.2014.134.

IgA Targets the Troublemakers
Stephens WZ, Round JL.
Cell Host Microbe. 2014 Sep 10;16(3):265-7. doi: 10.1016/j.chom.2014.08.012.

March:

Commensal-dendritic-cell Interaction Specifies a Unique Protective Skin Immune Signature
Naik S, Bouladoux N, Linehan JL, Han SJ, Harrison OJ, Wilhelm C, Conlan S, Himmelfarb S, Byrd AL, Deming C, Quinones M, Brenchley JM, Kong HH, Tussiwand R, Murphy KM, Merad M, Segre JA, Belkaid Y.
Nature 2015 Jan 5. Doi: 10.1038/nature14052