

ISICR Newsletter 3-4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This has been a most exciting year for the ISICR. Topping the list of happenings was the first ISICR/ICS joint meeting in Geneva. I think all who attended agreed that it was a resounding success scientifically. While there were some administrative problems associated with the meeting, the Board of Directors of ISICR felt these could be worked out in a satisfactory manner for future joint meetings given good will on the part of both societies. Therefore we plan to hold meetings in conjunction with the ICS in alternate years: in 1998, in Jerusalem; and in 2000, in Amsterdam. In the odd numbered years we shall continue to hold meetings of ISICR in which due emphasis will be put on interferon research next year in San Diego; in 1999, in Paris; and in 2001, in Cleveland.

Another major event was the movement of our secretarial functions to FASEB in Bethesda. ISICR will continue to support part time secretarial help for Sid Pestka, in his function as Secretary of the organization, and he will supervise the activities at FASEB; however, the movement of our secretariat to Bethesda will give us a permanent business office that is fully equipped and experienced in running scientific organizations. This alliance with FASEB has already produced a significant dividend for ISICR; the FASEB office discovered we had an incorrect US tax exemption designation. Our new designation gives us true tax exempt status, and bulk mailing privileges in the USA, both potentially giving rise to significant savings for our organization.

Finally, Norman Finter, with a little help from me, has initiated work on an Interferon Archive, eventually in conjunction with The Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine. The first part of the project, which is on going, will concern the period from the discovery of interferons by Isaacs and Lindenmann until 1970.

Well, it has been an instructive and eventful year, perhaps more eventful than I bargained for when I accepted the nomination for the presidency of ISICR, but certainly worthwhile. I hope all of you have a good holiday season. Remember to nominate great candidates for the Milstein and Honorary Member Awards.

Bob Friedman, ISICR President

Thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Milstein!

Mr. Seymour Milstein has announced a large increase in the Milstein Awards and the initiation of support for five Young Investigator Awards. Beginning in 1997, the Milstein Family Foundation will provide \$20,000 for the Milstein Award and \$5,000 for five Young Investigator Awards of \$1,000 each. The ISICR Awards Committee expresses our deeply felt gratitude for his generous support of interferon/cytokine research and of the ISICR.

1996 ISICR AWARD WINNERS

The President of the ISICR announced the winners of The Milstein Awards and Honorary Membership in a ceremony held on October 6, 1996 at the 1997 ISICR international meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. The Milstein and Honorary Membership awardees each gave an acceptance speech, followed by a speech by Mr. Milstein, the chairman of the Milstein Foundation.

Milstein Award

Dr. Robert D. Schreiber (Professor, Department of Pathology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO)

Dr. Paula M. Pitha Rowe (Professor, Oncology Center, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD)

Honorary Membership

Dr. Lois B. Epstein (Professor of Pediatrics, University of California , San Francisco, CA)

Young Investigator Awards

Jean Laurent Casanova M.D, Ph.D (INSERM U429 Hopital Necker, Paris, FRANCE)

Rongtuan Lin, Ph.D (The Sir Mortimer B. Davis Jewish General Hospital Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research, Montreal CANADA)

Lothar Rink, Ph.D (Institute of Immunology and Transfusion Medicine Lubeck GERMANY).

Yoh Ichi Tagawa, Ph.D (Institute of Medical Science, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, JAPAN).

Travel Awards

Fifty one ISICR members received travel awards ranging from \$500 to \$1,200.

1997 Awards

1997 ISICR Awards

The ISICR Awards Committee invites nominations for 1997 Milstein Awards and Honorary membership. The deadline for the nominations is May 1, 1997.

The Milstein Award (\$20,000)

Individuals who have made exceptional contributions to research related to interferons and cytokines either in a basic or clinical field.

Honorary Membership

Individuals who have dedicated much of their career to the interferon/cytokine field and have made substantive contributions.

This year the ISICR is employing a new format for the selection of winners of the Honorary Member and Milstein Awards. The reason for this change is the small number of nominations that have been received in recent years: last year there was four nominations for the Milstein Award and only one for the Honorary Membership. These are important and prestigious awards; the Awards Committee under Dr. Ozato wishes to have at least six nominees to choose from for each award.

In order to achieve an increase in viable candidates this year, we are initiating a new form of preliminary nomination. In this issue of the Newsletter a simplified form appears, providing space for the name of the candidate you may wish to nominate for each award, and a brief exposition of why you think this person is a viable candidate for either or both awards. These nominations should then be sent to me by mail, telephone, FAX, or email. My secretary Marta will collate them, and pass them on to Dr. Ozato in May. Her committee will then prepare a short list of candidates and vote for winners of the awards. As specified in the ISICR Constitution, the final vote of the Awards Committee is subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of ISICR. So, do your duty as a good member of ISICR this year, and nominate by May 1, 1997 a first rate candidate for our highly

esteemed awards.

Bob Friedman, President, ISICR
Dept. of Pathology, USUHS
4301 Jones Bridge Rd.
Bethesda, MD 20814 4799
Tel: (301) 295 3044; Fax (301) 295 1640
email: rfriedma@usuhs.mil

A nomination form for the Milstein Award and Honorary Membership is found elsewhere in this newsletter.

The Awards committee invites applications for the Young Investigator Awards and Travel Awards. The deadline is the same as abstract dead line for the 1997 ISICR Annual Meeting.

Young Investigator Award (\$ 1,000)

Eligibility : ISICR members and are less than four years after receiving a Ph.D or M.D degree

Travel Award

ISICR members who intend to attend 1997 ISICR Annual Meeting in San Diego are eligible for Travel Awards. Application procedures will be announced in the meeting booklet. Selection of these awards is made based on the ratings by all the Awards Committee members.

ISICR BUSINESS OFFICE

Address all correspondence including address changes, corrections, change in degree and request for a membership application to:

ISICR Business Office
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20814 3998
Tel: 301 571 8319
Fax: 301 530 7049
Email: isicr@faseb.org

Member Information

Corrections for 1996/97 ISICR Membership Directory

Thomas C. Cesario Tel: 714 824 5926

Folke Bernadotte (name reversed in directory)
Box 47327
S 10074 Stockholm

email: folke.bernadotte@roche.com

Bob Friedman, President, ISICR
email: rfriedma@usuhs.mil

Heinz Kurt Hochkeppel
Dept. Oncology; Pharmaceuticals Division, K 125.3.11;
Ciba Geigy Ltd.; Basel, CH 4002; Switzerland
Tel: 41 61 696 3203
Fax: 41 61 696 2083;
Email: heinz.hochkeppel@chbs.mhs.ciba.com

Philip I. Marcus
Tel: 860 486 4254
Fax: 860 486 5193
Email: pmarcus@biotek.mcb.uconn.edu

Luiz F.L. Reis
Email: reisl@sagi.icb.ufmg

Ursula Schultz (new address)
Scripps Research Institute
10550 North Torrey Pines Road
La Jolla, CA 92037
Tel: 619 784 2051; Fax: 619 784 2160;
Email: uschultz@scripps.edu

Timofeyev I. Vasilijevich (misspelled)

Jan Vilcek
Email: vilcej01@mccr.med.nyu.edu

Kathryn Zoon
Tel: 301 827 0372
Fax: 301 827 0440

New Members

The following are new members who have joined the ISICR since the last newsletter. Contact the ISICR administrative office for address/contact information.

Terry Gerrard, Boulder, CO
Gertrude Henle, Newton Square, PA
Loretta M. Itri, Raritan, NJ
Natsis Konstantinos, Thessalonikiaa, Greece
Kevin W. Moore, Palo Alto, CA
Hassan Movahhed, Thousand Oaks, CA

Michael G. Murray, Kenilworth, NJ
Shigeo Ogino, Osaka, Japan
Isabel Perez Cruz, London, England
Paloi Ruggiero, Aquila, Italy
Clifford Mark Snapper, Bethesda, MD
Inga Strehlow, New York, NY
Yoh Ichi Tagawa, Tokyo, Japan
Craig L. Tendler, Kenilworth, NJ
E.F. Wheelock, Philadelphia, PA

REMEMBER: ISICR STUDENT & POSTDOC MEMBERSHIPS ARE ONLY \$10

Interferon Archives: Call for Donations

In collaboration with the Wellcome Trust, the ISICR, through the efforts of Bob Friedman and Norman Finter, are collecting material pertinent to the early days of interferon research. Anyone having old programs, abstracts or minutes from interferon meetings dating back to the period before 1970 is asked to send the information or copies of the information to Bob Friedman.

WWW SOURCES

ISICR WEB SITE

Thanks to the efforts of Menachem Rubinstein, the ISICR WEB site is now up and running at [http:// bioinformatics.weizmann.ac.il/ISICR/](http://bioinformatics.weizmann.ac.il/ISICR/) Comments and suggestions regarding the contents are welcome .

Sequin: A New Nucleotide Sequence Submission Tool Sequin is a multi platform (Mac/PC/Unix) stand alone software tool developed by the NCBI for submitting entries to the GenBank, EMBL, or DDBJ sequence databases. It is capable of handling simple submissions which contain a single short mRNA sequence, and complex submissions containing long sequences, multiple annotations, segmented sets of DNA, or phylogenetic and population studies. To learn more about this program visit the Sequin WWW page at: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Sequin/>

This WWW page includes an overview of Sequin, a short tutorial adapted from the NCBI newsletter, and a fully indexed HTML version of the help documentation which is also included with the Sequin program. Basic information about the program itself, along with detailed downloading and installation instructions, are available from our FTP directory: <ftp://ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sequin/README>

As always, any questions about the availability and use of our software tools can be directed to our service desk at the coordinates shown below.

Tyra Wolfsberg, Ph.D.
NIH/NLM/NCBI
wolfsberg@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
e mail: info@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

Tel: (301) 496 2475
Fax: (301) 480 9241
WWW URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>
anonymous FTP to: [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](ftp://ncbi.nlm.nih.gov)
login as: anonymous
password: use_your_email_address

Life Science Dictionary

The Life Science Dictionary (Lsd) Project, Japan has released a series of spell check dictionaries (LsdSpell) for life scientists as freewares. The following dictionaries are available at our Web site:

<http://lsd.pharm.kyoto-u.ac.jp/>

Apple Macintosh

LsdSpell, a supplement to Microsoft Word

LsdSpell, a supplement to Claris Works / MacWrite II

LsdSpell, a supplement to Excalibur (free spell checker)

LsdSpell TEXT resource

Microsoft Windows

LsdSpell, a supplement to Microsoft Word

LsdSpell contains thousands of life science words which are frequently used in life science papers (but not included in standard spell dictionary). Sample records are...glia, retrovirus, taxol, vasodilation, superoxide, trypsin, ACh, ApoE, etc. The selection of words was done according to the frequency of keyword in MEDLINE, BIOSIS, and Current Contents databases.

Shuji Kaneko, Ph.D. & the Lsd Project
Department of Pharmacology
Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Kyoto University, Kyoto, 606 01, Japan

TRANSFAC Database Pattern Search

Connected to the TRANSFAC database on transcription factors and their binding sites is now a pattern search engine (PatSearch) written by Holger Karas. Using this tool, you may use all sequence elements of the database to scan your sequence for potential TF binding sites. You have to choose between selected sequence libraries (vertebrates, insects, plants, fungi, consensi). The program output contains the position of the matches and an alignment of the matching sequences. Any suggestion for improvements will be appreciated!

Molecular Bioinformatics of Gene Regulation

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e mail: ewi@gbf-braunschweig.de

VSNS BioComputing Hypertext Coursebook

Take a look at either one of our WWW sites: http://www.techfak.uni_bielefeld.de/bcd/Curric/welcome.html

<http://www.biotech.ist.unige.it/bcd/Curric/welcome.html>

<http://merlin.mbcrc.bcm.tmc.edu:8001/bcd/Curric/welcome.html>

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Ch. 0. Introduction, by David L. Steffen

Ch. 1. Pairwise Sequence Alignments, by Robert Giegerich and David Wheeler (**)

Ch. 2. Networking, by David L. Steffen (**) (UPDATED Oct 12)

Appendix to Ch. 1+2: FastA/Blast Exercises, by Francisco M. De La Vega.

Ch. 3. Multiple Alignment, by Georg Fuellen (**) (incl. a list of WWW Resources) (UPDATED July 26)

Ch. 4. The Mathematical Basis of Molecular Phylogenetics, by Andreas Dress

Ch. 5. Genetic Algorithms and Protein Folding, by Steffen

Schulze Kremer. (**)

(**) indicates the availability of Exercises incl. a solution sheet.

Our Hypertext Book includes a small glossary at

<http://www.cryst.bbk.ac.uk/BCD/bcdgloss.html>

and a Java based Multiple Alignment "Hyperlattice Path" Visualizer, at

http://oleander.techfak.uni_bielefeld.de:8080/java/biomoo/visu.html

"Biocomputing For Everyone" WWW Pages are currently being finalized.

We will still try to add some improvements, and will announce updates on the list vsns bcd curric, to which you can subscribe by sending email to majordomo@lists.uni_bielefeld.de, with no subject line, and the following message body: subscribe vsns bcd curric.

PROLYSIS

PROLYSIS is a Web server intended as a Web resource for proteases and protease inhibitors. This server contains information's of general interest and images, as well as useful links to other Internet resources related to proteases and their inhibitors.

Suggestions and/or comments as well as material that can be added in PROLYSIS are welcomed. Please point your browser at:

http://prolysis.phys.univ_tours.fr/Prolysis

Dr. Thierry MOREAU, Laboratoire d'Enzymologie et Chimie des Proteines

2bis, Bd Tonnelles 37032 TOURS cedex FRANCE Tel: (33) 47 36 62 06

Fax: (33) 47 36 60 46

Email: moreaut@univ_tours.fr

Biological Data Transport Bioinformatics Resource

I wanted to alert you (who were not already aware) to a significant upgrade to the Biological Data Transport bioinformatics resource. Among other things, the Query Depot was launched over a month ago. And it has been upgraded weekly based on your feedback.

<http://www.data transport.com>

From this resource, several kinds of bioinformatics related searches can be executed to GenBank, the MEDLINE molecular biology subset, OMIM, Entrez, the BCM Search Launcher, PDB, BLAST, GDB, etc. Direct searching of several life sciences vendor resources are available as

well, all in one centralized location. We've simplified the UI to these free public resources significantly you may find the Query Depot useful when you want to quickly scan for info at the start of your search for information on the Internet.

Looking forward to your continued suggestions for additions and changes. Help us to continue making this resource a high value time saver for you.

R. Scott Jokerst (510 648 8229) scott_jokerst@data transport.com

Biological Data Transport <http://www.data transport.com>

DSC Protein Secondary Structure Prediction

I am pleased to announce the opening of a new web site for the prediction of protein secondary structure. Two prediction modes are available:

1) Given a single sequence. A multiple sequence alignment will be formed and DSC used to predict secondary structure.

http://www.icnet.uk/bmm/dsc/dsc_form_align.html

2) Given a multiple sequence alignment. DSC will use this alignment to predict secondary structure.

http://www.icnet.uk/bmm/dsc/dsc_read_align.html

The advantages of DSC are:

- 1) It is very accurate. DSC has a prediction accuracy of 70.1% on a standard set of 126 proteins. This was not significantly different from PHD, a popular prediction method. For medium length sequences DSC was more accurate than PHD, and combining DSC and PHD produced a prediction method more accurate than either.
- 2) It is free. There is no charge for using DSC.
- 3) The C source code is available. This would allow you to run DSC on your own system if you had confidential sequences.

DSC is based on simple linear statistics. A paper on the scientific basis of DSC will appear in Protein Science: "Identification and Application of the Concepts Important for Accurate and Reliable Protein Secondary Structure Prediction"

by Ross D. King & Michael J.E. Sternberg

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Human Gene Mutation Database

In order to better represent the biology of human genetic disease, GDB now contains links to entries in the Human Gene Mutation Database (HGMD, Cardiff). The HGMD contains "known (published) gene lesions responsible for human inherited disease" (C

ooper & Krawczak, 1993, Human Gene Mutation).

There are currently 551 GDB gene entries with a link to the corresponding mutation entry in HGMD. This number will continue to increase as the content of HGMD grows. To access these links:

Search by "Gene Name or Symbol" (e.g. PAX6) and choose "Other Links" under "Links to external databases".

OR Choose "External Links Human Gene Mutation Database: gene symbol" on any gene entry.

Much thanks to Iain Fenton (HGMD) for working with us to provide the links and David Cooper and Michael Krawczak for providing this excellent resource!

Amy K. Voltz, Ph.D.

Research Fellow, Johns Hopkins University, Sch. of Medicine, Division of Biomedical Information Sciences
avoltz@gdb.org Tel: (410) 614 0440

Cell Line Data Base

This is to announce you that a new version of HyperCLDB has been set up and is available at the following URL:
<http://www.biotech.ist.unige.it/cldb/indexes.html>

HyperCLDB is the hypertext version of the Cell Line Data Base, devoted to information on availability of human and animal cell lines within European collections and laboratories. It currently includes the description of more than 3100 lines, availability of which is granted at the listed laboratories.

The new version of HyperCLDB includes the following enhancements:

links to the OnLine Mendelian Inheritance in Man (OMIM) records, for a deeper knowledge of pathologies, both from the pathologies list and from the description of each cell line referring to a specific pathology,

set up of direct links to the URL minder system, to allow for registration of single pages at their remind archive (users are informed by email of any occurred changes in registered pages),

displaying of the total number of occurrences of each term/value in controlled vocabularies/indexes, revised search engine at the following URL:

<http://www.biotech.ist.unige.it/tab/HyperSearch.html>

updated graphic outline based on HTML tables, that makes browsing faster and appearance clearer, and splitting of the biggest files to allow for their faster retrieving.

This message comes from

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The 9th Tenovus Scotland Symposium on Eukaryotic Gene Biology
The 9th Tenovus Scotland Symposium on Eukaryotic Gene Biology will be held
in the University of Glasgow on 9th 11th April 1997. Programme:

Wednesday

1. Comparative Genomics

Chairman: Steve Oliver (Manchester)

Jean Louis Gunet (Paris)

Steven Jones (Cambridge)

Graham Moore (Norwich)

Steve Oliver (Manchester)

2. Repetitive DNA

Chairman: Keith Johnson (Glasgow)

Howard Cooke (Edinburgh)

Jean Louis Mandel (Strasbourg)

Darren Monckton (Glasgow)

Bob Wells (Houston)

Thursday

3. DNA Repair and Cancer

Chairman: Bob Brown (Glasgow)

James German (New York)

Jan Hoeijmakers (Rotterdam)

Paul Modrich (Durham, NC)

Medal Lecture Steve Jackson (Cambridge)

4. Membrane Signalling

Chairman: Margaret Frame (Glasgow)

Ian Kerr (London)

Anne Ridley (London)

Mike Schaller (Chapel Hill)

Richard Treisman (London)

Friday

5. Mitochondria

Chairman: John Walker (Cambridge)

Chris Leaver (Oxford)

Eric Shoubbridge (Montreal)

Alexander Tzagoloff (New York)

Michael Yaffe (La Jolla)

6. Cell Biology of the Nucleus

Chairman: Alan Wolffe (Bethesda)

Bill Earnshaw (Edinburgh)

Frank Grosveld (Rotterdam)

Angus Lamond (Dundee)

Alan Wolffe (Bethesda)

Registration Deadline 1st January 1997

Booking forms & further information by replying to this e mail:

Tenovus@udcf.gla.ac.uk

Postdoctoral Positions Available

Department of Pathology University of Tennessee

Two NIH funded positions available effective July 1, 1996 to study transmembrane signaling by interferons and other cytokines. Projects include characterization of the different domains of the a and b subunits of the type I interferon receptor, and identification of new proteins involved in interferon and cytokine signaling. Applicants should demonstrate strong background in molecular/cellular biology including mutagenesis, sequencing, cDNA screening, protein biochemistry, and cell culture. To be considered for the position, please send a cover letter, a curriculum vitae with bibliography, and names of three references to:
Oscar R. Colamonici, M.D.
Department of Pathology
University of Tennessee
899 Madison Ave.
BMH, Room M 576
Memphis, TN 38163
FAX: (901) 448 6979
e mail: ocolamonici@utmem1.utmem.edu

Department of Molecular Genetics, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot 76100, Israel
Immediately available, salary provided. To study additional components of the type I Interferon Receptor complex and signaling machinery.

Contact: Michel Revel (lvrevel@weizmann.ac.il)
Fax: 972 8 9343174.

Laboratory of Experimental Immunology
National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD

NCI funded IRTA (US Citizens)/Fogarty (foreign nationals) position is immediately available. Project will focus on regulation of gene expression in T cells/NK cells isolated from cancer patients.

Contact:
Howard Young
Lab. of Experimental Immunology
NCI FCRDC, 560/31 23
Frederick, MD 21702 1201
FAX# 301 846 1673
Email: youngh@ncifcrf.gov

CHRISTMAS RUM CAKE

Note: this recipe was forwarded to us by Mary Lokuta (thanks Mary!) and should be tried only in the privacy of one's own home with car keys safely hidden.

1 or 2 quarts rum baking powder
 1c. butter 1tsp. soda
 1tsp. sugar lemon juice
 2 large eggs brown sugar
 1c. dried fruit nuts

Before you start, sample the rum to check for quality. Good, isn't it? Now go ahead. Select a large mixing bowl, measuring cup, etc. Check the rum again. It must be just right. To be sure rum is of the highest quality, pour one level cup of rum into a glass and drink it as fast as you can. Repeat. With an electric mixer, beat 1 cup butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add 1 seaspoon of thugar and beat again. Meanwhile, make sure that the rum is of the finest quality try another cup. Open second quart, if necessary. Add 2 arge leggs, 2 cups fried druit and beat till high. If druit gets stuck in beaters, just pry it loose with a drowscriver. Sample the rum again, checking for tonscisticity. Next sift 3 cups of pepper or salt (it really doesn't matter which). Sample the rum again. Sift 1/2 pint lemon juice. Fold in chopped butter and strained nuts. Add one babblespoon of brown thugar, or whatever color you can find. Wix mell. Grease oven and turn cake pan to 350 gredees. Now pour whole mess into the coven and ake. Check the rum again, and bo to bed.

New Reagents Available

HUMAN/RODENT SOMATIC CELL HYBRID MAPPING PANEL #2, VERSION 3

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Human Genetic Mutant Cell Repository has a new version of Mapping Panel #2 available for distribution as cell cultures or DNA. Version 3 consists of 24 human rodent somatic cell hybrids each retaining a single intact human chromosome. In Version 3, the original hybrids retaining human chromosomes 6 and 14 have been replaced. The new monochromosomal hybrid for chromosome 6, GM/NA11580, is a human/mouse hybrid in which 100% of the cells retain the human chromosome and the monochromosomal hybrid for chromosome 14, GM/NA11535, is a human/mouse hybrid in which 92% of the cells retain the human chromosome. The panel has been characterized by (1) G banded chromosome analysis, (2) in situ hybridization using biotinylated total human DNA, (3) Southern blot hybridization and (4) PCR analysis. Information about these cultures and DNA is available via the world wide web (<http://arginine.umdj.edu/coriell/nigms.htm>) or by contact with the Repository.

The NIGMS Human Genetic Mutant Cell Repository
 Coriell Cell Repositories
 Coriell Institute for Medical Research
 401 Haddon Avenue
 Camden, NJ 08103
 Tel: (800) 752 3805 in the United States
 (609) 757 4848 from other countries
 FAX: (609) 757 9737
 e mail: ccr@arginine.umdj.edu
 Jeanne C. Beck
 Coriell Cell Repositories
 401 Haddon Avenue
 Camden, NJ 08103
 Tel: 609 757 4847 Fax: 609 757 9737
 e mail: jbeck@umdj.edu

Clinical Trials

DUMC 1604 95 11R2 NCI V96 0870: Phase I study of CBDCA with and without G CSF for malignant CNS tumors. Contact: Henry S. Friedman, Duke Univ. Med. Ctr., Durham, NC TEL: 919 684 5301

B95 0002: Phase IA/IB study of a 2B1 bispecific murine MoAB plus GM CSF and IL 2 in C ErbB 2 expressing refractory metastatic cancer Contact: Louis Weiner, Fox Chase Cancer Ctr., Philadelphia, PA TEL: 215 728 2626, ext. 2480

CALGB 9631: Phase II study of high dose doxorubicin with recombinant GM CSF plus dexrazoxane (Zinecard) for malignant mesothelioma. Contact: Joanne Coburn, Lebanon, NH TEL: 603 650 6720

YALE HIC 8666 NCI V96 0883: Phase III randomized study of immunotherapy with allogeneic melanoma vaccine plus IFN A vs IFN A alone in metastatic malignant melanoma. Contact: Wen Jen Poo, Yale Comprehensive Cancer Center, New Haven, CT TEL: 203 785 4113

NBSG 9510 NCI V96 0835: Phase II study of IFN A/IL 2/TIL for metastatic cancer. Contact: Robert. O. Dillman, Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian, Newport Beach, CA TEL:714 760 2091

RTOG 96 11: Phase II trial of alfa interferon in combination with fluorouracil for recurrent high grade gliomas. Contact: Elaine Pakuris, Philadelphia, PA TEL: 215 574 3195 or James D. Cox, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX TEL: 713 792 2260

C94 105: A randomized study comparing interferon alfa 2b vs placebo in patients with intermediate or high grade non Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) in complete or partial remission following salvage therapy. Contact: Craig Tendler, Schering Plough, Kenilworth, NJ TEL: 908 298 4719

AECM 8902035 NCI V89 0211: Phase II trial of 5 FU/ β IFN in patients with advanced colorectal carcinoma. Contact: Scott Wadler, Montefiore Med. Ctr., Bronx, NY TEL: 718 920 4830.

JHOC 9501 NCI V96 0901: Phase I study of autologous graft versus tumor induction plus interferon gamma and interleukin 2 following bone marrow transplantation for hematologic malignancies. Contact: Georgia B. Vogelsang, Johns Hopkins Oncology Center, Baltimore, MD TEL: 410 955 8464

NCI 96 C 0113, NCI T96 0029N, NCI MB 386: Phase I/II pilot study of Interleukin 12 for AIDS associated Kaposi's sarcoma. Contact: Robert Yarchoan, NCI, Bethesda, MD Tel: 301 496 0328

SCF 9201: Phase I/II trial of recombinant methionyl human stem cell factor (SCF) in patients diagnosed with acquired aplastic anemia. Contact: Melody Wyres, Amgen TEL: 805 447 2440

NCI 96 C 0118, NCI T95 0098N: Phase II study of hyperthermic isolated hepatic perfusion with tumor necrosis factor/melphalan followed by hepatic arterial floxuridine for unresectable metastatic colorectal cancer confined to the liver. Contact: H. Richard Alexander, NCI, Bethesda, MD Tel: 301 4962195

FAMOUS QUOTES

Keep on going and the chances are you will stumble on something, perhaps when you are least expecting it. I have never heard of anyone stumbling on something sitting down.

Charles Kettering

Reviews of Interest

Anderlini, P., Przepiorka, D., Champlin, R., and Korbling, M. Biologic and Clinical Effects of Granulocyte Colony Stimulating Factor in Normal Individuals. *Blood* 88:2819, 1996.

Baeuerle, P.A. and Baltimore, D. NF κ B: Ten Years After. *Cell* 86:1, 1996.

Bates, P. Chemokine Receptors and HIV 1: An Attractive Pair? *Cell* 87:13, 1996.

Billiau, A. Interferon γ : Biology and Role in Pathogenesis. *Adv. in Immunology* 62:61, 1996.

Dutcher, J.P. Therapeutic Strategies for Cytokines. *Curr. Opinion in Oncology* 7:566, 1995.

Eynon, E.E., Kuida, K. And Flavell, R.A. Disruption of Cytokine Signaling in Lymphoid Development: Unique Contributions of the Common Cytokine Gamma Chain and the Jak3 Kinase. *J. of Interferon and Cytokine Res.* 16:677, 1996.

Johnston, J.A., Bacon, C.M., Riedy, M.C., and O'Shea, J.J. Signaling by IL 2 and Related Cytokines: JAKs, STATs, and Relationship to Immunodeficiency. *J. of Leukocyte Biol.* 60:441, 1996.

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HELP US

I would like to welcome Patricia Fitzgerald Bocarsly and Paul Drew as new associate editors for the newsletter, beginning in 1997. For some unexplained reason, these two courageous individuals momentarily lost their senses and volunteered to help. Since I don't let people change their minds, they are stuck with it for at least a year. If you would like to see new features or have flattering comments about the ISICR newsletter, please correspond with the editors below. If you don't like the newsletter, please send your comments to that "other" society that has the word beginning with cyto.. in their name. Send correspondence for the ISICR newsletter to:

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RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW! DON'T MISS OUT ON FUTURE ISSUES OF THE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER!

Clarification on membership and the 1996 ISICR Meeting

At the 1996 ISICR meeting in Geneva, it was announced that membership in the ISICR was included in the meeting registration. Please note that this applied to 1996 membership only. Continued membership for 1997 will require dues payment.

1997 ISICR MEETING OCT. 19 24

**Sheraton Harbor Island
SAN DIEGO, CA
Abstracts Due June 1
Conference Secretariat
Keli Dicine
Tel 216 464 2055**

Fax 216 464 3884

1996 ISICR Committee Reports

Minutes

Board of Directors and Advisory Board, Joint meeting October 6, 1996, 3 pm

Dr. Friedman opened the meeting at 3 pm. The members present were: Drs. Baron, Borden, Dianzani, Friedman, Gresser, Haller, Pestka, and Williams. The minutes of last year's meeting in Baltimore were distributed, read and approved. There was some discussion about the joint meeting and of recent discussions with the International Cytokine Society including the joint meeting scheduled for Jerusalem for 1998.

Methods to increase the number of nominations for ISICR awards was discussed. It was felt by the Board members that the procedure should be streamlined to simplify the process so that the Awards Committee would be able to review a larger number of applications for each of the Society's awards. This would be coordinated with Dr. Ozato and the members of the Awards Committee prior to publication of these procedures in the Newsletter.

A Special Citation for the contributions of the Milsteins to the ISICR was approved by the Board members. The award will be presented to Mr. and Mrs. Milstein of the Milstein Family Foundation at the time of the presentations of the awards at the 1997 Annual Meeting in San Diego. Mr. and Mrs. Milstein have been present to make the presentations for the Milstein Award of the Society since the inception of the award. In honor of their interest and continual support of the Society and the Milstein Award, the Board of Directors felt that this recognition would be appropriate.

Travel support for ISICR committee chairs and officers not provided by meeting organizers was discussed. It was noted that often officers and chairs of committees of the Society are not invited officially to the Annual Meeting by the Meeting Organizers and thus no travel support for many of them was provided in the past and at this meeting. Since these individuals must attend the annual meeting to officiate at various functions, it was felt that travel support be provided by the Society when requested by these individuals. It was suggested that the \$5,000 discretionary funds of the President of the ISICR be used to support the travel and other expenses of these members as appropriate.

Dr. Friedman presented the progress of the Interferon Historical Archive. A note will be placed in the Newsletter requesting input from ISICR members relative to this archive. Dr. Finter is involved in this effort that will be sponsored by Glaxo Wellcome.

Dr. Pestka presented the report of the Secretariat, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. The format of future ISICR Membership Directories was discussed as well as the relationship of the Secretariat to the FASEB. The latest ISICR directory (1996/1997) was prepared by FASEB. At the last meeting of the Board of Directors in Baltimore in 1995, Dr. Pestka suggested that an organization with a permanent staff gradually be employed to take over the routine duties of the Secretariat. The Board of Directors approved this suggestion. However, during the initial year of the contract with FASEB, all the steps for implementation of a close interaction of the Secretariat with the FASEB were not realized. We anticipate that the experiences of the first year will enable us to establish mechanisms for effective utilization of the resources of FASEB to meet the long term goals of the ISICR and its members. There was a general consensus that the FASEB contract stipulate that FASEB should report to the Secretary of the Society rather than the President so that the Secretary can fulfill the duties of the Secretariat as required in the By Laws of the Society. It was agreed that the President would send a letter to FASEB to implement this.

Last year the Publications Committee proposed a contract with Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. stipulating a number of requirements (see last year's Publications Committee meeting minutes) concerning the Journal of Interferon and Cytokine Research. Dr. Friedman indicated that he previously felt it was not in the best interests of the ISICR to have a contract with the publisher, but had changed his mind and would now begin to proceed toward a contract between the ISICR and the publisher. Dr. Pestka noted that he had discussed Dr. Friedman's decision with Dr. Fleischmann, Chairman of the Publications Committee, and had indicated to Dr. Fleischmann that he should discuss this directly with the President of the Society. Dr. Fleischmann did so. Dr. Friedman indicated he would arrange a meeting with the publisher and the officers of the ISICR as soon as possible. It was the consensus of the members of the Board present that this effort proceed forward along the guidelines recommended by the Publications Committee that performed a careful analysis of the arrangement and provided the ISICR with excellent advice and guidance for a contract that would maintain editorial control of the Journal, which is owned by the publisher, in the hands of the ISICR.

In the light of the planned transfer of routine duties of the Office of Secretariat to the offices of FASEB, the 1997 budget and expenses for secretarial services was discussed. The budget as proposed by the treasurer was accepted (see Treasurer's Report). Dr. Friedman indicated that, if more funds were required for the Office of the Secretariat, this would be provided if justified and required to keep the office and the Society functioning efficiently. The Board members agreed.

Minutes International Council Meeting October 7, 1996, 11 am

Dr. Friedman opened the meeting of the International Council. Committee reports were presented as well as a summary of the Board of Directors and Advisory Board Meeting (see minutes of those meetings for specific details).

Dr. Ozato presented the Awards Committee Report (see committee report). It was generally felt that by making nominations for the Milstein and Honorary Membership awards simpler, it may encourage more nominations.

Dr. Maheshwari presented the Publications Committee Report (see committee report) in Dr. Fleischmann's absence. Dr. Maheshwari announced that Dr. Fleischmann's wife, Christina, had died on September 30; a moment of silence in memory of Christina Fleischmann followed. The Committee recommended:

1. The contract with Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. relevant to the arrangement of the ISICR and the Journal of Interferon and Cytokine Research be pursued as recommended by the Publication Committee last year.
2. Development and enhancement of an Internet page by ISICR be pursued.
3. Ray Kaempfer indicated that the organizers of the 1998 meeting in Jerusalem will have a web site for the 1998 meeting at end of 1996.

Dr. Hochkeppel presented the Membership Committee Report (see committee report). The following was specifically noted and more details are provided in Committee minutes:

1. It was agreed that more frequent and regular follow up of members and corporate members is required to maintain a thriving membership.
2. He announced that Eleanor Fish will prepare a poster to be distributed to the members and others for posting. Eleanor Fish will incorporate the logo of the ISICR in the poster.
3. Co sponsorship of NIH meetings by the ISICR was recommended. There are many NIH meetings relevant to cytokines and interferons, and a continual cytokine program has been developed. It would be useful for the ISICR to officially sponsor these programs.

In the absence of Dr. Knight, the Treasurer's Report was presented by Dr. Friedman (see Treasurer's Report for more details).

1. Last year's meeting lost about \$13,000. It was one of the first meetings where the Society did not make a profit.
2. Dr. Knight will not run for the Office of the Treasurer after his present term expires.
3. With the interaction with FASEB, Dr. Friedman noted that the FASEB offices have been able to assist us in obtaining the correct tax exempt organization status. This will be important in obtaining lower postage rates for ISICR mailings.
4. A fund raising campaign should be considered.
5. Tax free donations to the Society should be considered for inclusion in the membership renewal forms.

The other committee reports were not made at this time due to lack of time, but they were presented at the meeting of the General Membership on October 8.

Minutes General ISICR Meeting October 8, 1996, 4:30 pm

The meeting of the General Membership of the Society was opened by Dr. Friedman. In Dr. Knight's absence, Dr. Friedman presented the Treasurer's Report and the Budget for 1997 (see Treasurer's Report). The 1997 budget was approved.

Dr. Zoon presented the Meetings Committee Report (see Minutes of the Meetings Committee for details). It was suggested that the Newsletter include the program for the annual meeting and be sent to the membership 10 days before the meeting date. Dr. Hochkeppel presented the Membership Committee Report. In the absence of Dr. Fleischmann, Dr. Maheshwari presented the Publications Committee Report. Dr. Lundgren presented the Nomenclature Committee Report and distributed a summary of the suggested nomenclature. Dr. Ozato presented the Awards Committee Report. Details of all these reports appear under the minutes of each of the respective meetings.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR INTERFERON AND CYTOKINE RESEARCH

- Secretary's Report October, 1996
- I. Introduction
 - II. Elections, Appointments and Awards
 - III. Summary of Membership
 - IV. Corporate Sponsorship Support

- V. International Council
- VI. FASEB
- VII. Appendices

I. Introduction

The ISICR has continued to enhance communication to its membership by publication of the Newsletter. This year marks the third year of the publication of the ISICR Newsletter. Three issues of the ISICR Newsletter were mailed to all our members so far

this year. Publishing this newsletter was possible only with the exceptional energy of our editor in chief Howard Young who has been assisted by Gerald Sonnenfeld and Bratko Filipic. I thank them for undertaking this important endeavor. The Newsletter

provides a great deal of information that members find useful. We have published the minutes of our committee meetings and the announcements of the procedures for nominations for the Milstein award and for honorary membership.

In addition, this year marks the first of two planned joint meetings with the International Cytokine Society (ICS). The next joint international meeting with the ICS will be in Jerusalem in 1998. In another initiative, we have begun to transfer some of the duties of the Secretariat to the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB). This is discussed in a separate section below.

II. Elections and Awards

The election was held for the new members of the Board of Directors. The new elected members were Drs. Flippo Belardelli and Robert D. Schreiber. Dr. Otto Haller was reelected.

Some committee chairpersons and members were due for rotation this year. Letters were sent to all committee chairpersons for recommendations of replacements for those whose terms were expiring December 1995. This process was completed and all new mem

bers started in January 1996. A list of the committees and the current roster of members is given in Appendix I.

The Awards Committee completed its discussions on nominations for the Milstein Award and Honorary Membership. The nominees were approved by the Board of Directors. The following members were chosen for the Milstein Award: Dr. Paula Pitha Rowe and Robert Schreiber; and for Honorary Membership, Dr. Lois Epstein. Our congratulations to them all. We thank the chairperson, Dr. Keiko Ozato, and members of the Awards Committee for their efforts.

III. Membership

As of August 26, 1996, the Society has listed 774 paid members. Of this number, 292 are members who renewed and 75 are new members. We also have 13 honorary members, 1 emeritus member and 103 associate members. This brings our current paid, honorary

and associate members to a total of 871. A summary of the membership is given in Appendix II.

The largest number of currently paid members are from the United States (289), followed by Japan (79), then Italy (37), France (35) and Germany (35). For our Associate Members, most are from Poland (32) and Russia (27). China currently has 9 paid mem

bers and 2 associate members. The number of members using our 2 and 3 year membership renewal options is also increasing: 113 members have already paid through 1999 and 7 have paid through the year 2000. This means that future income from membership dues will decrease unless the

number of members increases substantially.

IV. Corporate Sponsorship

The income from sponsoring corporate members this year was \$62,500.00 from 13 corporate sponsors. Please see Appendix III for the complete list of Corporate Members. We welcome any suggestions for new corporate sponsors. Members suggesting new corporate sponsors should provide the ISICR office with the names of the potential sponsors and individuals to contact at these organizations. In addition, it would be useful for members of the Society and the International Council to make the first contacts before writing to this office. We value our corporate members who sustain the programs of the Society.

V. International Council

In February, the members of the International Council assisted the office of the Secretary in contacting members who had not renewed membership for 1996. The councilors made phone calls and sent follow up letters reiterating the benefits of updating their membership.

VI. FASEB

In March Dr. Robert Friedman signed an agreement with FASEB to provide staff support for administrative and clerical functions. FASEB is supposed to maintain the membership database, compile the membership directory and distribute the Newsletter. The present agreement is from March 1, 1996 through December 31, 1996. The contract will be renewable annually.

Appendix I

Committee Membership List

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Keiko Ozato (1995 97)

1. Ferdinando Dianzani (1996 98)
2. Akira Fuse (1995 97)
3. Susan E. Krown (1995 97)
4. Yukio Mitsui (1995 97)
5. Stefanie Vogel (1996 98)
6. Juana Wietzerbin (1995 97)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ernest Knight, Jr. (1995 98)

1. Felippo Belardelli (1995 97)
2. Lawrence M. Blatt (1995 97)
3. Sohan Gupta (1996 98)
4. Masayoshi Kohase (1995 97)
5. Moshe Moshe (1995 97)

MEETINGS COMMITTEE

Co chairpersons:

Kathryn Zoon (1995 97)

Christine Czarniecki (1995 97)

1. Ken ichi Arai (1995 97)
2. Bernard LeBleu (1995 97)
3. Paula Pitha Rowe (1996 98)
4. Berish Y. Rubin (1995 97)
5. Robert Silverman (1996 98)
6. Hans Strander (1995 97)
7. Stefanie N. Vogel (1995 97)
8. Thomas C. Cesario (1995 97), Ad hoc
9. Gianni Garotta (1995 97) Ad hoc
10. Raymond Kaempfer (1995 97) Ad hoc
11. Michel Revel (1995 97), Ad hoc
12. Charles Weissmann (1995 97) Ad hoc

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Heinz Kurt Hochkeppel (1995 97)

1. Masanobu Azuma (1995 97)
2. Frances R. Balkwill (1996 98)
3. Jean Content (1995 97)
4. Miklos Degré (1996 98)
5. Eleanor N. Fish (1995 97)
6. Peter Stäheli (1996 98)
6. Howard A. Young (1995 97)

NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Erik Lundgren (1996 98)

1. Manuel Diaz (1995 97)
2. Eleanor Fish (1996 98)
3. Jerome A. Langer (1995 97)
4. Andrew C. Larner (1995 97)
5. François Lefevre (1995 97)
6. R. Michael Roberts (1996 98)
7. Juana Wietzerbin (1996 98)

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairperson: W. Robert Fleischmann (1995 97)

1. Edward De Maeyer (1995 97)
2. Antonina Dolei (1996 98)
3. Yoh ichiro Iwakura (1996 98)
4. Santo Landolfo (1995 97)
5. Huub Schellekens (1995 97)
6. Radha Maheshwari (1996 98)
7. Jun Utsumi (1996 98)
8. Phillip I. Marcus, ex officio

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Sidney E. Grossberg (1994 96)

1. Günther R. Adolf (1995 97)
2. Alfons J. Billiau (1996 98)
3. Lawrence M. Blatt (1995 97)
4. Norman B. Finter (1996 98)
5. Romain Golgher (1995 97)
6. Christian Ross (1996 98)
7. Masayoshi Kohase (1996 98)
8. Anthony Meager (1996 98)
9. Daniela Novick (1996 98)
10. Huub Schellekens (1996 98)

Appendix II

ISICR Membership Statistics as of August 26, 1996

As of Aug 26 Last

year

A. Current Members:	1996	1995
1. Paid Members	774	687

Breakdown of 1996:

a) Members who renewed	292
b) New Members	75

Status:

a) Corporate Sponsors	12
b) Regular Members	703
c) Student Members	39
d) Emeritus Member	1
2. Honorary Members	13
3. Associate Members	103

Total Paid, Honorary and Associate
Members

871 (1996)	793 (1995)
------------	------------

B. For Follow up:

1. Members paid in 1995 who have not renewed yet	135
2. Members whose last dues payments were in 1994	145

C. To mark for deletion:

1. Members whose last dues payments were in 1993	123
2. Members whose last dues payments were in 1992	14
3. Members whose last dues payments were in 1991	0

Total Members Listed in dbase File = 1203

D. Members paid in advance:

For 1997	-	183
For 1998	-	96
For 1999	-	113
For 2000	-	7

Figures compiled by FASEB.

Appendix III

List of Corporate Members, 1996

Sponsoring Corporate Members	Country
1. Amgen, Inc.	U.S.A.
2. Ares Serono	Switzerland
3. Berlex Biosciences	U.S.A.
4. Biogen, Inc.	U.S.A.
5. Bio Sidus, S.A.	Argentina
6. Hoffmann La Roche, Inc.	U.S.A.
7. Interferon Sciences, Inc.	U.S.A.
8. Mochida Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	Japan
9. Schering Plough Corporation	U.S.A.
10. Shionogi Research Labs.	Japan
11. Sumitomo Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd.	Japan
12. Suntory Limited	Japan
13. Toray Industries, Inc.	Japan

Summary of the ISICR Membership Committee Meeting at the first Joint ISICR/ICS Meeting 1996 in Geneva.

The Membership Committee of ISICR met on October 6, 1 3 PM, 1996, at Palexpo/Villa Sarasin, Geneva/Switzerland, to discuss and evaluate the current status of ISICR membership as well as new ideas on how to improve the ISICR membership situation. Present

were H.K. Hochkeppel (chair), E. Fish, H. Young, J. Content, M. Degre, P. Stäheli as members of the Membership Committee. Further present were B. Williams (part time), as well as R. Friedman and S. Pestka. First of all, all members of the ISICR Membersh

ip Committee were very sorry to hear that the wife of R. Fleischmann, Christina Fleischmann, passed away on September 30th of this year. All members of the Committee would like to express their sincere and deep condolence to Bob. The present ISICR members

hip status for 1996 was the following. As of August 6th ISICR had a total of 796 members including 603 members who renewed (113 of them still didn't pay their dues), 76 new members, 13 honorary members, 13 corporate members and 103 associate members. It

was suggested to look into the possibility to drop some countries from the exempt status of associate membership since in several countries the economic situation has improved. It was of concern that there are 393 members of ISICR for follow up; 135 of th

em paid there last dues in 1995 but did not renew their membership; 145 members paid their last dues in 1994, and 123 in 1993. The last ones are marked for deletion. The Membership Committee Members felt that there should be from now on a more regular and

closer follow up of all ISICR Membership. FASEB which is now in charge of ISICR administration should be in regular contact directly with the chair of the Membership Committee and send quarterly figures of membership to the chair of the committee. Either

FASEB or the chairperson of the Membership Committee should regularly contact the International Councilors of ISICR, not only to enforce payment of dues but also to better monitor address changes of members. Also corporate sponsors who have not renewed t

heir membership should be followed up. Further it was proposed that, in addition to the newsletter, more efficient

advertisement of ISICR during the year should be initiated. It was suggested that a poster advertising our Society and listing the advantage

s to belong to ISICR should be designed and distributed to all members of ISICR. Flyers of such a poster with reduced size should be given to the International Councilors of ISICR for distribution to non ISICR members in their national chapters. Flyers sh

ould also be distributed at related meetings. In addition, it was felt that we need to install a home page of ISICR in the INTERNET.

It was suggested that students should get a reduced subscription rate for the Journal of Interferon & Cytokine Research. However, at the same time, principal investigators should remind their students and post docs to join ISICR membership. Finally one s

hould be aware that all participants of the joint ISICR/ICS Meeting who have registered are automatically for one year members of ISICR, if they are not already member of our Society. Therefore, special care should be taken to follow up such new members a

fter the 1 year period of "trial membership".

Respectfully submitted by Heinz Kurt Hochkeppel, Chairperson

Report of the ISICR Publication Committee Meeting at the ISICR/ICS Meeting in Geneva:

The ISICR publication committee met at the Annual Meeting of the ISICR in Geneva, Switzerland. In the absence of Dr. Fleischmann, Dr. Maheshwari chaired the meeting. The other members who participated in the discussion were Drs. Marcus and Schellekens

. The following issues were discussed:

1. The Newsletter has been well received, and the committee applauded the effort of Dr. Young. Since there was a lot of confusion about the dates of the submission of abstracts for the annual meeting, it was suggested that an issue of the Newsletter b

e published before the Annual Meeting, and the information on abstract submission and other details regarding the meeting be included.

2. Dr. Marcus presented a summary of JICR activities and reported that since the merger, there has been a steady increase in the number of manuscripts submitted. The letter from the publisher/editor in chief initiated last year to 2000 researchers, wh
o published articles with _IFN_ in the title, resulted in a significant increase in awareness of the JICR, and an influx of manuscripts representing first time submissions. Eighteen months later, manuscripts are still being submitted in response to that
mailing. The ratio of manuscripts submitted to IFN/Cytokine editors was 50:50 in 1995 and 60:40 in 1996 (up to 9/30/96).

3. The Editorial Board members should be rotated more frequently. During the past two years 60% of the Editorial Board members published 1 to 5 papers in the JICR. It is recommended that Editorial Board members should publish/ contribute papers to pro
mote the Journal.

4. Also discussed was how the number of subscribers to JICR can be increased. It was suggested that, if the cost of JICR subscriptions could be considerably reduced, then JICR subscriptions could become a part of the membership dues, as is true of ma

ny other scientific societies. Dr. Marcus will take this matter up with the publisher to work out details.

Minutes of the Meeting of the ISICR Committee on Standards

6 October 1996 Geneva, Switzerland

The Committee met on Sunday, 6 October 1996 during the joint ISICR ICS meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. Those present were Alphons Billiau, Ronald Bordens, Colin Brand, Hartmut Engelman, Norman Finter, Ernst Fischer, Robert Hirkin, Yoshimi Kawade, Masayoshi Kohase, Herbert Lamche, Tony Meager, Daniela Novick, Huub Schellekens, Alejandro Vidal, and Sidney Grossberg (Chairman).

Dr. Grossberg opened the meeting by acknowledging the welcomed participation of representatives from the International Cytokine Society. He then briefly outlined the international collaborative study, constructed by the Committee at last year's ISICR meeting, which aimed to address questions raised about HuIFN alpha standard preparations. The study protocol had been further developed and approved in December 1996 by the Committee. The major purpose was to assess the parallelism of the potency dose response curves of a limited number of different HuIFN alpha preparations, as measured in antiviral assays. The study was undertaken in collaboration with the National Institute of Biological Standards and Controls (NIBSC), in the UK, and was part of the much larger international IFN study being conducted by NIBSC.

The protocol required that the nine interferon preparations selected were to be tested simultaneously with two sets of duplicates in each of eight separate titrations done on different days. Analysis of the results was intended to address the question

whether any single interferon alpha standard, for example, the original crude leukocyte interferon alpha preparation, 69/19, or perhaps some other alpha preparation, could be used to calibrate all interferon alpha materials, be they different subtypes or

mixtures. If the dose response curves for all the different interferon alpha preparations were shown to be parallel within the statistical limits applied, then a single standard could be used in antiviral assays, though not necessarily in other types of assays.

Otherwise, a separate standard would be needed for at least some interferon alpha preparations.

From the raw titration data sent by the study participants earlier in the year to Sidney Grossberg, over 1000 dose response curves were generated and analyzed by John Klein, head of Biostatistics at the Medical College of Wisconsin. A draft report of

the analyses was supplied to participants and Committee members, giving details of the statistical methods applied and the results of dose response curve comparisons. In particular, the slopes of dose response curves for the different IFN alpha and IFN omega preparations were compared and grouped accordingly. Summary tables of the results were supplied as additional material to the Committee. Sidney Grossberg explained

the basis of the statistical methods involved and how they had been applied to the raw data. The outcome of the statistical analysis indicated that groupings of the slopes for the different IFN preparations (with designations A, B, C, D, etc.) varied from laboratory to laboratory. There was no consistent pattern emerging among laboratories, implying wide variability in the response of virus cell combinations in the antiviral assays utilized by different laboratories, even though some used the same virus and cell line. Several comments were made concerning the statistical analysis and the findings. In the discussion that followed, a number of issues relating to IFN standards in general were raised. From the results of the analysis of the study so far, no firm recommendations could be made.

Nevertheless, it seemed likely that several different interferon alpha standards will prove to be needed, as well as a separate standard for interferon omega.

Tony Meager gave a progress report on the much larger WHO International Collaborative Study, now underway, of IFN alpha (and omega) preparations, that has been organized by NIBSC. It was hoped that the results would be available in the spring of 1997.

More than 70 participants had provided data, and statistical analysis would commence in November 1996. Concern was expressed that the results would not be available for discussion by interferon experts. Members of the Committee asked that a meeting of

interferon experts be organized to examine and comment on the findings of the study. Tony Meager agreed to make enquiries as to the possibility of such a meeting.

The contents of the report of the WHO Informal Consultation on Standardizations of Cytokines held in Strasbourg in June 1996 were briefly discussed; the minutes of that meeting had been circulated previously to Committee members.

There was concern v

oiced that "biological

activity units" were sometimes used to report the results of some cytokine immunoassays. It was agreed that "units of mass", i.e., expressed as protein concentration, should be used; such usage would require the development of antigen standards for immun

oassays. The issue of standard preparations for immunoassays was to be addressed at a forthcoming WHO sponsored meeting at NIBSC to be held in November 1996. Dr Vidal commented that manufacturers of IFN in developing countries have no clear guidelines f

or physicochemical criteria required for clinical grade materials. It was suggested that WHO should make recommendations in this area to aid such manufacturers.

The question was raised whether there was a need for additional cytokine standards. It was noted that NIBSC has produced a comprehensive list of cytokine standards under development, which was appended to the report of the 1996 WHO Cytokine Standards

Informal Consultation Report. The need for a standard for a newly discovered cytokine should be communicated to Dr. Meager at NIBSC.

It was acknowledged that there were major problems with bioassays for some cytokines, but due to time limitations, further discussion of specific problems could not be undertaken.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Meager
Sidney Grossberg

Minutes of the Meetings Committee Meeting of the ISICR October 6, 1996 Geneva, Switzerland

The meeting was called to order on Sunday, October 6, 1996 at 2:00 P.M. There were eleven members present (see attendee list attached). The meeting was chaired by Dr. Zoon, who opened the meeting. The agenda of the meeting is attached. The first agenda item was the 1995 ISICR Meeting in Baltimore, Md. USA. A final budget was provided by Dr. Paula Pitha Rowe subsequent to the meeting, and is attached. There were 407 registrants and the loss to the ISICR from this meeting was \$13,095.

Dr. Gianni Garotta presented an update of the ongoing ICS ISICR meeting in Palexpo, Geneva, Switzerland. The number of registered participants is approximately 900 and 710 abstracts were received. A small profit is anticipated. Drs. Cesario and Tilles presented an update on the 1997 ISICR meeting in San Diego, CA. This meeting will be held October 19-24 1997 at the Sheraton Harbor Island Hotel. A draft agenda (attached) was provided. The program outline was presented, and we expect to have a 5 day conference. The need to follow Satellite Symposia guidelines was reemphasized.

BUDGET: The budget is being calculated at a minimum estimation of 500 participants.

ABSTRACT PUBLICATION: Mary Ann Liebert has agreed to publish the abstracts for the 1997 Meeting in the Journal of Interferon and Cytokine Research at no cost to the Society.

FUTURE MEETINGS: Drs. Kaempfer and Revel presented an update on plans for the 1998 2nd Joint ICS ISICR meeting in Jerusalem, Israel, October 25 30, at the Jerusalem International Convention Center. Some concerns were raised about the current situation i

n Israel, but the decision to have our meeting there was upheld by the committee. Their local organizers, Kenes Organizers of Congresses and Tour Operators Ltd., have a great deal of experience and will be able to deal with contingencies if necessary. The first meeting announcement was made available to us (attached). Proposals for meetings in 1999, 2000 and 2001 were discussed. Dr. Janine Doly

prepared a proposal for the 1999 meeting in Paris, France (attached) which was accepted by the committee. Dr. George Stark proposed Cleveland, Ohio as the site for the 2000 meeting. It was recommended that this be a Joint Meeting. The officers of both societies should conduct follow up discussions to come to closure on this issue. Dr. Huub Schellekens proposed Amsterdam, Netherlands for the ISICR Meeting, 2001. This site was recommended by the Meetings Committee for the year 2001. Profs. Adolfo Turano and Santo Landolfo sent proposals for an ISICR meeting in Italy for either 1999, or 2000. It was decided that this site be considered for a future meeting. Dr. Zoon also received a proposal for a future ISICR Me

eting in China from Dr. Liu. These proposals will be discussed again at the ISICR Meetings Committee meeting in 1997. Before adjourning, several issues were further discussed:

- 1) Dr. Zoon reiterated the guidance regarding satellite meetings.
- 2) Dr. Revel recommended that the officers of both societies develop policies regarding travel awards and young investigator awards for Joint Meetings, so that meeting organizers have some direction for implementation.
- 3) Dr. Pitha Rowe raised the issue of appropriate representation of women in scientific presentations and in the chairing of meeting sessions.
- 4) Dr. Zoon raised the issue of timely receipt of information and decisions prior to the conference. This is specially important for Joint Meetings with international complexity.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

NOTE: Subsequent to the October 6th meeting, it was agreed that Amsterdam will be the venue for the year 2000 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Zoon

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International Society of
Interferon and Cytokine Research
Statements of Revenues, Expenditures
and Fund Balance
Cash Basis For the Years Ended
December 31 1995 and 1994

	1995	%	1994	%
Revenues				
Dues and Corporate Sponsorship	\$ 138,241	78.5	\$103,590	97.6

Interest Income	3,368	1.9	1,815	1.7
Grants and Annual Meeting Income	24,848	14.1	0	0.0
Other Income	9,758	5.5	691	0.7
Total	176,215	100	106,096	100

Expenditures

Accounting	2,300	1.3	2,300	2.2
Awards	50,900	28.9	31,600	29.8
Bank Charges	400	0.2	1,126	1.1
Depreciation	1,351	0.	1,351	1.3
Dues & Subscriptions	1,320	0.7	935	0.9
Insurance	511	0.3	504	0.5
Office Expenses	20,322	11.5	12,009	11.3
Secretary Wages	60,303	34.2	38,288	36.1
Taxes	130	0.1	200	0.2
Telephone	318	0.	237	0.2
Travel	14,853	8.4	26,542	25.0
Total Exp	152,708	86.7	15,092	108.5
Revenues in Excess of Expenditures	23,507	13.3	(8,996)	(8.5)

	1995	1994
Beginning Fund Balance	137,111	146,107
Ending Fund Balance	160,618	137,111

ISICR PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1997

Travel Awards, 1997 meeting	\$50,000
FASEB Expenses	20,000
Secretary 20% time at Secretariat	8,800
Travel	3,000
Preparation of 1996 financial report	2,400
Office Expenses, Secretary & Treasurer	1,800
Misc:	800
Florida registration fee	
Insurance for computer	
Repair and maintenance of equipment	

TOTAL	\$86,800
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