

ISICR OFFICERS

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April 1999
Volume 6, No.1

1999 Meeting

Sept. 4-9
Paris

<http://www.univ-paris5.fr/upr37/>

Future ISICR Meetings

2000 Amsterdam
Joint ISICR/ICS
2001 Cleveland, OH
2002 Vienna
Joint ISICR/ICS

ISICR WWW SITE

[www.bioinformatics.
weizmann.ac.il/ISICR/](http://www.bioinformatics.weizmann.ac.il/ISICR/)

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A Letter from the ISICR President

Dear Colleagues:

This year our annual meeting is earlier than usual, Sept 5-9, in Paris. It will be held with the participation of the European Cytokine Society. The abstract deadline has been extended to May 3 and I hope many of you will submit abstracts and plan on attending the meeting. The web site for details of the meeting is located at www.univ-paris5.fr/upr37. Remember that the Awards Committee will be selecting travel awards from submitted abstracts (details are in this newsletter). We expect to be giving out about 50 awards in this category and the success rate for any laboratory in receiving an award is high. In addition the committee will select a number of other awards for junior investigators ranging from graduate students to junior faculty. Please remember to check the appropriate box on the abstract form and provide the requested information. Nominations are also invited for the Milstein Award and for Honorary Members.

Our society maintains a number of committees that serve important functions ranging including Meetings, Awards and

Standards. The list of these committees and current members can be found in your membership directory. Each year the President in consultation with the Chairs of the different committees selects new members. If you would like to serve on a committee please contact the relevant chair, myself or President-elect Kathy Zoon. These tasks are not onerous but are necessary and relevant to the success of our society. While you are checking the Membership Directory please also locate your own listing and send any corrections to the FASEB office. In particular, we have noted that email addresses are often wrong making contact by electronic mail difficult.

Interferons are and will remain an exciting area of research that makes connections to many other different fields. If you have doubts about this (and at the risk of appearing self-serving) check out:

www.lri.ccf.org/ri/pi/williams.html where my colleagues and I have listed hundreds of genes that we have identified as interferon-regulated using oligonucleotide microarrays. This is a searchable list and I hope that many of you can take advantage of this information. The original publication by Der et al is in *P.N.A.S. USA* 95: 15623, 1998.

Happy hunting and polish up those abstracts for Paris!

Bryan

1999 ISICR Awards

The ISICR Awards Committee invites nominations for **1999 Milstein Awards**, the **Christina Fleischman Award**, the **Viragen Award** and **Honorary Membership**. The deadline for the nominations is **May 3, 1999**.



Mr. Milstein presenting the **1998 Milstein Award** to **Dr. Otto Haller**

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. Milstein awards are made possible by the generous gift of Mr. and Mrs Seymour Milstein through the Milstein Foundation. This award represents a pinnacle of scientific achievement in our field and an important landmark of the society. The 1998 winner was **Dr. Otto Haller**.

Honorary Membership

Individuals who have dedicated much of their career to the interferon/cytokine field and have made substantive contributions. Honorary members are the treasure of the society who provide us with a historical perspective and valued research tradition. The 1998 recipients of Honorary Membership were **Dr. Samuel Baron** and **Dr. Ernest Knight**.

We invite your nominations for eligible candidates for prestigious symbols of recognition by our society for outstanding achievements. A brief exposition of the reason for your nomination and other supportive documents (such as CV, if available) should be sent to the 1999 ISICR President:

Dr. Bryan Williams
Dept Cancer Biology
NB40 Lerner Research Inst.
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
9500 Euclid Ave
Cleveland, OH 44195
TEL: (216) 445-9652
FAX : (216) 444-3164
Email: williab@ccf.org

The nominations will be collated, and passed on to the Chair of the Awards Committee in May. This 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.



1998 Young Investigator Award Winners : **Dr. Rongtuan Lin**, **Dr. Yitzhak Ben-Assouli**, and **Dr. Christian Park**.

Young Investigator Awards (\$1,000)

Eligibility: ISICR members and are less than ten years after receiving a Ph.D or M.D degree Every year up to five Young Investigator Awards are presented to ISICR members who have made notable contributions to either basic or clinical research within 10 years of receiving their Ph.D or M.D.. This award is provided by the generous gift of the Milstein Foundation. We urge every eligible individual to apply for the awards. We also ask more senior laboratory advisers to encourage their associates to apply. Send your 1999 Meeting abstract and CV to Dr. Keiko Ozato, Chair, ISICR awards Committee, Bldg 6 Rm 2A01, National Inst. of Health, LMGR/NICHD, Bethesda, MD 20892 TEL: 301-496-9184 FAX: 301-480-9354, Email: ozato@dir6.nichd.nih.gov We plan on having a check-off box in the abstract form for easy

identification of the eligible candidates. A brief note describing your accomplishment, as well as a letter of recommendation from your adviser, are strongly encouraged. The deadline is the same as that of the Meeting abstract for the 1999 ISICR Annual Meeting.

**The Christina
Fleischmann
Memorial Award to
Young Women
Investigators
(\$1,000)**

The rules for this ISICR award are the same as for the Milstein Young Investigator Award (see above) except for gender. The 1998 winner was **Dr. Xioxia Li**.

**Viragen Award for
Excellence in
Interferon Research.**

Viragen Inc (Florida, USA) has created a \$500 award for basic or clinical research in the interferon field. The rules for this new ISICR award are the same as for the Milstein Young Investigator Award (see above). Use the check box in the Abstract form to be considered for this award. The 1998 Viragen Award winner was **Dr. Jinjiao Guo**.

Travel Awards

ISICR members who intend to attend the 1999 ISICR meeting in

Paris are eligible for Travel Awards. They are provided primarily through the membership fees, based on the scientific merit of the abstract and financial necessity. However, this award does not exempt payment of the registration fee. Please note that there are no age restrictions to this award. Send your meeting abstract and a note explaining the need for Travel Award to the Dr. Keiko Ozato, Chair ISICR Awards Committee (the deadline is the same as that of the Meeting abstract).

**INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY FOR
INTERFERON AND
CYTOKINE RESEARCH
(ISICR) with the
participation of the
EUROPEAN CYTOKINE
SOCIETY (ECS)**

**1999 ISICR MEETING
PARIS - FRANCE
SEPTEMBER 5 - 9**

1999 ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

**Chair and address for
communications:**

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paris5.fr

Members : J. Bertoglio (France), C. Chany (France), J. Content (Belgium), J.M. Dayer (Switzerland), E. De Maeyer (France), H. Hauser (Germany), C. La

Bonnardière (France), S. Landolfo (Italy), B. Lebleu (France), P. Lebon (France), L. Lomme (France), S. Pellegrini (France), J. Thèze (France), M.G. Tovey (France), G. Uzé (France), J. Wietzerbin (France), M. Ychou (France).

1999 SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
C. Bréchet (France), F. Calvo (France), A. Civas (France), S. Chousterman (France), B. Dreno (France), M. Esteban (Spain), D. Fradelizi (France), O. Haller (Germany), H.K. Hochkeppel (Switzerland), I. Kerr (UK), K. Khabar (Saudi Arabia), O. Lyon-Caen (France), E. Meurs (France), S. Navarro (France), M. Rizzetto (Italy), H. Schellekens (Netherlands), H. Strander (Sweden), H.C. Thomas (UK), S. Tura (Italy), J. Vilcèk (USA), H. Young (USA).

WEBSITE ADDRESS:

<http://www.univ-paris5.fr/upr37/>

VENUE

The Meeting will take place in the center of Paris:
UFR Biomédicale
Université René Descartes
Paris V
45, rue des Saints-Pères
75006 Paris - France

**SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM:
PLENARY SESSIONS**

Interferon gene expression
Interferons and other cytokines in infectious diseases: fundamental and clinical aspects
Interferons and other cytokines in the immune system
Interferons and cytokines in neurodegenerative diseases and immune dysfunctioning
Signal transduction: from IFN receptors to interferon stimulated genes expression
Interferons and other cytokines in cancer: fundamental and clinical aspects

Function of interferon induced proteins

Gene therapy in the interferon system and other cytokines

**CONFIRMED INVITED
SPEAKERS**

C. Bréchet (France), B. Escudier (France), P. Mannoni (France), G. Parmiani (Milan, Italy), S. Romagnani (Italy), R. D. Schreiber (USA), T. Taniguchi (Japan), C. Weissmann (Switzerland), B.R.G. Williams (USA), M. Yaniv (France)

**DEADLINE FOR THE
SUBMISSION OF
ABSTRACTS:
May 3, 1999**

**The Fellows &
Students Corner**

Hannah Nguyen

**Special Topic: Postdoctoral
Opportunities in Canada
Guest Writer: Dr. John Hiscott**

Hi again! Before I begin, I got a great response concerning my inauguration of the grad student/postdoc section in the last issue; a big thanks for the feedback.

To start my list of invited writers, I have the honor of introducing my former Ph.D. supervisor, John Hiscott. Working with John was a great experience since one became fully initiated both with the interferon/cytokine world and also with the trials and tribulations of life in the lab. Director of the Terry Fox Molecular Oncology Group at Jewish General Hospital and Professor in the Departments of Microbiology & Immunology and Medicine at McGill University, Montreal, Canada, John has

worked in the interferon/cytokine field for 15 years. In addition to studies on the molecular mechanisms regulating cytokine gene expression, the lab also specializes in the analysis of cytokine and chemokine transcription in HIV-1 infected cells and T cell leukemogenesis initiated by the human T cell leukemia virus (HTLV-1). His successful research has been continually recognized throughout the years, his latest honor being the prestigious Senior Scientist Award from the Medical Research Council. John Hiscott obtained his Ph.D. in the Department of Pathology, New York University Medical Center under the supervision of Dr. Vittorio Defendi where he studied biological and molecular aspects of cell transformation by temperature sensitive mutants of SV40 T antigen. He then pursued a postdoctoral fellowship in the laboratory of Dr. Charles Weissmann at the Institut für Molekularbiologie, Universität Zürich, studying the differential regulation of Type 1 interferon genes. I will now leave you to John who will describe aspects of Canadian research in the interferon and cytokine field which I am sure will be useful for interested postdocs.

When Hannah asked me to write a short summary of interferon/cytokine research in Canada, I had no idea how completely the tables would turn. As the date approached, I received telephone calls, faxes, e-mails, with comments such as "Shall I rattle your cage?", "I thought we discussed this article!", "Is IT just about ready?" These comments seem vaguely reminiscent of classic supervisor- student discussions. So finally here I am responding to the

multiple requests of my former student to get my work done and meet this deadline.

In writing about post-graduate and graduate research opportunities in Canada, I will include scientists in the interferon and cytokine field, as well as selected researchers in the areas of viral pathogenesis and host immune response. To start, of course I will sing the praises of Montreal and McGill University which is arguably the best university in this country and one of the best in the world. Montreal is a vibrant, bilingual, cosmopolitan city, making it a particularly attractive destination for post-docs and students from European countries. In addition to the blend of French and English, strong and distinctive Italian, Greek, Asian, Middle Eastern and African communities flourish in Montreal. Personally, I love Montreal 6 months of the year. The other 6 months of the year you've gotta love skiing in the cold!! Life in Montreal can be quite interesting; when we aren't suffering from blizzards or political dronings about separation, we are enjoying the cultural diversity of one of the most interesting cities in the world. Cost of living is low and quality of life is high. Likewise, the quality of research in Canadian labs is as high as anywhere in the world.

I will start with a brief description of our Molecular Oncology Group at Lady Davis Institute, McGill University. This Group is relatively new - about five years old - and includes eight independent investigators who study different aspects of signal transduction, gene expression, and cell growth control. Among the members of the Group are myself, Drs. Rongtuan Lin and Antonis Koromilas. My group is interested in the regulation of

interferon gene activation by the NF- κ B and IRF families of proteins, coordinate control of cytokine/chemokine transcription in HIV infected cell models and the molecular mechanisms of T cell transformation by the Tax protein of human T cell leukemia virus.

Rongtuan Lin has characterized the posttranslational activation of the IRF-3 transcription factor and is now investigating the role of IRF-3 in differential control of the Type 1 interferon genes, and the function of different IRFs in the activation of chemokine genes. Antonis Koromilas loves PKR (double stranded RNA dependent kinase) and studies the role of PKR in the control of gene expression and cell growth; other interests in his group include the Jak-STAT signaling and the role of human papillomaviruses in epithelial cell transformation. In addition to other members of the Group - Stéphane Richard, Clément Couture and Wilson Miller - we recently recruited Anne Gatignol from Institut Cochin in Paris, who is interested in Tat mediated regulation of the HIV-LTR, an area of research interest also shared with my own group.

There are many other researchers in related fields in Montreal; a particular strength is in the area of HIV research. Over the past decade, Montreal scientists in particular have emerged as the leading researchers in the HIV field in this country, far surpassing other regions of Canada. The McGill AIDS Centre is located in our Institute and is directed by Mark Wainberg who is also the President of the International AIDS Society. Among the interests of the McGill AIDS Centre are mechanisms of HIV drug resistance, vaccine development, reverse transcriptase structure-function and molecular analysis

of HIV assembly. For those interested in HIV molecular biology and immune response to HIV, also located in Montreal are Rafik Sekaly at the Clinical Research Institute of Montreal who studies primary HIV infection, vaccine development and structure-function of host receptors for HIV, Eric Cohen at University of Montreal who is well known for his work on the HIV regulatory proteins Vpr and Vpu, and Paul Joliceour at the Clinical Research Institute of Montreal who - among other accomplishments in the field of retroviral induced leukemogenesis - has developed new murine models to study HIV pathogenesis.

Still at McGill, in the McIntyre Medical Building are outstanding researchers in fields of research related to cytokines: Nahum Sonenberg is the godfather of eukaryotic translational control, including studies on the tumour suppressor function of PKR; Philippe Gros examines the genetic basis of host resistance to pathogens and eukaryotic multi-drug resistance; Phil Branton and Gordon Shore are experts in virus induced apoptosis; Emil Skamene, Director of the McGill Centre for Host Resistance, is a pioneer in the study of macrophage biology and control of immune response to pathogens; and Danuta Radzioch, also in the Centre for Host Resistance, examines cytokine gene regulation and TNF regulation.

Moving westward, the University of Toronto is also a powerhouse in many research areas. In the interferon field, everyone knows Eleanor Fish and her work with the interferon receptors and the Jak-STAT signalling pathway. Also in Toronto are a number of other internationally renowned researchers, including Tak Mak of

the Ontario Cancer Institute/Amgen Institute, who uses a knock-out technology to examine T cell signal transduction, apoptosis and cytokine regulation. Tony Pawson at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute is well-known for his work with tyrosine kinases and SH2 domain interactions. Allen Bernstein is a pioneer in the study of hematopoietic differentiation and molecular developmental biology. Within the cytokine field, Liliana Attisano at the Hospital for Sick Children is studying TGF- β mediated signalling, while Jim Woodgett at the Ontario Cancer Institute is a leader in the study of the stress activated signaling pathways. In London Ontario, at the Robarts Research Institute, University of Western Ontario, Grant McFadden has been studying for many years the immune evasion strategies utilized by poxviruses. He has identified several host-derived genes that are pirated by poxvirus - including cytokine receptor homologues and chemokine homologues - that subvert the immune response to virus infection. David Kelvin at the same institution examines the control of chemokine receptor expression during lymphocyte activation and immune response.

As we move farther west to the province of Alberta, Chris Bleackley at the University of Alberta studies toxic T lymphocytes and their role in apoptotic cell death; Tim Mossman at the same institution is a pioneer in the elucidation of the T helper cell TH1-TH2 cytokine paradigm. On to the west coast and beautiful British Columbia (when it's not raining), there are several researchers involved in different aspects of cytokine research and signal transduction, particularly the group at the British Columbia

Cancer Research Centre which includes Keith Humphries, Connie Eaves and Jerry Krystal. Ian Clark-Lewis is one of the prominent of the west coast researchers in the area of chemokine structure and function. Also at the University of British Columbia, John Schrader has been studying cytokine regulation, signal transduction and gene expression for a number of years. This is by no means an exhaustive list of the researchers in Canada who are conducting cytokine related studies and my apologies to those I have forgotten to mention. From a supervisor's perspective, if you are interested in one of the above researchers or other labs in Canada, my first suggestion is do your homework; run a Medline search and find out what the prospective supervisor has done lately. Its better to tag along with a rising star than a falling comet! This preparatory step also gives you an idea of what research excites you. The worst kind of letter to send out is one that begins: "Dear Researcher: I am very interested in your work ..." whatever that is). It's important to get the point across that you know what is going on in the lab you are applying to. Second piece of advice: contact the lab head well in advance of your proposed start date. Good labs tend to fill up quickly but supervisors are usually good at planning ahead. Many prospective supervisors will want students or post-docs to apply for independent funding; find out what is available and what you are eligible for. In Canada, these applications come in many forms... literally. The Medical Research Council and the National Cancer Institute provide lucrative post-doctoral fellowships, but these are few and far between. The provincial governments - particularly in Quebec (FRSQ) and Alberta (Alberta Heritage Foundation) -

have numerous awards available to new post-doctoral Fellows and graduate students. Internal university competitions or local private funding agencies are also potential sources of research funding. The supervisor can direct you to more application forms than you care to see. In many cases, entrance into the lab is not linked to fellowship applications, but having your own Fellowship is nonetheless an important indication that you are able to attract independent funding for career development. Lastly, try to visit the prospective lab, give a seminar, talk to the other post-docs, visit the city, check out the nightlife or the daycares, depending on your priorities. Good luck with your search.

Finally, I hope Hannah doesn't take this summary, throw it back on my desk and tell me to start writing again.

DNA Polymorphism Discovery Resource

The National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), in collaboration with the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) and its Human Genetic Mutant Cell Repository, has developed a resource of cell lines and DNA samples that can be used to discover DNA sequence polymorphisms. This resource will be comprised of cell lines and DNA samples from 450 unrelated individuals, male and female. It is designed to reflect the diversity in the human population. In addition to the complete set, predefined nested

subsets with 8, 24, 44, and 90 samples encompassing the same range of diversity as the complete set are also available. Summaries of the numbers of individuals sampled from each population group will be available for the complete set and the subsets, but no medical, phenotypic, or ethnicity information will be associated with individual samples. The individuals sampled include European-Americans, African-Americans, Mexican-Americans, Native Americans, and Asian-Americans. The samples are available from the Coriell Institute for Medical Research. For information about ordering these samples, see <http://locus.umdj.edu/nigms>, and for information on the DNA Polymorphism Discovery Resource, see http://www.nhgri.nih.gov/Grant_info/Funding/discover_polymorphisms.html and Collins, F.S., Brooks, L.D., and Chakravarti, A. 1998. A DNA polymorphism discovery resource for research on human genetic variation. *Genome Res* 8(12): 1229-1231.

NIGMS Human Genetic Mutant Cell Repository
Coriell Cell Repositories
401 Haddon Avenue
Camden, NJ 08103
Tel:800-752-3805 in the US
609-757-4848 from other countries
Fax:609-757-9737
e-mail: ccr@arginine.umdj.edu

Jeanne C. Beck, Ph.D.
Deputy Director
Coriell Cell Repositories

e-mail:jbeck@umdnj.edu

**Have you ever thought:
When it rains, why don't
sheep shrink?**

REGIONAL MAPPING PANELS

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences' (NIGMS) Human Genetic Mutant Cell Repository has regional mapping panels available for distribution as cell cultures or DNA. These mapping panels, consisting of 5 to 10 human/rodent somatic cell hybrids with deletion or derivative human chromosomes, are available for chromosomes 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, and X. Regional mapping panels for additional human chromosomes will be available in the near future. The panels have been characterized cytogenetically by G-banded chromosome analysis, in situ hybridization using biotinylated total human DNA, and, in some cases, with chromosome-specific painting probes. Molecular characterization included Southern blot hybridization and/or PCR with p and q arm probes and primers. Information about these cultures and DNA is available via the world wide web (<http://locus.umdnj.edu/nigms>) or by contact with the Repository.

NIGMS Human Genetic Mutant Cell Repository
Coriell Cell Repositories
401 Haddon Avenue

Camden, NJ 08103
Tel: (800) 752-3805 in the US
(609) 757-4848 from other countries
Fax: (609) 757-9737
e-mail:ccr@arginine.umdnj.edu

Notice From AIDS Reagent Project

www.aidsreagent.org

We wish to let you know that the NIH AIDS Research and Reference Reagent Program has recently moved. The new address is as follows:
NIH AIDS Research and Reference Reagent Program
621 Lofstrand Lane
Rockville, MD 20850

Our Web site (www.aidsreagent.org) is available to you for updates on new reagents and news on NIAID initiatives and Program Announcements. The Web site also has an open forum for scientists to post questions and/or provide information on reagents. We encourage you to use this resource to facilitate your research.

Finally, we ask that you take a few minutes to complete our on-line questionnaire (accessible from the Web site Home Page). We want to know what you think of our site and we welcome your suggestions for improvement.

AIDS Reagent Program Staff
NIH AIDS Research and Reference Reagent Program

E-mail:
aidsreagent@mckessonbio.com
<http://www.aidsreagent.org/>

**Have you ever thought:
When companies ship
Styrofoam, what do they pack
it in?**

Canadian Bioinformatics Workshop Series

<http://www.cmmt.ubc.ca/bioinformatics>

The Canadian Genetic Diseases Network and the Biotechnology Human Resources Council of Canada present a pilot series of practical computer-based workshops on "Bioinformatics" at the University of Calgary on August 2 - 14, 1999.

WHO SHOULD APPLY
People with an interest in bioinformatics with either a computer science/engineering or life science background. The workshop will give an introduction to the methodology and algorithms that underlie successful development and use of these tools.

ADVANCED WORKSHOPS
Participants will also be able to take three continuing one-week workshops on Genomics (Vancouver, January 2000), Proteomics (Toronto, May 2000) and Developing the Tools (Montreal, July 2000).

For more information and to apply, please visit our website at:

<http://www.cmmt.ubc.ca/bioinformatics>

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WWW

BMERC

<http://bmerc-www.bu.edu/>

Temple F. Smith's BioMolecular Engineering Research Center's web site has been rebuilt! We have updated and added to our online tools for computational biology, including our protein profile server. We have added a mailing list, as well as expanding the genomes available through our ftp server.

If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch with me at wwwadmin@darwin.bu.edu, I look forward to hearing from you, and any suggestions you may have!

Sean P. Quinlan

Cancer Trials Web Site

<http://cancertrials.nci.nih.gov>

We are pleased to announce the NCI Cancer Trials Web site. This is a new comprehensive resource for cancer trials

information for patients and their families and health professionals.

You can help us promote this valuable new Web site by adding it as a link to your Web site, telling your colleagues about it, and placing the URL in your newsletters, press releases, and publications. Free promotional materials will be available in the near future that can be distributed at your meetings, conferences, etc. You can play an important role in helping NCI.

Gene-Finding program FGENES, FGENESH, FGENESP, BESTORF

<http://kiwi.imgen.bcm.tmc.edu:8088/search-launcher/launcher.html>

New gene-finding program FGENES, GENESH, FGENESP, BESTORF are installed at the Baylor College of Medicine (USA) Search Launcher WEB server. The programs can analyze genomic sequence up to 1.5 MB and file with the sequence in FASTA format can be loaded

Go to:

- * BCM Gene Finder
- * BCM protein secondary structure prediction

Programs have been developed by Victor Solovyev and Asaf Salamov for multiple gene/best ORF prediction in human/plant genomic DNA Gene-finding WEB page:

<http://dot.imgen.bcm.tmc.edu:9331/gene-finder/gf.html>

Secondary structure prediction and prosite pattern search WEB: <http://dot.imgen.bcm.tmc.edu:9331/pssprediction/pssp.html>

The programs also can be run at <http://genomic.sanger.ac.uk/> of our Computational Genomic Group WEB server
Victor Solovyev

The Sanger Centre, Hinxton, Cambridge CB10 1SA, UK
Email: solovyev@sanger.ac.uk
<http://genomic.sanger.ac.uk>
Tel: 44-1223-494799
FAX: 44-1223-494919

Geanfammer

<http://cyrah.med.harvard.edu/Project/Geanfammer>

A biology program for genome analysis and protein family maker. Language: Perl5

ftp://unix.hensa.ac.uk/mirrors/perl-CPAN/modules/by-category/23_Miscellaneous_Modules/Bio/

The Microbiology Network

The Microbiology Network is intended to serve as a means to encourage communication within the microbiology and biotechnology community. This is accomplished by active promotion of microbiology-related user's groups on the WWW, mail lists, forums, and file libraries. Main areas of activity for the network currently include:

User's Group Support
(<http://microbiol.org/usrgroup.htm>)

Offering free web services to microbiology-related user's groups. Web pages, discussion pages, and Email lists can be provided. A comprehensive listing of Email lists for microbiology and biotechnology is provided (<http://microbiol.org/mail.htm>) Please make sure that your user group is listed in this area.

Resource Center
(<http://micorbiol.org/mbbsorc.htm>)
Available resources for the microbiology and biotechnology community.

Virtual Library: Microbiology & Virology
(http://microbiol.org/vl_micro/index.htm)

Part of an effort by CERN to index stable web sites. Please review this area to make sure that your favorite web sites are included.

File Libraries
(<http://microbiol.org/files.htm>)
The most comprehensive file library related to microbiology on the web. If you have authored, or know of, a program that should be distributed to a microbiology/biotechnology audience please send it in to be added to the available collection.

Scott Sutton, PhD
The Microbiology Network

Reviews of Interest

Akhurst RJ; Balmain A. Genetic events and the role of TGF beta

in epithelial tumour progression. *J. of Pathology* 187: 82-90, 1999

Baker SJ; Reddy EP. Modulation of life and death by the TNF receptor superfamily. *Oncogene* 17:3261-3270, 1998

Begolka WS; Miller SD. Cytokines as intrinsic and exogenous regulators of pathogenesis in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis. *Res Immunol* 149:771-778, 1999
Billiau A; Heremans H; Vermeire K; Matthys P. Immunomodulatory properties of interferon-gamma: An update. *Ann NY Acad. Sci.* 856:22-32, 1998

Derynck R; Zhang Y; Feng XH. Smads: Transcriptional activators of TGF-beta responses. *Cell* 95: 737-740, 1998

Di Santo JP; Colucci F; Guy-Grand D. Natural killer and T cells of innate and adaptive immunity: lymphoid compartments with different requirements for common γ chain-dependent cytokines. *Immunological Rev* 165: 29-38, 1998

Dragovich T; Rudin CM; Thompson CB. Signal transduction pathways that regulate cell survival and cell death. *Oncogene* 17: 3207-3213, 1998

Kim CH; Broxmeyer HE. Chemokines: Signal lamps for trafficking of T and B cells for development and effector

function. *J. of Leukocyte Biology* 65: 6-15, 1999

Krishnaswamy G; Kelley J; Yerra L; Smith JK; Chi DS. Human endothelium as a source of multifunctional cytokines: Molecular regulation and possible role in human disease. *J. Interferon and Cytokine Res.* 19:91-104, 1999

Mangge H; Schauenstein K. Cytokines in juvenile rheumatoid arthritis (JRA). *Cytokine* 10:471-480, 1998

Park C; Schindler C. Protein-DNA interactions in interferon- γ signaling. *Methods: A Companion to Methods in Enzymology* 15:175-188, 1998

Socolovsky M; Lodish HF; Daley GQ. Control of hematopoietic differentiation: Lack of specificity in signaling by cytokine receptors. *PNAS* 95:6573-6575, 1998

Takatsu K. Interleukin 5 and B cell differentiation. *Cytokine & Growth Factor Rev* 9:25-36, 1998

Tsuji K; Muraoka K; Nakahata T. Interferon- γ and human megakaryopoiesis. *Leukemia and Lymphoma* 31:107-113, 1998



CLINICAL TRIALS

Protocol IDs: MRMC-CTCA-9801, NCI-V98-1449 Phase II Study of Cytokine (sargramostim (**GM-CSF**), **interleukin-2** and **interferon alfa**) -Based Immunotherapy Following High Dose Chemotherapy and Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation in Patients with High Risk Cancer. Contact: Oscar Francisco Ballester, Principal Investigator, Ph: 847-872-4561, Midwestern Regional Medical Center, Zion, IL

Protocol IDs: MDA-ID-95196, NCI-G96-1089, MDA-DM-95196 Phase III Randomized Adjuvant Study of **Interferon Alfa-2b** (IFN-A) Alone vs Biochemotherapy Using Cisplatin, Vinblastine, Dacarbazine (DTIC), **IFN-A**, and **Interleukin-2** (IL-2) in Melanoma Patients with Regional Lymph Node Metastases. Contact: Agop Y. Bedikian, Chair, Ph: 713-792-2921, University of Texas - MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Protocol IDs: CNR-9506, EU-95024 Phase III Randomized Study of Inductive and Adjuvant Perilymphatic **IL-2** for Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Oral Cavity or Oropharynx. Contact: Giorgio Cortesina, Chair, Ph: 3911-6626731 Consiglio Nazionale Ricerche, Italy

Protocol IDs: URCC-U4497, NCI-G98-1442 Phase II Study of Rituximab and **Interleukin-2** in Patients with Low Grade or Follicular B-Cell Lymphoma. Contact: Joseph D. Rosenblatt, Chair, Ph: 716-275-9484, University of Rochester Cancer Center, Rochester, NY

Protocol IDs: NCI-91-C-0094B, NCI-T91-0053N Phase III Randomized Study of Intravenous Low-Dose vs Intravenous High-Dose vs Subcutaneous **IL-2** for Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma. Contact: James Chung-Yin Yang, Chair, Ph: 301-496-1574, Division of Clinical Sciences, NCI, Bethesda, MD

Protocol IDs: SERAGEN-93-04-11, NCI-V95-0740 Phase III Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Study of Two Doses of the **IL-2 Receptor**-Targeted Cytotoxin DAB389-IL2 for Recurrent or Persistent Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphoma. Contact: Patricia Bacha, Chair, Ph: 508-435-2331, Seragen, Inc

Protocol IDs: POG-9574 Phase I Study of **IL-4** in Children with Refractory Leukemia. Contact: Wayne Lee Furman, Chair, Ph: 901-495-3300, Pediatric Oncology Group

Protocol IDs: E-3997 Phase II Study of Recombinant Human **Interleukin-11** with Sargramostim (**GM-CSF**) for Acute Myeloid Leukemia Patients Receiving High-Dose Cytarabine During Induction and Consolidation Chemotherapy.

Contact: Larry D. Cripe, Chair, Ph: 317-274-3545, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group, Indiana University Cancer Center, Indianapolis, IN

Protocol IDs: BIH-L97-0252, NCI-T98-0002 Phase I Study of Post Transplant **Interleukin-12** Following High Dose Cyclophosphamide, Thiotepa, and Carboplatin in Women with Metastatic Breast Carcinoma. Contact: David Avigan, Chair, Ph: 617-667-9920, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA

Protocol IDs: PCI-MWH-97-039, NCI-T97-0031 Phase I Study of Recombinant Human **Interleukin-12** in Refractory Advanced Stage Ovarian Cancer and Other Abdominal Carcinomatosis. Contact: Robert P. Edwards, Chair, Ph: 412-641-1153, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Pittsburgh, PA

Protocol IDs: MDA-DM-97073, NCI-T97-0050 Phase II Study of **Interleukin-12** in Patients with Previously Treated Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and Hodgkin's Disease. Contact: Anas Younes, Chair, Ph: 713-792-2860, University of Texas - MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Protocol IDs: GOG-170B Phase II Study of Recombinant Human **Interleukin-12** in Recurrent, Refractory, and Metastatic Ovarian Cancer. Contact: Jean A. Hurteau, Chair, Ph: 317-274-2130, Gynecologic Oncology Group

NEW ISICR MEMBERS

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Umea Sweden

Christine L. McDonald

Stony Brook, NY

Ai Shih

Albany, NY

Jianping Ye

Morgantown, WV

Deadline for
Hotel registration

May 3, 1999

Notification of
acceptance of papers

July 5, 1999

Fees will be refunded with a FF 300 –
deduction (for handling fees), if written
confirmation of cancellation is received

by **June 1, 1999**

No refund will be made after

June 1, 1999

GOVERNMENT FOOD GUIDELINES

In a previous issue (5.2), we listed government food guidelines issued to help us battle the never ending problem of dealing with fattening food. Due to space limitations, we were not able to include the full guidelines (you know no government regulation is ever short). The remainder of the guidelines are presented here.

TV FOOD: Anything eaten in front of the TV has no calories. This may have something to do with radiation leakage, which negates not only the calories in the food but also all recollection of having eaten it. Entire no-calorie dinners are now manufactured and frozen for this purpose.

FOOD THAT DOESN'T TASTE GOOD doesn't count. This is an enormous category covering a diverse range including airline food, cafeteria meals, and dinner at your sister-in-law's. Also dinners manufactured to be eaten in front of the TV.

ANYTHING SMALLER THAN ONE INCH contains no calories to speak of. For example: chocolate kisses, maraschino cherries, cubes of cheese.

LEFT-HANDED FOOD: If you have a drink in your right hand, anything eaten with the other hand has no calories. Several principles are at work here. First of all, you're probably standing up at a cocktail party (see "Food on Foot" in vol. 5.2). Then there's the electronic field: a wet glass in one hand forms a negative charge to reverse the polarity of the calories attracted to the other hand. I'm not exactly sure how it works, but it's reversible if you're left-handed.

CHARITABLE FOODS: Girl Scout cookies, bake sale cookies, ice cream socials and church strawberry festivals all have a religious dispensation from calories. It's in the Bible.

CAKES WITH WRITING ON THEM: Primarily fat, starch and sugar, all cakes are horrendously fattening. However, the calories can be eliminated simply by inscribing "Happy Birthday, Charlie" or "Good Luck, Alice" in colored icing. Not only is it unnecessary to decline, it's impolite.

FOOD ON TOOTHPICKS: Sausages, cocktail franks, cheese and the like are all fattening unless impaled on frilled toothpicks. The insertion of a sharp object allows the calories to leak out the bottom.

LEFTOVERS: An extra pork chop, the crust of bread, half a Twinkie anything intended for the garbage has no calories regardless of what happens to it in the kitchen.

FOOD EATEN QUICKLY: If



ISICR
5 - 9 September 1999
PARIS - FRANCE

Important Dates for the 1999 Meeting

Deadline for the
submission of abstracts

May 3, 1999

Deadline for the
submission of awards application

May 3, 1999

Deadline for
early registration

May 3, 1999

you are rushed through a meal, the entire meal doesn't count. Conversely, if you have ordered something fattening and now regret it, you can minimize its calories by gulping it down.

CUSTOM MADE FOOD:

Anything somebody made "just for you" must be eaten regardless of the calories because to do otherwise would be uncaring and insensitive. Your kind intentions will not go unrewarded. (See "Charitable Foods.")