

The Department of Immunobiology

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

Upcoming Seminars:

- Dec 5—Jianhua Wang, PhD student—**CANCELLED**
- Dec 12— Mike Kuhns, Stanford

Upcoming Final Defense:

- Dec 10—Matt Rausch

Congratulations and Good Luck!!!

Next Faculty Meeting:

December 16, 2008 at 12:00pm in MRB 201

The Fourth Annual Frontiers in Immunobiology and Immunopathogenesis Symposium, 2009

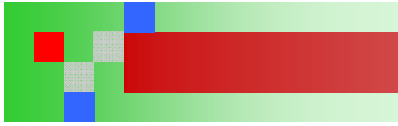
Plans are moving forward for our *Fourth Annual Symposium* on 13 March 2009, which include invitations to a broad base of Plenary Speakers and selected Local Speakers. New features of the forthcoming *Symposium* will include Luncheon Workshops with the Plenary Speakers and a concluding Poster Session and Reception.

Further particulars and a "Call for Abstracts" will be forthcoming.

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Publications

- **Larmonier N**, Janikashvili N, **LaCasse CJ**, **Larmonier CB**, Cantrell J, Situ E, **Lundeen T**, Bonnotte B, **Katsanis E**. Imatinib mesylate inhibits CD4+ CD25+ regulatory T cell activity and enhances active immunotherapy against BCR-ABL- tumors. *J Immunol.* Nov 15;181(10):6955-63, 2008.



Media Exposure

- **Dr. Nikolich** was interviewed by *The Erickson Tribune* about antibacterial treatment in the elderly.

Honors and Awards

- **Dr. Ahmad** received the "Outstanding Teacher in a Block" Award for Year II of the College of Medicine Curriculum on November 13, 2008.
- **Dr. Nikolich** organized, and chaired a session at the International Conference on Lymphopoiesis, T cell differentiation and Immune Reconstitution "ThymUS 08", held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Nov. 9-14. The conference gathered 167 participants from the U.S., Australia, Asia, Europe and South America. Keynote lectures were presented by Drs. Bruno Kyewski and Harald vonBoehmer.

Presentations and Lectures

- **Dr. Nikolich** presented a lecture : "Detecting and fixing age-related defects in T-cell immunity" at the United Arab Emirates University College of Medicine in Al Ain, UAE.
- **Brian Rudd** who is in **Dr. Nikolich's lab** gave a lecture titled "MHC selection of the TCR α -chain influences TCR avidity, repertoire and immune defense against HSV-1" at the ThymUS 2008 International Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico which was held November 9-14, 2008.
- **Jennifer Uhrlaub** who is in **Dr. Nikolich's lab** presented a poster entitled "Immune Response Kinetics to West Nile Virus in Old and Adult Mice" at the ThymUS 2008 International Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico which was held November 9-14, 2008.



GRADUATE STUDENTS

New Procedure for Advancing to Candidacy

A reminder about the new Graduate College procedure...

We will automatically advance students to candidacy beginning with students who complete their oral comprehensive exams on August 25th, 2008 or there after. This means the Candidacy fee, the dissertation processing fee, and the archiving fee (total of \$135) will no longer be tied to the Advancement to Candidacy form, but will be assessed when the student passes the Oral Comprehensive Exam. In those rare cases in which a student has another semester of required coursework, advancement to candidacy may be delayed until courses are finished.

New forms that reflect the changes were posted on the Graduate College website on August 18th, 2008. If the student is taking their oral comprehensive exam on the 25th of August, 2008 or later, the new procedure will apply to them regardless of which form they use to apply for their oral comp exam. These changes in forms and procedures were approved by the Graduate Council in January 2008.

Many students have delayed submitting their Candidacy forms until they have their full committee in place or have their dissertation title. This can result in problems - for example, some students find they are ineligible for scholarships that require advancement to candidacy, and we may be lacking important information on dissertation committees or the use of human/animal subjects in students' dissertation research. We believe gathering information earlier will allow us to be more proactive. In addition, various national surveys require us to report on numbers of students advancing to candidacy, time to candidacy, and time from candidacy to degree. Because students have not filed candidacy forms promptly, our data have been misleading and may result in lower national rankings. We are all under increasing accountability pressure, and we want to be able to accurately report the numbers of students advancing to candidacy and their time as candidates.

In order to implement these changes, the 'Application for Oral Comprehensive Examination for Doctoral Candidacy' form has been updated to reflect the new procedure, and the 'Advancement to Candidacy Form' has been replaced by the 'Committee Appointment Form'.

* Application for Oral Comprehensive Examination for Doctoral Candidacy. This new version of the old form adds notification that students will be billed candidacy and archiving fees once they pass the oral comprehensive exam.

* Committee Appointment Form. This will be required as soon as the student has a dissertation chair, but the final defense cannot be scheduled until at least 6 months after we receive this form. This is the form that allows us to verify committee membership and human/animal subject approval, so it is important that students submit it as soon as possible. A student may add committee members or make changes to the committee, the dissertation title, or the expected completion date as necessary by contacting their program's degree auditor in Graduate Degree Certification.

* You can find these forms at "Graduate College Forms" beginning August 18th, 2008.

We believe these changes will simplify processes for everyone and ensure we have the information we need to both avoid problems and to process graduating students more efficiently. Please contact your degree auditor if you have questions.



MISCELLANEOUS

Purchasing Chemicals? It may be Tax Exempt...

Tax Exemption for Chemicals as defined by ARS 42-5159(A)(35) :

“Liquid, solid or gaseous chemicals used in manufacturing, processing, fabricating, mining, refining, metallurgical operations, research and development and, beginning on January 1, 1999, printing, if using or consuming the chemicals, alone or as part of an integrated system of chemicals, involves direct contact with the materials from which the product is produced for the purpose of causing or permitting a chemical or physical change to occur in the materials as part of the production process. This paragraph does not include chemicals that are used or consumed in activities such as packaging, storage or transportation but does not affect any exemption for such chemicals that is otherwise provided by this section. For the purposes of this paragraph, "printing" means a commercial printing operation and includes job printing, engraving, embossing, copying and bookbinding.”

What is Arizona BuyWays?

Arizona BuyWays (E-Procurement) is a web-based requisitioning system which allows access to multiple Vendors from one internet location.

Benefits of Arizona BuyWays include

- One Login, One Password, to access multiple vendors and commodities
- Access to Contracted Pricing for Preferred Vendors
- Web-Based Vendors with 'real time' pricing and availability
- Electronic routing of requisitions for approval
- Multiple Purchase Orders may be generated off of one requisition
- Split funding
- User profile allows for default accounting and shipping information
- Order Status lets user track a requisition through the approval process
- Order History lets user archive a requisition / purchase order for 2 years
- Email notification for approvers to review a requisition
- Dedicated Customer Service team to assist user

For more information, please visit http://pacs.arizona.edu/arizona_buyways/azbw.htm



MISCELLANEOUS (Continued)

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December Birthdays

15th — Lance Nesbit
25th — Chris Louis
30th — Alex Petrucelli

Happy Birthday!!!
...and many more!!

Upcoming UA Holidays and closures:

Dec 24-25—Christmas
Dec 26-31, Jan 2—Winter Closure
Jan 1—New Year's Day
Jan 19—Dr. Martin Luther King,,
Jr. Day

Want to Add Something to the Newsletter?

Send any topics to Michelle Blurton at mblurton@u.arizona.edu to be included in the next newsletter.

Submission deadline for the January Newsletter will be December 22, 2008 due to the Winter Closure. Thanks.

**Merry
Christmas**



and

**Happy
Hanukkah**

