

## **IMMUNOBIOLOGY NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2008**

### **UPCOMING SYMPOSIUM**

The interdisciplinary program entitled: *Third Annual Frontiers in Immunobiology and Immunopathogenesis Symposium, 2008*, organized by our department will be held at the Hilton El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort on Saturday, March 1, 2008.

The *Symposium* will be highlighted by plenary lecturers, our soon to be new Chairman, Janko Nikolich-Zugich, Oregon Health Sciences University and Lalita Ramakrishnan, University of Washington, followed by invited lectures and poster presentations from researchers of The University of Arizona.

An important component of the *Symposium* will be poster presentations. Awards of \$100 and \$50 will be provided by the University of Arizona Chapter of Sigma Xi for the best posters. The *Symposium* will be an excellent opportunity to showcase your excellent research to your colleagues, as well as to select members of the Administration.

Please note, **all** who are planning to attend the *Symposium*, irrespective of whether you are an invited speaker and/or presenting a poster, **must** RSVP to Chris Louis at (520) 626-6888 or [ccampos@u.arizona.edu](mailto:ccampos@u.arizona.edu) by Friday, February 22nd. For further information contact Richard J. Ablin, Ph.D., Telephone: (520) 626-7755, e-mail: [ablinrj@email.arizona.edu](mailto:ablinrj@email.arizona.edu).

### **THE "DR. JACK J. MARCHALONIS ROOM"**

The Immunobiology faculty unanimously approved the graduate students' request to rename the Catalina Room the "Dr. Jack J. Marchalonis Room." A picture and plaque in Dr. Marchalonis' memory is now displayed on the room's north wall.

### **Dr. Richard J. Ablin**

Dr. Ablin was a plenary lecturer at the recent 14<sup>th</sup> *World Congress of Cryosurgery* and Co-Chairman and speaker at the *First International Conference of Cryoimmunology*, Beijing, China. He was one of six honored by receipt of the "Gold Award" for his service and pioneering contributions to cryosurgery for the treatment of cancer by the International Society of Cryosurgery. Dr. Ablin was further honored at the *First International Conference of Cryoimmunology* as the recipient of the First Award for Scientific Excellence by The Haakon Ragde Foundation for Advanced Cancer Studies in recognition "For His Invaluable Contribution to Humankind and Exceptional Scientific Insight and Valiant Fight Against Cancer."

### **Dr. Nafees Ahmad**

Dr. Nafees Ahmad was appointed to the Editorial Board of *Retrovirology* and *The Open Virology Journal*.

### **Jorge A. Giron**

Dr. Giron's lab work entitled "The ECP: a new colonization factor of enterotoxigenic *E. coli*" was presented at the US-Japan and at the Cholera and Related Diseases meeting in Austin, TX, December 3-5 2007 and earned a travel award for one of his lab members from the NIH-NIAD Organizing Panel.

### **Dr. Tobias Hahn**

Dr. Hahn was recently promoted to the rank of Research Assistant Professor, Department of Immunobiology. Congratulations Dr. Hahn!

### **Dr. David T. Harris**

Dr. Harris received a contract from ImmuneRegen BioSciences to conduct research on their small molecule immunomodulator drug. He also filmed a TV show on the O2 Network: *W-the Women's Show* about cord blood stem cells. In addition Dr. Harris was interviewed by Channel 4 News on Thursday, January 17 regarding stem cells and human cloning; and by the Arizona Republic (Phoenix) regarding banning of human cloning by the AZ legislature.

### **Dr. Karen Hastings**

Dr. Hastings received one of five Melanoma Research Foundation Career Development Awards out of over 90 applicants. The project is entitled "Role of lysosomal thiol reductase GILT in activation of melanoma-specific T lymphocytes."

Adam Laboratory

- 1) Cooper M, **Adam RD**, Worobey M, and Sterling CR, Population Genetic Evidence for Recombination in *Giardia*, *Current Biology* 2007; 17:1984-1988.
- 2) Xian-Min F, Cao LJ, **Adam RD**, Zhang XC, and Lu SQ. The Catalyzing Role of PPK in *Giardia Lamblia*, *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications* 2008; 367:394-398.

Akporiaye Laboratory

- 1) Dong LF, Swettenham E, Eliasson J, Wang XF, **Gold M**, Medunic Y, Stantic M, Low P, Prochazka L, Witting PK, Turanek J, **Akporiaye ET**, Ralph SJ, and Neuzil J. Vitamin E Analogues Inhibit Angiogenesis by Selective Induction of Apoptosis in Proliferating Endothelial Cells: The Role of Oxidative Stress. *Cancer Res* 2007; 67: (24). December 15, 2007

Giron Laboratory

- 1) **Xicohtencatl-Cortes J**, Monteiro-Neto V, Francetic O, **Rendón MA**, **Ledesma MA**, Kaper JA, Puente, JL, and **Girón, JA**. 2007. Intestinal adherence associated with type IV pili of enterohemorrhagic *Escherichia coli* O157:H7. *J. Clin Invest.* 117(11): 3519-3529. The manuscript was highlighted in *Nature Microbiological Reviews* 5, 908 (December 2007), *Medical News* October 18, 2007, *Health Day* October 18, 2007, *US NEWS* October 18, 2007, *Health News* October 19, 2007, *Science-Daily*, October 22, 2007, *Science News* October 30, 2007. This paper by Xicohtencatl et al. earned First Prize at the *E. coli* 2007 Federation of European Microbiology Societies (FEMS),-European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO)-Leopoldina Meeting in Germany, October 2007.