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Call for 2015 Award Nominations

**Deadline: November 3, 2014**

Nominations are invited for the following AAI Career Awards. These awards honor immunologists of extraordinary scientific achievement and promise.

AAI Members! Don’t miss the opportunity to nominate a worthy colleague for awards that are among the leading professional honors presented annually to immunologists!

**AAI-BioLegend Herzenberg Award—New!**

Established to honor the memory of AAI member Leonard A. Herzenberg, Ph.D., this award recognizes an individual who has made exemplary research contributions to the field of B cell biology. The award recipient will receive a $5,000 cash award, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting. This award will be presented at an Awards Presentation Program at the AAI annual meeting.

**AAI Excellence in Mentoring Award**

This award recognizes a senior scientist who has significantly influenced the professional development and careers of a new generation. AAI honors the award recipient’s contributions to the profession through outstanding mentoring. The award includes a plaque, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting. This award is presented at an Awards Presentation Program at the AAI annual meeting.

**AAI-Steinman Award for Human Immunology Research**

This award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the understanding of immune processes underlying human disease pathogenesis, prevention, or therapy. The award recipient will receive a $5,000 cash award, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting. The recipient will present his or her research in an award lecture.

**AAI-Thermo Fisher Meritorious Career Award**

This award (formerly the AAI-Life Technologies Meritorious Career Award) recognizes a mid-career scientist for outstanding research contributions to the field of immunology. The award recipient will receive a $10,000 cash award, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting for presentation of his or her research in an award lecture preceded by the award presentation.

**AAI-BD Biosciences Investigator Award**

This award recognizes an early-career investigator who has made outstanding contributions to the field of immunology. The awardee will receive a $5,000 cash prize, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting for presentation of his or her research in an award lecture preceded by the award presentation.

For complete AAI Career Award nomination details, as well as information on applying for AAI Travel Awards and Grants, visit www.AAI.org/Awards.

**The 2015 AAI Awards will be presented in conjunction with**

**IMMUNOLOGY 2015™**

May 8–12, 2015 • New Orleans, Louisiana

Questions? Contact AAI at 301-634-7178 or awards@aai.org
2014 AAI Election

AAI welcomes the following members to new Council and committee terms that commenced on July 1, 2014, and extends a sincere thanks to all candidates in this year’s election.

**President (2014–2015)**
Linda A. Sherman, Ph.D. (AAI ’81)
Professor, Department of Immunology and Microbial Science
The Scripps Research Institute

**Vice-President (2014–2015)**
Dan R. Littman, M.D., Ph.D. (AAI ’87)
HHMI Investigator; Helen and Martin Kimmel Professor of Molecular Immunology
Skirball Institute of Biomolecular Medicine
New York University School of Medicine

**Councilor (2014–2018)**
Jeremy M. Boss, Ph.D. (AAI ’94)
Professor and Chair, Department of Microbiology and Immunology
Emory University School of Medicine

**Awards Committee (2014–2017)**
Jason G. Cyster, Ph.D. (AAI ’97)
HHMI Investigator; Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology
University of California, San Francisco

**Finance Committee (2014–2017)**
Paula M. Lutz, Ph.D. (AAI ’88)
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Professor of Zoology and Physiology
University of Wyoming

**Nominating Committee (2014–2015)**
Jenny P-Y. Ting, Ph.D. (AAI ’97), Chair
Kenan Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology and Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**AAI-BioLegend Herzenberg Award—New!**
Melissa A. Brown, Ph.D. (AAI ’90)
Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

**AAI Excellence in Mentoring Award**
Gary A. Koretzky, M.D., Ph.D. (AAI ’92)
Dean, Weill Cornell Graduate School
Senior Associate Dean for Research and Professor of Medicine
Weill Cornell Medical College

**AAI-Steinman Award for Human Immunology Research**
Pamela L. Schwartzberg, M.D., Ph.D. (AAI ’01)
Senior Investigator, National Human Genome Research Institute
National Institutes of Health

**AAI-Thermo Fisher Meritorious Career Award**
Ulrich H. von Andrian, M.D. (AAI ’97)
Edward Mallinckrodt Jr. Professor of Immunopathology
Department of Microbiology and Immunobiology
Harvard Medical School

**Program Committee (2014–2017)**
Daniel J. Campbell, Ph.D. (AAI ’08)
Associate Member
Benaroya Research Institute

**Publications Committee (2014–2018)**
Donna L. Farber, Ph.D. (AAI ’95)
Professor of Surgical Science and of Microbiology and Immunology
Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

Cover photo: Anna Chareon
Linda A. Sherman, Ph.D.
AAI President, July 2014–June 2015
Professor, Department of Immunology and Microbial Sciences
The Scripps Research Institute

It is a great honor to serve as President of AAI, and I am grateful to all of you for this opportunity to serve an organization that has been an integral part of my career for over 30 years. When I first started out as an immunologist, the AAI annual meeting provided an opportunity to meet the people behind the names in journal articles and to network with other postdocs in the field. Later, I was proud to be selected to speak in workshops and later still, in symposia. Also, the first opportunities I received to review manuscripts were provided by our scientific journal, The Journal of Immunology. I am always still proud when I see my papers published in The JI. It is the one journal that all immunologists hold in high regard because it consistently maintains high quality and, importantly, is unparalleled in the fairness of its review policies and the expertise of its reviewers. We are fortunate to have had a long line of devoted editors, including our new Editor-in-Chief, Pam Fink, maintain these standards.

I mentioned some of the milestones in my career that would not have been possible without AAI. However, at our 2014 annual meeting in Pittsburgh, I was reminded of a different way that AAI ties us to our fellow immunologists—one that has nothing to do with the opportunity to network and hear all about the latest research breakthroughs and gossip, although there is always plenty of that to provide excitement. It is at our annual meeting that I get to see so many of my colleagues, whom I have known since the start of my career, and my trainees, whom I have known since the start of their careers. Although we are now scattered all over the country, it is at our annual meeting that we have the opportunity to reconnect and catch up on our scientific and personal lives. We may not see each other often, but there is a continuity that transcends time (once a year or every few years) and space (east coast/west coast and sometimes in between). We are truly an enduring community, and I want to thank AAI and its extraordinary Chief, Pam Fink, maintain these standards.

Thinking about our individual histories in immunology brings to mind the AAI Centennial Timeline, which was spectacularly debuted at the AAI centennial celebration in 2013. The timeline—researched and documented by AAI historian John Emrich—depicts the progress of our remarkable discipline over the past 100 years, portraying the rich history of AAI and its members. The timeline features the accomplishments of many historically eminent immunologists and highlights the paradigm shifts that have propelled our discipline. We each, however, have our own parallel immunology “timeline” in that we both witness and experience surprising breakthroughs and weather our own professional highs and lows. This is our shared history, and we should all be very proud to be part of the community of immunologists privileged to contribute to an ever-evolving immunology timeline. To me, AAI is the embodiment of this community.

I am confident that deeper understanding of the immune system will continue to provide new therapies for disease. However, since we can never be sure where these discoveries will come from, we must be vigilant in reminding those who have the power over the “purse strings” that they should cast a very wide net in funding diverse areas in the basic science of immunology. This is critical if we are to maintain a healthy community that remains free to explore all avenues of research. Often, ideas may take many years to reach full fruition. As one example, until recently, cancer immunotherapy was considered insufficiently robust and too unwieldy to be the basis for cancer treatment. Yet just this year, cancer immunology was named the 2013 breakthrough of the year by the editors of Science. I’m sure many of you believe, as do I, that there will emerge many immune based cures for diseases not conventionally considered to be of immune origin. It behooves all of us to spread this message to anyone who asks what we do as immunologists—we work to understand, prevent, and cure essentially all major diseases, not just the ones that are obviously of infectious or autoimmune origin.

I was very fortunate to have been a part of a generation of scientists who came of age at a time when the scientific enterprise in this nation was accelerating in growth, propelled by increased funding of the NIH. We were welcomed into the field by the opportunity of research grants and academic positions. Over the years, as money became tight, we have relied on Lauren Gross, the AAI Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs, and the members of our Committee on Public Affairs, to remind Congress of the importance of NIH funding to the economic and physical health of this country. Such efforts remain the most important way we can help Congress understand the urgency of approving a robust NIH budget. Even as we continue to advocate for increased funding, we must face a new reality: an era of shrinking funds and fewer independent research opportunities, extending very possibly well into the coming generation. It would be irresponsible of me to tell you this will change in the near
future, because our NIH leaders have already decided that changes must be made to adapt to this new normal. We must face the realization that if the biomedical research enterprise, as it currently operates, is to continue, we must find ways to supplement NIH funding with additional funding sources.

We are extremely fortunate that, under the stewardship of AAI Executive Director Michele Hogan and her exceptional staff, AAI has thrived. This has allowed us to offer new programs and additional funding to our members. AAI was already offering increasing numbers of travel grants to our members to attend national and international meetings and has reached out to our junior members by offering awards for their excellent presentations and posters at local meetings. Recognizing the need to do more, Council this past year introduced several new initiatives that will directly benefit our members’ laboratories in this exceptionally difficult funding atmosphere. I am particularly proud of the new “AAI Careers in Immunology Fellowship” program, which will provide one year of support to a pre- or post-doctoral member of a lab-in-need. There is a tremendous need for such alternative sources of funding in the research community. This represents a new direction for AAI in its efforts to assist our members, and one from which there is no turning back. We hope to find ways we may expand on this program. To do so we may need to “think outside the box” in seeking additional sources of funds. Perhaps we can also help our members identify new sources of funding for their own labs, be they philanthropy or other funding agencies. In these tough times, it is clear that we need to help ourselves and each other. Through the community and efforts of AAI, I believe we can do this, and we can make a difference.

98th AAI President’s Profile

Linda A. Sherman, Ph.D., AAI ’81, a member of the AAI Council since her election in 2009, is the 98th president of AAI, leading the association during the July 2014–June 2015 term.

Sherman is a professor in the Department of Immunology and Microbial Sciences at The Scripps Research Institute (“Scripps”) in La Jolla, California. She and her lab colleagues explore the interface between autoimmunity and tumor immunity, seeking to define the factors that determine whether immune responses from self-reactive T cells will be destructive or tolerogenic. She applied the basic skills she developed while delving into the biochemical mechanisms of DNA synthesis in graduate school to studying the intricacies behind the immune system's ability to discriminate between self and non-self. Sherman has contributed a large body of work to determining the influence of genetic and conformational variations in major histocompatibility complex (MHC) molecules on cytotoxic T lymphocyte specificity and identifying antigenic determinants that contribute to the cytotoxic T cell repertoire in the context of allogeneic, tumor, and autoimmune responses. Specifically, her lab discovered that T cells recognizing the p53 tumor antigen are tolerogenic in nature and has explored avenues to bolster immune responses to p53 and other tumor antigens. Sherman has also provided insight into T cell-mediated mechanisms leading to type 1 diabetes by defining parameters that contribute to defects in peripheral tolerance of diabeticogenic CD8+ T cells. In addition to her work studying the mechanisms that contribute to T cell repertoire development and tolerance, Sherman authored seminal work describing the importance of beta-2 microglobulin in MHC-I binding to peptide. Her current work continues to further delineate mechanisms of autoimmunity, defining the protective characteristics of Idd gene alleles on the development of type 1 diabetes, and characterizes T cell responses within the tumor environment.

Prior to her election to AAI Council, Sherman served on the AAI Program Committee, AAI Finance Committee, AAI Awards Committee (including as chair), and AAI Nominating Committee (as chair). She also held deputy and section editor appointments with The Journal of Immunology and served on the faculty of the 2014 AAI Introductory Course in Immunology. She has served in multiple years as a Major Symposium speaker and block co-chair (abstract programming chair) at the AAI annual meeting.

Sherman is a member of the San Diego Diabetes Research Institute scientific advisory board and has served on numerous review panels, including: Experimental Immunology Study Section, NIH; Advisory Council, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive Kidney Disease, NIH; Council, Midwinter Conference of Immunologists; Medical Science Review Committee, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF); Immunology and Immunotherapy Scientific Advisory Committee, American Cancer Society; Cellular Physiology Review Panel, National Science Foundation; and the Appointments and Promotions Committee at Scripps. She was the 1999 recipient of the Mary Jane Kugel Award from JDRF.

A physics graduate of Barnard College, Sherman received her Ph.D. in biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She trained as a postdoctoral fellow in immunology, first at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and then at Harvard Medical School. In 1978, she was appointed an assistant member at Scripps, where she became an associate professor in 1985 and has served as a full professor since 1997.
AAI Public Affairs Celebrates 25th Anniversary at IMMUNOLOGY 2014™

Anniversary Celebration Featured
The Capitol Steps

On May 3, AAI celebrated the 25th anniversary of its public affairs program with a reception honoring the members of the association’s Committee on Public Affairs and their many accomplishments through the years. In his remarks to attendees at the reception, AAI President Marc Jenkins highlighted some of the most important accomplishments of the public affairs program and lauded its growth and increasing activity. According to Jenkins, “(w)hat started with a handful of hopeful AAI members a quarter century ago has evolved into a sophisticated and deliberate program which now involves not only dozens of AAI members, including the very dedicated members of the Committee on Public Affairs, and professional staff, but also hundreds of AAI members who speak up for what science needs to flourish.”

Following the reception, attendees were treated to a performance by the nationally acclaimed, musical political satire group, The Capitol Steps. The group lived up to their well-deserved reputation, delivering a smart, energetic, and funny musical performance that poked fun at politicians of all stripes.

AAI thanks all those who came to support the public affairs program at this special event and all those who have devoted time to the program over the last 25 years.

Sally Rockey Speaks on NIH Extramural Policy at IMMUNOLOGY 2014™

The AAI Committee on Public Affairs policy session at IMMUNOLOGY 2014™ featured Sally Rockey, NIH deputy director for extramural research and director of the NIH Office of Extramural Research. The session, “Rock Talking with Sally Rockey: The Issues, the Blog, and the Woman Behind It All,” included valuable information about recently instituted policies at NIH and the thought process behind those policies. Rockey also touched on some ideas that NIH was considering, including ways to enhance the reproducibility of NIH research and to broaden the training experiences of those in the biomedical research workforce. She also described how her blog, Rock Talk, can help scientists stay up-to-date on the latest changes in NIH extramural policy and serve as a forum for questions, comments, and discussion.
AAI Public Policy Fellows Share Their Experiences at the AAI Booth

Current and former AAI Public Policy Fellows staffed the AAI booth during the IMMUNOLOGY 2014™ poster sessions to answer questions about and share their experiences in the AAI Public Policy Fellows Program. Their presence at the AAI booth provided a good opportunity for AAI members to learn more about the program and allowed the new class of Fellows (see “AAI Launches Fourth Year of Public Policy Fellows Program,” below), who began their fellowship year on May 1, 2014, to meet recent program graduates.

AAI Launches Fourth Year of Public Policy Fellows Program

May 1, 2014, marked the beginning of the fourth year of the AAI Public Policy Fellows Program (PPFP). The PPFP is designed to engage eligible postdoctoral fellows and junior scientists in public policy and legislative activities that impact biomedical research. To date, 30 early-career scientists from 19 different states have completed the program.

AAI is pleased to welcome the following AAI members to the 2014–15 PPFP:

- Matthew Billard, Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- C. Colin Brinkman, Ph.D., University of Maryland School of Medicine
- Ryan Cummings, Ph.D., Mount Sinai School of Medicine
- Jonathan Deane, Ph.D., Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation
- Heather Kling, Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
- Karen O’Connell Martins, Ph.D., U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases
- Shaun O’Brien, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania
- Rebecca Pompano, Ph.D., University of Virginia/University of Chicago
- Sesquile Ramon, Ph.D., Brigham and Women’s Hospital/Harvard Medical School
- Stefanie Sowinski, Ph.D., The Gladstone Institutes

For more information about the AAI PPFP, please visit http://aai.org/Public_Affairs/PPFP/index.html.

AAI Program Teaches Advocates about Immunology

AAI hosted its fourth Research Advocacy Program (RAP) on June 17. The program is designed to provide non-scientist policy leaders from patient advocacy organizations with the opportunity to learn about immunology, discuss public policy issues of mutual concern, and meet policy colleagues. In a departure from the three previous RAP events held at AAI annual meetings, this year’s program was held on the FASEB campus (also home to AAI).

Members of the AAI Committee on Public Affairs (CPA) were present to give talks explaining the immune system and corresponding research. The speakers took special care to explain how the immune system relates to the diseases of concern to each of the participating organizations.

Continued, next page
Focus on Public Affairs (continued)

Speakers included the following members of the CPA:

- Clifford Harding, M.D., Ph.D., Introduction to the Immune System
- David Chaplin, M.D., Ph.D., How the Immune System Fights Infectious Diseases
- Susanna Greer, Ph.D., Autoimmune Diseases, Allergy, and Asthma: When the Immune System Overreacts
- Lori Covey, Ph.D., Harnessing the Immune System to Fight Cancer
- Elizabeth Kovacs, Ph.D., Immunology Research: Challenges and Opportunities

Congress Passes Short Term Funding Bill

With the beginning of fiscal year (FY) 2015 rapidly approaching (on October 1, 2014), Congress has yet to pass any of its 12 annual appropriations bills for FY 2015. In order to avert a government shutdown on October 1, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution (CR), a stopgap measure that will fund federal government departments, agencies, and programs, at approximately the previous year’s funding through December 11, 2014. The CR includes an across-the-board cut of 0.055 percent, to keep the total spending level below the statutory cap of $1.012 trillion.

This year’s RAP featured representatives from the following patient advocacy and scientific organizations:

- AARP
- American Association for Cancer Research
- American Physiological Society
- Arthritis Foundation
- Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)
- Infectious Diseases Society of America
- Lung Cancer Circle of Hope
- March of Dimes
- National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
- National Alopecia Areata Foundation
- National Breast Cancer Coalition
- Zero—The End of Prostate Cancer

The program concluded with a discussion exploring ways that AAI and RAP participating organizations can forge ways to work together.
In written testimony submitted to both the House and Senate Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee, AAI recommended an FY 2015 NIH funding level of at least $32 billion (see AAI testimony submitted to both the House and Senate subcommittees at http://aai.org/Public_Affairs/Action_Center/AAI_Capitol_Hill.html). Although the budget level approved by the Senate subcommittee falls roughly $1.55 billion short of the AAI request, AAI is encouraged by the bipartisan support given to a bill that would increase the NIH budget, especially when considering the budgetary constraints facing the subcommittee.

The Senate Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee bill includes a number of other notable provisions that would:

- exempt scientific conferences from the bill’s restrictions on conference spending and attendance;
- provide $100 million for the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative, an increase of $60 million; and
- provide an increase of $275.4 million for the NIH Institutional Development Award (IDeA) program, which provides funding for institutions and investigators in underrepresented states. This increase would fully restore the funding the program lost due to sequestration.

These provisions were not included in the CR, and it is unclear whether they will be included in any final legislation to fund NIH in FY 2015. However, since the House did not take any action on a Labor-HHS appropriations bill, the Senate Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee bill may be the starting point for any end-of-year congressional negotiations related to NIH.

**Senator Harkin Introduces New Bill to Boost NIH Funding**

Longtime NIH champion Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) recently introduced the *Accelerating Biomedical Research Act*, a bill that would give congressional appropriators the authority to increase the NIH budget over the next seven years despite existing statutory caps on discretionary spending. If appropriators took full advantage of this new authority, they could increase the NIH budget to $46.2 billion by FY 2021, more than $17 billion above the current NIH budget of $29.9 billion.

The *Accelerating Biomedical Research Act* would create a “budget cap adjustment” over the next seven years for NIH, giving congressional appropriators the authority to exceed the statutory caps on discretionary spending in order to provide more funding for NIH. It does not, however, guarantee that appropriators will utilize that authority to increase the NIH budget. For example, in FY 2015, the bill provides $3 billion in new budget authority for NIH, enabling appropriators to increase the NIH budget to $32.9 billion, even if that increase resulted in Congress exceeding the FY 2015 cap on discretionary spending ($1.014 trillion). But Congress could also choose not to utilize that increased budget authority, and instead appropriate a lower amount of funding for NIH for FY 2015. The Harkin bill allows for a 10 percent increase in NIH funding in each of the first two years, and a five percent increase in the five subsequent years.

At press time, the bill has been cosponsored by Senators Richard Durbin (D-IL), Al Franken (D-MN), and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN).

In an August 4 letter to Senator Harkin, AAI Committee on Public Affairs Chair Clifford Harding, M.D., Ph.D., expressed AAI support for the legislation, telling Harkin that his “…willingness to introduce legislation to restore needed funding to NIH and to provide it with a more predictable and sustainable funding stream comes as no surprise to AAI. You have been a champion for biomedical research and NIH throughout your distinguished career, an achievement that AAI recognized in presenting you with the AAI Public Service Award in 2001.”

Harding also requested that Harkin consider the need for other federal science programs and agencies to receive similar relief from the discretionary spending caps, since “advances in biomedical research often depend on, or are buoyed by, discoveries in other scientific fields.”

Harkin has been a leading advocate in the Senate for NIH and biomedical research for decades. After five terms in the Senate, Harkin will retire at the end of this year.
AAI Urges Senators to Postpone Consideration of Conference Accountability Act

On July 29, AAI wrote to the Chair and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, urging them to postpone consideration of S.1347, the Conference Accountability Act of 2013, and instead “work with the scientific community to ensure that government scientists can participate fully in the collaborative and educational activities that advance the scientific enterprise.”

Despite improvements made to the original bill, AAI believes that the legislative language under consideration would “codify and potentially exacerbate the already negative impact of existing regulations restricting federal spending on, and employee travel to, scientific meetings and conferences.”

The AAI letter was sent in advance of a business meeting held by the committee, during which committee members debated and approved a substitute version of the bill drafted by Senators Tom Coburn (R-OK) and Heidi Heitkamp (ND-ND). Despite the bill’s approval, it may not move forward in the Senate. Bill opponent and senior committee member Carl Levin (D-MI) indicated that he will attempt to block Senate consideration of the bill because he believes it is overly burdensome, hard to implement, and duplicative of regulations already issued by the Office of Management and Budget.

House Passes Bill Seeking to Reduce Regulatory Burden for Researchers

Representative Larry Buschon (R-IN, 8th) recently introduced the Research and Development Efficiency Act, a bipartisan bill that directs the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to create a Working Group to review federal regulations affecting research and research universities. The Working Group is also tasked with making recommendations on how to:

1) harmonize, streamline, and eliminate duplicative Federal regulations and reporting requirements; and

2) minimize the regulatory burden on United States institutions of higher education performing federally funded research while maintaining accountability for Federal tax dollars.

Last May, the National Science Board (NSB) released a report entitled “Reducing Investigators’ Administrative Workload for Federally Funded Research.” Among many other things, the report calls for the creation of a “permanent inter-agency, inter-sector committee” to “create a priority list of regulations and policies that should be eliminated, modified, or harmonized to reduce the administrative workload of PIs and institutions.” (http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsb1418/nsb1418.pdf) The Research and Development Efficiency Act would essentially implement this recommendation.

The Research and Development Efficiency Act passed the House by voice vote on July 14. The bill has not yet been considered by the Senate.

NIH Director Collins Embraces 12-Year Plan for BRAIN Initiative

NIH Director Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D., accepted a report submitted to him by the Advisory Committee to the NIH Director (ACD) regarding the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative. The June 2014 report, which was drafted by the ACD’s BRAIN Working Group, calls for $4.5 billion in NIH funding for the program over the next 12 years and includes recommended goals and timelines.

President Obama launched the BRAIN Initiative in April 2013 to “accelerate the development and application of new technologies that will enable researchers to produce dynamic pictures of the brain that show how individual brain cells and complex neural circuits interact at the speed of thought.” BRAIN is one of President Obama’s “Grand Challenges” of the 21st century: “ambitious but achievable goals that require advances in science and technology to accomplish.”

The BRAIN Initiative is funded by three government agencies: the NIH ($40 million in FY 2014), the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency ($50 million in FY 2014), and the National Science Foundation ($20 million in FY 2014), as well as a number of private organizations. NIH hopes to increase its investment in the program to $100 million in FY 2015, which is consistent with both the president’s budget request and the amount provided for the program in the Senate Labor, Health

Sen. Carl Levin (D-MI)
and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill for FY 2015 (see “Congressional Inaction on Appropriations...,” page 8). The BRAIN Working Group report calls upon NIH to ramp up its investment in the BRAIN Initiative in future years to $400 million per year from FY 2016 to FY 2020 and $500 million per year from FY 2021 to FY 2025.

The Working Group developed the following goals, which are described in greater detail in the full report (see http://www.nih.gov/science/brain/2025/):

- Identify and provide experimental access to the different brain cell types to determine their roles in health and disease.
- Generate circuit diagrams that vary in resolution from synapses to the whole brain.
- Produce a dynamic picture of the functioning brain by developing and applying improved methods for large-scale monitoring of neural activity.
- Link brain activity to behavior with precise interventional tools that change neural circuit dynamics.
- Produce conceptual foundations for understanding the biological basis of mental processes through development of new theoretical and data analysis tools.
- Develop innovative technologies to understand the human brain and treat its disorders; create and support integrated brain research networks.
- Integrate new technological and conceptual approaches produced in the other goals to discover how dynamic patterns of neural activity are transformed into cognition, emotion, perception, and action in health and disease.

NIH Developing Policies to Create Gender Balance in Cell and Animal Studies

NIH Director Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D., and the NIH Director of the Office of Research on Women’s Health Janine Austin Clayton, M.D., have announced that NIH will soon address the ongoing problem of gender imbalance in preclinical research. In an article published in the May 15, 2014, issue of Nature, Collins and Clayton report that “NIH is now developing policies that require applicants to report their plans for the balance of male and female cells and animals in preclinical studies unless sex-specific inclusion is unwarranted, based on rigorously defined exceptions.” To prepare for the new policies, which will include a modification of the review process to ensure compliance, NIH plans to disseminate training materials, including on experimental design, to NIH staff, trainees, and grantees. NIH will begin to phase in these new policies in October 2014, although current NIH policies will apply to applications submitted this October.

The new policies may address concerns raised by an often-cited 2010 study by Irving Zucker, Ph.D., and Annaliese Beery, Ph.D., which found that, out of 2,000 animals studies published in 2009, there was a male bias in eight out of 10 biological disciplines and that the bias was “most pronounced in neuroscience (5.5 males to 1 female), pharmacology (5 males to 1 female), and physiology (3.7 males to 1 female).”

A similar problem in clinical research was addressed in 1993, when Congress passed—and President Clinton signed into law—the NIH Revitalization Act, which directed NIH to establish guidelines to ensure that female subjects were included in NIH-funded clinical research. Roughly two decades after the law’s enactment, NIH has finally achieved this goal, as slightly more than one-half of the participants in NIH clinical trials are women.

NCI Announces New Seven-Year Grant

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) recently announced the creation of a new grant: the Outstanding Investigator Award (OIA). The OIA is a seven-year grant, with the possibility of a three-year extension, for “investigators with outstanding records of cancer research productivity who propose to conduct exceptional research.” OIA applications will be accepted as early as September 20, 2014, for the October 20, 2014, application deadline, and the first awards are expected to be made in July 2015. The number of OIAs will depend on the size of the NIH budget for fiscal year 2015 and the number of meritorious applications received.

The OIA is very similar to the Outstanding Investigator Grant (OIG), which NCI offered from 1984 to 1993, although there are some minor differences between the two awards. For example, OIGs required at least 25 percent institutional salary support, whereas OIAs require only 20 percent institutional salary support.

For more information on the OIA, see http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-14-267.html.
Jason Cyster Elected to National Academy

Jason G. Cyster, Ph.D., AAI ’97, was elected earlier this year to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in recognition of his distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Election to NAS membership is considered one of the highest honors bestowed on scientists who pursue original research.

Cyster is a professor and Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), where he serves as department vice chair and directs the biomedical sciences graduate program. His lab investigates the mechanisms by which lymphoid microenvironments support and regulate the movements and interactions of lymphocytes to generate humoral immunity. The laboratory played a key part in the discovery of lymphoid tissue chemokines and their role in continuously guiding cell traffic within peripheral lymphoid organs. Cyster has also made major contributions to the understanding of cell egress from lymphoid organs, identifying the importance of sphingosine-1 phosphate in this process and the mechanism of key egress regulators. Through two-photon imaging studies, the lab has visualized the dynamics of immune cell migration, interactions, and antigen encounter, leading them to propose a multi-step model of lymphocyte egress and a novel mechanism for selection within germinal centers during antibody affinity maturation. Studies of germinal centers have also included analysis of how these structures are established and organized and how B cell autoreactivity is avoided. In addition, the lab works to characterize the ways mucosal B cells encounter gut antigens and the requirements for mounting mucosal immunoglobulin A responses. Their work on B cell response dynamics is currently being applied to improvements in vaccine design, particularly focusing on influenza and HIV-1 antigens.

A current member of the AAI Awards Committee, Cyster has also served on the AAI Program Committee and the AAI Nominating Committee. Cyster is a past associate editor for The Journal of Immunology. He was the 2005 recipient of the AAI-BD Biosciences Investigator Award and is a past AAI Distinguished Lecturer, President’s Symposium speaker (twice), and Major Symposium chair and speaker (multiple years) at the AAI annual meeting.

Cyster served for several years as a faculty member for the AAI Advanced Course in Immunology.

Cyster’s past and ongoing review panel participation has served the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Immunobiology Study Section and Cellular and Molecular Immunology Study Section; National Cancer Institute site-visit team), Wellcome Trust, Medical Research Council (UK), National Health and Medical Research Council (Australia), the international Human Frontiers Science Program, the Israel Foundation, and the Alliance For Cellular Signaling. He holds editorial appointments with Current Biology, Journal of Experimental Medicine, Immunity, International Immunology, and Immunology Cell Biology and has served as an ad hoc reviewer for Nature, Science, Cell, and Nature Immunology.

Cyster’s additional career honors and appointments include: fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science; Cancer Research Institute (CRI) Frederick W. Alt Award for New Discoveries in Immunology; 14th Köhler Lecture in Immunology, University of Freiburg, Germany; Keynote Presentation, Antibody Biology and Engineering Gordon Research Conference; Organizing Committee member, International Congress of Immunology, Kobe, Japan; Keynote Speaker, Microanatomy of Immune Responses in Health and Disease, Birmingham, UK; Alexandre Gold Memorial Lectureship, University of Maryland Baltimore; External Speaker, Harvard Medical School Annual Immunology Retreat; Distinguished Visiting Lecturer and Keynote Speaker, NIH Immunology Retreat; NIH MERIT Award; David and Lucile Packard Foundation Fellowship; Cheryl Whitlock Memorial Prize for Postdoctoral Studies; Pew Scholar in the Biomedical Sciences; CRI Postdoctoral Fellowship; Commonwealth Overseas Studentship; J. A. Wood Memorial Prize from the University of Western Australia; and Beazely Award for Secondary Education in Western Australia.

A biochemistry and microbiology graduate of the University of Western Australia, Cyster received his Ph.D. (immunology) from the University of Oxford and served as a postdoctoral fellow in immunology at Stanford University. He joined the UCSF faculty as an assistant professor in 1995; he was appointed associate professor and Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator in 2000 and named full professor in 2004. He has led the biomedical sciences graduate program since 2005 and served as department vice chair since 2010.
Laurie Glimcher Receives L’Oreal/UNESCO Honors and the Kripke Legend Award

Laurie H. Glimcher, M.D., AAI ’83, was named earlier this year as the 2014 L’Oreal/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for Women in Science honoree for North America and as the 2014 recipient of the Margaret L. Kripke Legend Award.

Glimcher’s L’Oreal/UNESCO award recognizes her leading and pioneering role in immunology research, including discovery of key factors involved in controlling immune response in allergies and in autoimmune, infectious, and malignant diseases. The L’Oreal/UNESCO honors annually recognize five outstanding female scientists from around the world, each exemplifying a unique career path, combining exceptional talent, a deep commitment to her profession, and remarkable courage in a field still largely dominated by men.

The Kripke Legend Award, established by the MD Anderson Cancer Center in honor of continuing faculty member Margaret Kripke, recognizes Glimcher’s sustained, extraordinary dedication to enhancing the careers of women in cancer medicine. The award annually honors an individual, male or female, whose commitment to women scientists’ career advancement reflects that of Kripke, a mentor and trailblazer for women in research, academia, and executive leadership, who was her institution’s first female department chair and, later, chief academic officer.

Glimcher is the Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean and a professor of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College and serves as provost of medical affairs at Cornell University. Her research involves the use of biochemical and genetic approaches to elucidate the complex molecular pathways that regulate CD4⁺ T helper (Th) cell development and activation. These pathways are critical both for the development of protective immunity and for the pathophysiologic immune responses underlying autoimmune, infectious, and malignant diseases. The Glimcher laboratory defined the genetic bases of both IL-4 and IFN-γ expression in T cells, identifying c-maf as the transcription factor responsible for Th2-specific IL-4 expression and T-bet as the master regulator of IFN-γ gene expression and the Th1 phenotype. Further studies have focused on the function of T-bet in T cells and dendritic cells in mucosal immunity and tumorigenesis. Glimcher has expanded her interest in lymphocyte lineage commitment to B cells with the discovery of a transcription factor, X-box binding protein 1, which controls plasma cell differentiation and the unfolded protein response, and she has demonstrated functions of this factor in neurodegenerative disease, innate immunity to pathogens, and lipid disorders. Most recently, her laboratory has identified new proteins that control osteoblast and osteoclast commitment and activation, with significant implications for diseases of bone, including osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, and cancer metastasis to bone. This body of work may provide a conceptual framework to manipulate these responses therapeutically in human disease.

Glimcher served as AAI president from 2003 to 2004 and as a member of the AAI Council from 1998 to 2005. While AAI president, she proposed and secured National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) funding for the “Hands On: Primary Caregiver Technical Assistance Supplements” pilot program, providing supplementary grants for postdoctoral fellows who are primary caregivers of dependents.

Glimcher received the 2008 AAI Excellence in Mentoring Award and the 2006 AAI-Huang Foundation Meritorious Career Award and is a past Distinguished Lecturer and Major Symposium chair and speaker at the AAI annual meeting. She served on the AAI Awards Committee (including as chair), the AAI Committee for Liaison with the NIH Division of Research Grants, and the AAI Liaison Committee with Research Granting Agencies and is a past associate and section editor for The Journal of Immunology.

Glimcher’s additional career honors and appointments include: member, Institute of Medicine and National Academy of Sciences; fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences; Vanderbilt Prize in Biomedical Science, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine; Luis Federico Leloir Prize to International Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation, Ministry of Health, Argentina; William B. Coley Award, Cancer Research Institute; Ernst W. Bertner Memorial Award, MD Anderson Cancer Center; Distinguished Investigator Award, American College of Rheumatology; Dean’s Award for Leadership in the Advancement of Women Faculty, Harvard Medical School; American Association of University Women Senior Scholar Award; Klemperer Award, New York Academy of Medicine; Investigator Award, American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI); Excellence in Science Award, Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology; Lee S. Howley Award, Arthritis Foundation; Stohlman Memorial Scholar Award, Leukemia Society of America; Distinguished Young Investigator Award, American College of Rheumatology; and Soma Weiss Award for Undergraduate Research.
Glimcher serves on the boards of directors of Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Corporation and the Waters Corporation and on the scientific advisory boards of the American Asthma Foundation, Immune Diseases Institute, Health Care Ventures, Burroughs Wellcome Fund, and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She previously served on the board of the Ragon Institute of Massachusetts General Hospital/MIT/Harvard and as an associate member of the Broad Institute. She is a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation, American Association of Physicians, and American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Glimcher received her B.A. with high honors from Radcliffe College and her M.D. with honors from Harvard Medical School. She undertook postdoctoral training at Harvard and in the Laboratory of Immunology at NIAID, NIH. Before joining the Weill Cornell Medical College and Cornell University in January 2012, Glimcher served as the Irene Heinz Given Professor of Immunology at the Harvard School of Public Health, professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School (where she taught for over three decades), and senior rheumatologist at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

In addition to her current Weill Cornell Medical College and Cornell University appointments, Glimcher serves as an attending physician at New York Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Diane Griffin Receives FASEB Excellence in Science Award

Diane E. Griffin, M.D., Ph.D., AAI ’75, has been named the recipient of the FASEB Excellence in Science Award for 2015. The award, which confers an unrestricted research grant of $10,000, recognizes women whose outstanding career achievements in biological science have contributed significantly to further our understanding of a particular discipline through excellence in research.

Griffin is the Alfred and Jill Sommer Chair of the W. Harry Feinstone Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, where she serves as a distinguished service professor. She holds an additional appointment as professor of medicine and of neurology at the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) School of Medicine.

Griffin has contributed a vast body of work to the understanding of host immune responses to viral infection. Her early studies examining antibody control of Sindbis virus, an alphavirus that causes encephalitis in mice, launched a life-long career researching immune responses to neuroinvasive viruses, including measles, Sindbis, and influenza. Griffin’s research has touched on nearly every aspect of the viral immune response, from identifying B cell and T cell viral epitopes to cataloguing host genetic susceptibility factors that alter anti-viral immunity. The understanding of the different facets of viral immunity has bolstered one of her ongoing research efforts to develop a more efficacious measles vaccine for infants. With the use of a variety of vaccine design platforms and delivery methods, Griffin’s lab has worked toward discerning the vaccine components required to induce long-term immunity to measles in children under nine months of age, an important initiative that could benefit millions of children without access to regular medical care in developing countries. Griffin’s studies examining measles infection in developing countries stimulated her curiosity regarding the interplay between HIV and measles virus coinfection. Her lab discovered that coinfection with measles virus suppresses HIV viral replication; however, vaccination of HIV-infected children with the measles vaccine failed to induce lasting immunity. Griffin’s current work continues to elaborate on and dissect the intricate pathways and interactions that contribute to neurotropic virus phenomena.

Griffin is a member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM), the National Academy of Sciences, which she currently serves as vice president, and the American Academy of Microbiology. Her additional career honors awards include: Gilman Scholar, JHU; Wallace Sterling Lifetime Alumni Achievement Award, Stanford University; Rudolf Virchow Medal, University of Wurzburg; International Society for NeuroVirology Pioneer Award; Maryland Women’s Hall of Fame; fellow, American Academy for the Advancement of Science; Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, NIH; and Alumni Achievement Award, Augustana College.

Griffin has served on multiple NIH study sections and review panels, as well as numerous scientific advisory panels for institutions including: U.S. Food and Drug Administration; IOM; National Foundation for Infectious Diseases; National Research Council; National Multiple Sclerosis Society; National Board of Medical Examiners; The Institute for Genomic Research; Koshland Museum; Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI); Burroughs Wellcome Fund; De Duve Institute (Belgium); Alberta (Canada) Heritage Foundation for Medical Research; Center for Studying of Emerging Disease (Israel); Institute of Molecular Biology (Taiwan); U.S.-Japan...
Cooperative Medical Science Program; Israeli Vaccine Research Initiative; Global Virus Network; World Health Organization; Aktiv-Dry; MedImmune; Merck; Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics; and Wyeth/Elan/Pfizer.

Griffin is a past president of the American Society for Microbiology, the Association of Medical School Microbiology and Immunology Chairs, and the American Society for Virology. She is the former editor of the Journal of Virology and her current and past editorial appointments include service for Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA, Archives of Virology, Current Opinion in Virology, Intervirology, Journal of NeuroVirology, mBio, Microbial Pathogenesis, Science, Virology, and Virus Research. She is an editor of Fields Virology, the primary reference book for virology.

A graduate of Augustana College, Griffin received her M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University, where she also completed her medical internship and residency. After undertaking additional postdoctoral training as a virology fellow at the JHU School of Medicine, she joined the JHU faculty as an assistant professor in 1973. She was appointed an associate professor in 1979 and a full professor in 1986; from 1975 to 1982, she served as an HHMI investigator. She has held her department chair appointment since 1994 and is a past director of the Johns Hopkins Malaria Research Institute.

**Isis Kanevsky-Mullarky Receives Presidential Early Career Award**

Isis Kanevsky-Mullarky, Ph.D., AAI ‘10, was among scientists honored earlier this year by President Obama as recipients of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. The award is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on science and engineering professionals whose accomplishments in the early stages of their independent research careers show the greatest promise for assuring America’s preeminence in science and engineering.

Kanevsky-Mullarky is an associate professor of mucosal immunology in the Department of Dairy Science at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (“Virginia Tech”). Her research delves into determining strategies to combat *Staphylococcus aureus* infection and define the immune response to this bacterium in animal models. Particularly, her lab’s research focuses on defining the mechanism behind the subversion of the immune response by *S. aureus* in bovine mastitis and identifying *S. aureus*-specific memory T cell populations in infected animals. These studies contribute to Kanevsky-Mullarky’s initiative to develop an *S. aureus* vaccine to prevent opportunistic infection in humans and *S. aureus*-associated mastitis in cows. Kanevsky-Mullarky has made significant progress toward this goal and currently holds two patents for potential vaccine therapies, including one for a Th17-based vaccine. In addition to her work on *S. aureus*-associated mastitis, Kanevsky-Mullarky devised a model in pigs to identify time periods where individuals infected with influenza are susceptible to bacterial suprainfection and developed a mouse model to study the effects of different nutritional supplements on host resistance to *S. aureus*. Most recently, her lab phenotypically characterized a heterogeneous population of mammary gland-resident dendritic cells that are distinct from mammary tissue macrophages, shedding light on the complex nature of mammary gland immunology.

A member of the AAI Membership Committee, Kanevsky-Mullarky is a past AAI Laboratory Travel Grant recipient and AAI Block Symposium co-chair and presenter. She has served on grant review panels for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of the Army, National Science Foundation, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Canadian Dairy Network, and United States-Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund. She has also served on the editorial board for the Journal of Dairy Science and as an ad hoc reviewer for *PLoS ONE, Inflammation Research, Clinical and Vaccine Immunology, Functional and Integrative Genomics, Journal of Clinical Microbiology, Journal of Animal Science, Journal of Dairy Science, International Dairy Federation, and Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology*.

Her additional career honors and appointments include: Finance Committee (chair) and Nominations Committee (member), American Association of Veterinary Immunologists; Animal Health Committee chair and co-chair, American Dairy Science Association (ADSA); president, vice-president, and secretary, multi-state Mastitis Research Project; ADSA Foundation Scholar Award; immunology section leader (2006–2011), Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases; selected late-breaking abstract presenter (one of eight), ADSA/American Society of Animal Science Joint Annual Meeting; National Institutes of Health Institutional Training Grant, Trudeau Institute; Alumni Association Dissertation Award, Pennsylvania State University (“Penn State”) Graduate School; American Association of Veterinary Immunologists Award, 2000; American College of Veterinary Immunologists Award, 2000; American College of Veterinary Immunologists Award, 2000; American College of Veterinary Immunologists Award, 2000; American College of Veterinary Immunologists Award, 2000; American College of Veterinary Immunologists Award, 2000; American College of Veterinary Immunologists Award, 2000; American College of Veterinary Immunologists Award, 2000.
John O'Shea is Ross Prize Recipient

John J. O'Shea, M.D., AAI ’84, has been honored as the 2014 recipient of the Ross Prize in Molecular Medicine, conferred by the Feinstein Institute’s journal Molecular Medicine. The award, which includes a $50,000 prize from Feinstein Institute Board Members Robin and Jack Ross, is bestowed upon an active investigator who has produced innovative, paradigm-shifting research worthy of significant and broad attention in the field of molecular medicine.

A National Institutes of Health (NIH) physician and immunologist for over three decades, O’Shea serves as scientific director at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS). His lab studies signal transduction pathways that regulate cytokine signaling and the ways these pathways affect differentiation and activation of immune cells. In particular, O’Shea has detailed many elements of Janus kinase (Jak) and signal transducer and activator of transcription (STAT) pathways and their role in immunomodulation and disease. His group cloned and characterized Jak3, a non-receptor tyrosine kinase, and demonstrated the role mutations in this molecule play in autosomal-recessive severe combined immunodeficiency. His research on Jaks has yielded a number of patents and demonstrated the role mutations in this molecule play in autosomal-recessive severe combined immunodeficiency. His research on Jaks has yielded a number of patents and led to the development of immunomodulatory drugs that have the potential to treat a variety of diseases from cancer to autoimmunity. His group also examines the contribution of Jak-STAT signaling to cytokine regulation of CD4+ T helper (Th) cell differentiation, including the requirement for STAT-1 in follicular Th cell development, STAT-3 in Th17 cell differentiation, and STAT-4 in Th1 cell differentiation. Importantly, his group collaborated with others to show that STAT-3 mutations that cause defective Th17 cell differentiation contribute to the development of Hyper IgE Syndrome. Most recently, O’Shea’s work has delved further into CD4+ Th subset differentiation, analyzing the epigenetic events that determine the plasticity of Th cell commitment.

O’Shea has served as a Major Symposium chair and speaker at the AAI annual meeting and as an associate editor for The Journal of Immunology. His additional career honors and appointments include: fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science; U.S. Public Health Service Physician Researcher of the Year Award; Paul Bunn Award in Infectious Disease; Lee C. Howley Prize in Arthritis Research; Irish Society for Immunology Public Lecture Award; NIH Director’s Award (three times); member, American Association of Physicians; member, American Society for Clinical Investigation; highly cited researcher, Institute for Scientific Information (now Thomson Reuters) Web of Knowledge; NIAMS Mentoring Award; NIH “Make a Difference” Office of Equal Opportunity Award; co-founder, NIH/Oxford/Cambridge program in biomedical science; member, NIH UPenn Immunology Program; and adviser, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Scholars.

O’Shea has served on the editorial boards of Immunity, Journal of Experimental Medicine, Journal of Biological Chemistry, and Blood and has presented numerous invited lectureships at universities and meetings in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia. He is board certified in internal medicine and allergy and immunology.

A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of St. Lawrence University, O’Shea received his M.D. from the University of Cincinnati before serving as an intern and resident in internal medicine at the State University of New York Upstate Medical University. He later received subspecialty training in allergy and immunology at NIH and additional postdoctoral training in the Cell Biology and Metabolism Branch in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. After establishing his own research group in the National Cancer Institute in 1989, he moved to NIAMS in 1994 as chief of the Lymphocyte Cell Biology Section of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Branch. In 2002, he was appointed chief of the NIAMS Molecular Immunology and Inflammation Branch and became scientific director of the NIAMS Intramural Research Program in 2005. O’Shea has served as acting director of the NIH Center for Regenerative Medicine and is an adjunct professor in the Department of Pathology at the University of Pennsylvania.
A special lectureship has been established at the University of Chicago in the name of Frank Fitch, our mentor, colleague, and consummate professor. Frank's contributions to the academic community at the University of Chicago and beyond for over 55 years have been enormous. As a member of the University of Chicago faculty in the Department of Pathology (where he is Albert Lasker Professor Emeritus), the Ben May Institute (BMI), and the Committee on Immunology (COI), he led top-tier research. His lab contributed immensely to our understanding of T cell immunology, especially cytotoxic and helper T cell function (Frank was among the first to describe T cell subsets), the development of immeasurably valuable tools in the early days of monoclonal antibody and T cell cloning, and the field of organ transplantation (passive immunization for one). During this incredible career, Frank trained thirty-five Ph.D. and M.D., Ph.D. students and seven postdoctoral fellows. He taught countless medical, graduate, and undergraduate students and mentored anyone who knocked on his door.

On a national scale, Frank has been a leader in the scientific community as council member and president of The American Association of Immunologists, editor-in-chief of *The Journal of Immunology*, and president of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB). In each of these roles, Frank was an innovator in stressing the need for public education—for educating both the public and legislators on the importance of basic research. And, of course, in his retirement, Frank has helped educate the world about the Hopi Indians.

As many of us know, Frank credits his many accomplishments, in large part, to his partnership with Shirley, whom he met in third grade, started dating in high school, and has been married to for 65 years. His marriage and collegiality transcend his other contributions and tell us about the man and his commitment to a life of engagement, sacrifice, love, and friendship.

Frank's colleagues at the University of Chicago and beyond have established the lecture series as a most fitting tribute to his work. The inaugural *Frank W. and Shirley Fitch Lecture* was scheduled October 6, 2014, at the University of Chicago, to be delivered by Professor Mark Davis (AAI '88) of Stanford University.

We hope that you might consider a donation to acknowledge Frank's great contributions. We are well on our way toward establishing the endowment necessary to support this lectureship. Please send checks to: The Frank W. and Shirley Fitch Lectureship, University of Chicago Gift and Record Services, 5235 S. Harper Court, Chicago, IL 60615—payable to University of Chicago Medicine.

Inaugural Frank W. & Shirley Fitch Lecturer

Mark Davis, PhD

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Call for 2015 Award Applications

Deadline: January 12, 2015

Applications are invited for the following AAI Travel Awards and Grants, which annually foster the promise and professional development of investigators of all career stages, including underrepresented minority scientists and trainees.

**Lefrançois-BioLegend Memorial Award**
Established to honor the memory of AAI member Dr. Leo Lefrançois, this award is intended to advance the career of a trainee who attends the AAI annual meeting and presents an outstanding abstract specifically in the area of mucosal immunology. The award recipient will receive a $1,000 cash award and a certificate during an awards presentation program at the AAI annual meeting. This award is generously supported through a grant from BioLegend and donations from friends and colleagues of Dr. Lefrançois.

**AAI Trainee Poster Awards**
These awards provide up to $300 travel reimbursement to AAI trainee members (students and postdoctoral fellows) whose first-author abstracts submitted to the AAI annual meeting are selected for poster sessions only and found to be exceptional by the AAI Abstract Programming Chairs. Selection is based on the originality and significance of the research being presented.

**Pfizer-Showell Travel Award**
This award recognizes the professional promise of an early career investigator (assistant professor or equivalent) by assisting the award recipient with travel to the AAI annual meeting. Selection is based on career progress and submission of an outstanding abstract selected for oral presentation in a block symposium at the meeting. The award recipient will be recognized and presented with a certificate at an awards presentation program at the AAI annual meeting. Support of up to $1,500 will be provided for meeting registration and travel. This award is supported through an endowment from Henry J. Showell and Pfizer, Inc.

**AAI-Thermo Fisher Trainee Achievement Awards**
These awards recognize up to six promising trainees in the field of immunology. Selection is based on career promise and presentation of an outstanding first-author abstract selected for oral presentation in a block symposium. Awardees will receive a $1,000 cash prize and reimbursement for meeting expenses. This award is generously supported through a grant from Thermo Fisher Scientific.

**AAI Early Career Faculty Travel Grants**
These grants assist young investigators (assistant professor or equivalent) in attending the AAI annual meeting. Recipients will be reimbursed up to $1,250 for registration and travel expenses.

**Chambers-eBioscience Memorial Award**
Established to honor the memory of AAI member Dr. Cynthia Chambers, this award is intended to advance the career of an early career scientist who attends the AAI annual meeting and presents an outstanding abstract specifically in the area of cancer biology. The award recipient will receive a $1,000 cash award and a certificate during an awards presentation program at the AAI annual meeting. This award is generously supported through a grant from eBioscience, an Affymetrix Company.

**Lustgarten-eBioscience Memorial Award**
Established to honor the memory of AAI member Dr. Joseph Lustgarten, this award is intended to advance the career of a mid-career scientist who attends the AAI annual meeting and presents an outstanding abstract specifically in the area of immune regulation. The award recipient will receive up to $1,250 travel reimbursement and a certificate during an awards presentation program at the AAI annual meeting. This award is generously supported through a grant from eBioscience, an Affymetrix Company.

**AAI Underrepresented Scientist Travel Awards**
These awards provide travel support to eligible AAI members to attend the AAI annual meeting. Two types of awards are available (trainee, junior faculty), providing support of up to $1,850 for registration and meeting-related travel expenses. This award is generously supported through the HASEB Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) program and a grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), NIH.

**AAI Trainee Abstract Awards**
These awards provide up to $500–750 travel reimbursement to AAI trainee members (students and postdoctoral fellows) whose first-author abstracts submitted to the AAI annual meeting are selected for presentation in block symposia.

**AAI Undergraduate Faculty Travel Grants**
These grants assist undergraduate faculty in attending the AAI annual meeting. Each grant will also support travel costs for an undergraduate student of the recipient’s selection. A grant of up to $1,250 is awarded to the undergraduate faculty member, and a grant of up to $1,000 is awarded to the selected undergraduate student (registration for an undergraduate student is complimentary).

**AAI Laboratory Travel Grants**
Open to both mid-career and senior investigators!
These grants assist mid-career and senior investigators in attending the AAI annual meeting. Applicants must hold an appointment of associate professor, full professor, or equivalent; have limited research funding; and be a first or last author on one or more abstracts submitted to the annual meeting. Each grant will provide two travel awards of up to $1,250 each: one to the PI or laboratory director and another to a member of his or her lab, chosen by the PI or laboratory director. Recipients will be reimbursed for registration and travel expenses.

For complete AAI Travel Award and Grant application details, visit www.AAI.org/Awards.

The 2015 AAI Awards will be presented in conjunction with

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IN MEMORIAM

Gerald M. Edelman, M.D., Ph.D., AAI ’70
1929 – 2014

AAI extends condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Gerald Edelman, M.D., Ph.D., an AAI member since 1970 and co-recipient of the 1972 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, who died in May. The following tribute was adapted from a profile produced by AAI Historian/Archivist John Emrich, Ph.D., appearing in the collection of leading AAI member profiles available in the History section of the AAI website at: http://www.aai.org/About/History/Notable_Members

Nobel laureate Gerald M. Edelman, M.D., Ph.D., died May 17 at his home in La Jolla, California. He was 84. Edelman was awarded the 1972 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly with Rodney R. Porter (AAI ’73) for their related but independent work on the molecular structure of antibodies. Although scientists had studied antibodies since the late nineteenth century, their understanding of how antibodies functioned remained vague in the 1950s. When Porter and Edelman each announced that he had succeeded in splitting antibodies into fragments in 1959, they opened new avenues of research in the field of molecular immunology.

Edelman made several major contributions to the understanding of antibody structure. After correctly hypothesizing that antibodies consisted of multiple amino acid chains held together by disulfide bonds, he split antibodies by dissolving these bonds and identified their component light and heavy chains. He then identified the domain structure of both the light and heavy chains, consisting of the antigen-binding (variable) regions and effector function-conferring (constant) regions. Finally, he produced the first complete sequence of the amino acids that comprise an antibody, providing great insight into the structure and function of antibodies. Edelman’s work began to address the mystery of the extraordinary variety in binding specificities that exist in antibodies, despite the fact that all antibodies share a single basic structure.

Edelman expanded his research to include the brain in the late 1970s, applying many of the insights he had gleaned from the structure of antibodies to neuroscience. In an interview, Edelman explained what might on the surface appeared to be his radical change in research focus: “There’s something cognate or similar in the brain and in immunology—namely your brain is also a recognition system. So you might call evolution, development, immunology . . . and brain science [all] sciences of recognition. They deal with the problem of how a thing, without any foreknowledge, can match another thing, either an environment or an antigen or a nerve impulse or what have you.”

Through his fundamental work on the structure of antibodies, Edelman helped lay “a theoretical foundation for immunology which is having wide repercussions in the understanding of disease and its prevention,” said immunologist John H. Humphrey (AAI ’63) of Britain’s National Institute of Medical Research at the time the Nobel was awarded.2 Antibodies are used today as tools in myriad applications in immunological research, and the range of monoclonal antibodies being developed as therapeutics has skyrocketed since the first such antibody, the CD3-specific molecule muromonab, was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 1986. In his Nobel presentation speech, Sven Gard of the Karolinska Institute commented on the far-reaching impact of Edelman’s and Porter’s work: “These discoveries incited an intense activity in laboratories in the four corners of the world. Apparently there existed a latent need for immunochemical research that could not be satisfied until [Edelman and Porter] had opened the way and provided the means.”3

Biography

Born in New York City on July 1, 1929, Edelman earned his B.S. in chemistry at Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania (1950), and his M.D. at the University of Pennsylvania (1954). He served as house officer at the Massachusetts General Hospital for one year before enlisting in the Army Medical Corps in 1955. It was while serving as an army physician in Paris, where he was exposed to the cutting-edge research in molecular biology then underway at the Sorbonne, that Edelman first developed his interest in immunology in general and the study of antibodies in particular.

After leaving the army, Edelman began graduate work in immunology and biochemistry under Henry Kunkel (AAI ’62, president 1974–75) at the Rockefeller Institute in New York City. He earned his Ph.D. in 1960, writing his dissertation on methods of splitting immunoglobulins. He remained at Rockefeller and joined the faculty as an assistant and then associate dean of graduate studies before becoming a full professor at the recently renamed Rockefeller University in 1966.4 He founded the...
Neurosciences Institute there in 1981. After 32 years on the faculty at the Rockefeller University, Edelman left New York for California in 1992 to accept a position as professor of neurobiology at the Scripps Research Institute, bringing the Neurosciences Institute with him the following year.

Known for an exceptionally wide-ranging intellect, Edelman had a lifelong interest in music. Though the son of a physician, he was more interested in music than science in his early years and studied violin under a former classmate of Jascha Heifetz. Only when he realized as a teenager that he did not want to be a performer and, as he put it, “had no gift” for composition, did he decide to become a scientist.6

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Dr. Schwaber continued his research into genetic causes of immunodeficiency. In 1992, he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Jeffrey Modell Foundation. Cell lines from patients with primary immunodeficiency that he developed were donated to the Coriell Institute for Medical Research in Camden, New Jersey. He worked at Harvard Medical School, Hahnemann University Hospital, and Thomas Jefferson University.

Born in Evanston, Illinois, he was the third of four sons. He is survived by his wife, Susan Hoch, M.D., his sons, Jason and Jeff, and four grandchildren. He loved to cook, work with wood, rebuild houses, scuba dive, bike, listen to classical music, opera, and jazz, and read.

Contributions in his name may be made to The American Association of Immunologists (AAI), the American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB), or the American Society for Human Genetics (ASHG).

Jerrold Schwaber, Ph.D., AAI ’79
1947 – 2014

Jerrold Schwaber, Ph.D., an immunologist and cell biologist who independently conceived the concept and technique for monoclonal antibodies (hybridomas), died on June 6, 2014, in his home in Haddonfield, New Jersey, at the age of 67.

Schwaber was a 1969 graduate (B.A., Analysis of Ideas and Study of Methods) of the University of Chicago, where he obtained his Ph.D. in the Division of Biologic Sciences in 1974. As a graduate student, he fused human lymphocytes to mouse myeloma tumor cells and proved that the resulting hybrid cells made both human and mouse immunoglobulins. This work, published in Nature in 1973, laid the groundwork for the development of monoclonal antibodies. In 1975, Kohler and Milstein followed up on his work which led to their receipt of the 1984 Nobel Prize in Medicine.

2013 – 2014 Deceased Members

AAI extends condolences to the families, friends, and colleagues of the following members whose deaths were recorded during the past year (since July 1, 2013):

Priscilla B. Chen, Ph.D., AAI ’79
Bethesda, MD
(d. October 11, 2013)

Gerald M. Edelman, M.D., PhD, AAI ’70
La Jolla, CA
(d. May 17, 2014)

Theresa L. Gioannini, Ph.D., AAI ’09
Coralville, IA
(d. January 4, 2014)

Ronald B. Herberman, M.D., AAI ’69
Blacksburg, VA
(d. May 31, 2013)

Leonard A. Herzenberg, Ph.D., AAI ’68
Stanford, CA
(d. October 27, 2013)

Monto Ho, M.D., AAI ’61
Pittsburgh, PA
(d. December 16, 2013)

Leo Lefrançois, Ph.D., AAI ’84
Farmington, CT
(d. July 20, 2013)

Lloyd F. Mayer, M.D., AAI ’88
New York, NY
(d. September 5, 2013)

Redwan Moqbel, Ph.D., AAI ’96
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
(d. October 9, 2013)

Donald L. Morton, M.D., AAI ’70
Santa Monica, CA
(d. January 10, 2014)

Yacov Ron, Ph.D., AAI ’07
Piscataway, NJ
(d. July 11, 2013)

Donald A. Rowley, M.D., AAI ’63
Chicago, IL
(d. February 24, 2013)

Jerrold F. Schwaber, Ph.D., AAI ’79
Haddonfield, NJ
(d. June 6, 2014)

David W. Talmage, M.D., AAI ’54
Denver, CO
(d. March 6, 2014)
AAI Oral History Project Available Online

To provide contemporary investigators and the public a rare view into the lives and times of influential immunologists, AAI arranged for the award-winning Oral Historian Brien Williams, Ph.D., to interview past AAI presidents, beginning in the spring of 2012. Interviewees were asked about their family backgrounds, early interest in science, reasons for studying immunology, career and research highlights, challenges faced, balancing professional and private life, hobbies outside of the laboratory, major changes in immunology over the course of their careers, and the future of immunology and science in the United States. The sessions, typically one and one-half to two hours in length, were professionally recorded and edited in high-definition video.

“Scientific contributions live on as researchers continue to build upon the work of the past, yet present-day investigators often know little about the scientists responsible for them,” said AAI Historian John Emrich, Ph.D., who first conceived of the Oral History Project in 2011. “The ‘Pillars of Immunology’ series in The Journal of Immunology makes the connections between past and present science more explicit than they otherwise would be, but investigators rarely have the opportunity to hear about their predecessors’ motivations, their hardships suffered and overcome, their lives outside of the laboratory, or even their candid thoughts on the state of the field.”

To date, 25 past presidents have been interviewed. Their presidential terms span five decades, from that of Herman Eisen (AAI ’51, president 1968–69) to Leslie Berg (AAI ’94, president 2011–12). Included in this group were two past presidents in their 90s, Eisen and David Talmage (AAI ’54, president 1978–79, now deceased); six in their 80s; and four in their 70s.

The memories and reflections contained in these interviews constitute an important facet of the history of immunology that would likely be lost to future generations if not preserved in the AAI Oral History Project. As AAI continues to conduct interviews with additional presidents and other influential immunologists, members and the general public are invited to view the oral histories already recorded. Video clips and the full-length interviews, which have been optimized for playback on TVs, computers, and mobile devices, are available at www.aai.org/ohp.

Oral History Interviews Currently Available:

- Herman N. Eisen (1968–69)
- K. Frank Austen (1977–78)
- David W. Talmage (1978–79)
- Jonathan W. Uhr (1983–84)
- William E. Paul (1986–87)
- Max D. Cooper (1988–89)
- Henry Metzger (1991–92)
- Frank W. Fitch (1992–93)
- Irving L. Weissman (1994–95)
- Katherine L. Knight (1996–97)
- Roger M. Perlmutter (1999–2000)
- Philippa Marrack (2000–01)
- James P. Allison (2001–02)
- Laurie H. Glimcher (2003–04)
- Susan L. Swain (2004–05)
- Lewis L. Lanier (2006–07)
- Olivera J. Finn (2007–08)
- Arthur Weiss (2008–09)
- Betty A. Diamond (2009–10)
- Jeffrey A. Frelinger (2010–11)
- Leslie J. Berg (2011–12)
Drawing attendees from more than 40 countries, IMMUNOLOGY 2014™ attracted over 3,100 participants to this year's AAI annual meeting, May 2–6, in Pittsburgh. Held at the David Lawrence Convention Center along the city's Allegheny River waterfront, the meeting featured leading-edge immunology presented in more than 220 sessions spotlighting 625 speakers and 1,725 poster presenters. In addition to the scientific program, attendees—including nearly 700 recipients of AAI career and travel awards—took advantage of multiple career sessions and prime networking opportunities and experienced the high-energy social events that are annual highlights of the AAI meeting.

Opening Night Reception
Pittsburgh's David L. Lawrence Convention Center – Mezzanine and Terrace
Sponsored by eBioscience, an Affymetrix company
2014 AAI ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS | MAY 2–6, 2014 | PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Presidents Program

AII President’s Address

AAI President Marc Jenkins (R) with mentor/introducer Steve Miller

Marc Jenkins delivering opening address to Pittsburgh convention center ballroom crowd

AII Honors for Career Achievement

AII Lifetime Achievement Award

Lifetime achievement honoree Emil Unanue with presenter Marc Jenkins

Excellence in mentoring awardee William Paul flanked by introducer Anthony DeFranco, presenter Marc Jenkins

AII Distinguished Lectures

Lecturer Kris Hogquist with Marc Jenkins

Lecturer Ellen Rothenberg (middle) with Program Chair Leslie Berg, Marc Jenkins

Lecturer Mark Shlomchik with Program Chair Leslie Berg, Marc Jenkins

Marc Jenkins (middle) with symposium speakers (L–R) Ron Germain, Michel Nussenzweig, Ellen Robey, Jason Cyster
AAI Scientific, Service Recognition Awards

AAI-Life Technologies Meritorious Career Award
Presentation & Lecture

AAI BD Biosciences Investigator Award
Presentation & Lecture

Meritorious career award recipient Timothy Springer (second from left) with (L-R) Life Technologies’ Jeff Croissant, Marc Jenkins, AAI Executive Director Michele Hogan

Investigator awardee Katherine Fitzgerald with Marc Jenkins, BD Biosciences’ Trent Colville

AAI Steinman Award for Human Immunology Research Presentation & Lecture

Human immunology awardee Carl June, Marc Jenkins

AAI Distinguished Service Award Recipients

Distinguished service awardees Jerry Boss, Kris Hogquist

AAI Professional Development Awards

Pfizer-Showell Award

Lustgarten-eBioscience Memorial Award

Lefrançois-BioLegend Memorial Award

Awardee Edward Miao, Marc Jenkins

Awardee Guangyong Peng flanked by eBioscience’s Tony Ward, Theresa Schaub

Awardee Kristine-Ann Buela with BioLegend’s Craig Monell, Gene Lay
AAI Professional Development Awards (continued)

Chambers-eBioscience Memorial Award

Awardee Irving Allen (middle) with eBioscience’s Tony Ward, Theresa Schaub

AAI-Life Technologies Trainee Achievement Awards

Awardees (L-R) Nathan Mathewson, Baoyu Liu, Carrie Lucas, Melissa Tjota, Dingding An, Noah Tubo

AAI Poster Sessions

Scientific presentations featured immunologists at every career stage. The presenter lineup included 625 speakers in more than 220 sessions and an additional 1,725 poster abstract presenters.

New Member Reception

Together with others in AAI leadership, president Marc Jenkins (in left image) and secretary-treasurer Mitch Kronenberg (right image) welcoming new AAI members to IMMUNOLOGY 2014™
AAI Career Development Sessions

AAI Education Committee & AAI Committee on the Status of Women—Careers in Science Roundtable

Attendees networking during careers roundtable break

AAI Minority Affairs Committee Careers and Networking Roundtable

Roundtable attendees at the careers in industry table

Careers in Biotech Panel Discussion and Networking Reception

Careers in biotech panelists Nandita Bose (chair), Jane Grogan, James Huleatt, Elizabeth Bachert, Thomas MacAllister

How to Convert Your CV into a Resumé

CV to resumé workshop presenter Derek Haseltine (R) providing one-on-one counseling

AAI Minority Affairs Committee Guest Lecture

Lecturer Arturo Casadevall (R) with Minority Affairs Committee chair Adriana Larregina

High School Teachers Program

AAI summer teachers program session participants (L-R) Clinton Mathias (chair), Mary Litzinger (co-organizer), teachers Robert Aguilar, Andrea Cobb, Mark Trice, Matthew Young, Megean Garvin (educational consultant)
AAI Gala

The Senator John Heinz History Center
Sponsored by BioLegend

Exhibit Hall

Exhibitors and attendees explore the latest in research tools and resources in the IMMUNOLOGY 2014™ exhibit hall. The exhibit floor included booths representing 130 companies and organizations all located amidst 1,725 exciting IMMUNOLOGY 2014™ poster sessions. The exhibit floor also featured dedicated space for exhibitor workshop presentations and the AAI Jobs Board.
Encore: AAI Centennial Timeline

Drawing new and return visitors alike, the AAI Centennial Timeline made a second appearance at this year’s AAI meeting after its celebrated launch at the 2013 AAI Meeting and Centennial Celebration. After viewing milestones of the past 100 years in immunology, attendees enjoyed posting predictions of what’s on the horizon. Also encoring in Pittsburgh was the AAI StoryBooth, allowing 2014 attendees to add their video recordings of the scientific milestones and relationships that have shaped their careers.

AAI Service Appreciation Reception

A regular feature of the AAI meeting, this special evening reception honored members who generously volunteered their service to AAI during 2013 - 2014.

Marc Jenkins with Gene Lay, founder and president of BioLegend, sponsor of the AAI Gala and AAI Service Appreciation Reception

Marc Jenkins with University of Minnesota colleagues (L-R) Matt Mescher, Ashley Haase, Tucker LeBien

Reception attendees enjoying the ambience of Pittsburgh’s Andy Warhol Museum

Taking the annual president’s “roast” in stride: Marc Jenkins channels Pittsburgh native Andy Warhol inside the museum celebrating the iconic artist’s life and work
Visitors to the AAI booth in the exhibit hall entered multiple drawings to win prizes in the daily AAI raffle and exhibit hall passport program. Winners included Amina Metidji (pictured above at right, with Jan Massey of AAI).
Members paused during IMMUNOLOGY 2014™, held May 2–6 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for the annual AAI Business Meeting and Awards Presentation. The business session, held Saturday, May 3, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 321 of the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, included the annual report to AAI members on AAI and The Journal of Immunology (The JI). Also featured were certain 2014 awards presentations and acknowledgments.

AAI Executive Director M. Michele Hogan called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., welcoming all present. Dr. Hogan asked all in attendance to observe a moment of silence in honor of members whose deaths had occurred or became known during the previous year.

Citing robust attendance for the 2014 AAI annual meeting, Hogan acknowledged the many contributions of the premier sponsors of IMMUNOLOGY 2014™: BioLegend, ebioscience (Affymetrix), FASEB MARC, Life Technologies, BD Biosciences, Sanofi, Genentech, Dartmouth Journal Services, Kyowa Hakko Kirin California, and AllCells.

Hogan reported that membership has grown to a record high of 7,800 regular, trainee, emeritus, and associate member scientists. She noted that AAI funding for members’ career development assistance has grown to record levels as well. In addition to increasing travel awards and grants, Hogan explained that the AAI Council has taken steps to help support members who are experiencing difficulty in sustaining their publicly funded research. Two major new career-assistance funding initiatives have been launched: the AAI Careers in Immunology Fellowship Program, which supports one year’s salary for a trainee of each qualifying PI, and the AAI Travel for Techniques Program, which provides support to members needing to travel to another laboratory to learn a technique useful for their research. Hogan described the Careers in Immunology Fellowship Program as the most significant funding mechanism that AAI has ever launched.

Hogan urged members to take advantage of the presence again this year of the AAI Centennial Timeline. The timeline was so well received at the 2013 AAI Annual Meeting and Centennial Celebration that it was re-installed in Pittsburgh for the 2014 meeting. She announced that, in response to many members’ requests, the timeline has been rendered digitally online in the history section of the AAI website. She also encouraged attendees to visit the AAI StoryBooth to record their own stories of career-defining moments and/or relationships and to peruse exhibits in the two History Lounges portraying many notable individuals and seminal events in the field.

AAI Committee on Public Affairs (CPA) Chair Elizabeth Kovacs provided an update on AAI public affairs activities. Dr. Kovacs reported details of budget proposals from the White House and Congress and on AAI efforts to address the decrease in National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding capacity as a result of sequestration and the erosion of the NIH budget by inflation. AAI has submitted congressional testimony to the House, recommending at least $32 billion for NIH in fiscal year 2015 “to fund important ongoing research, strengthen the biomedical research enterprise, and ensure that the brightest scientists, trainees, and students are able to pursue careers in biomedical research in the United States.” She also reported that AAI had presented its 2013 AAI Public Service Awards to Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) for their leadership in supporting NIH and federal funding for biomedical research. The 2013 AAI Public Service Staff Recognition Award was presented to Howard Garrison, Ph.D., FASEB deputy executive director and director of the FASEB Office of Public Affairs.

Kovacs also reported on the AAI Public Policy Fellows Program, which supports opportunities for a select group of AAI fellows to learn how to advocate for sound public policy and funding for biomedical research. She provided highlights of the two-day AAI Capitol Hill Day held in March 2014, the culminating event for the 10 AAI members who participated in the 2013–2014 program. Each of the AAI fellows visited the offices of approximately five members of Congress to advocate for NIH funding. She reported that this year’s fellows also helped draft congressional testimony and an AAI advocacy brochure. Kovacs also welcomed the 2014–2015 fellows, whose fellowship year began with policy sessions and social activities at the 2014 AAI annual meeting, where they also met CPA members, staff, and previous fellows. Kovacs urged attendees to visit past and current fellows in the AAI Booth during the poster hours Saturday–Monday.

Kovacs urged attendance at the committee’s IMMUNOLOGY 2014™ session on Sunday, May 4: “Rock Talking with Sally Rockey: The Issues, the Blog, and the Woman Behind It All.” She also described plans for the Saturday-evening celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the AAI public affairs program, featuring a reception honoring current and previous CPA members and a performance by The Capitol Steps, a DC-based musical, political satire group.

AAI Secretary-Treasurer Mitchell Kronenberg provided an overview of the finances of AAI and The JI. Dr. Kronenberg reported that AAI is on very good financial footing. Operating revenues continued to exceed expenses in 2013, even with a substantial increase in travel grants...
for the 2013 annual meeting in Hawaii and expenses incurred to support the AAI Centennial Celebration. Kronenberg reviewed AAI 2013 revenues by category, noting that the largest sources of gross revenue were *The JI* (67 percent), followed by the annual meeting (19 percent). Largest categories for 2013 expenses tracked accordingly, with *The JI* representing 46 percent of expenses by activity, followed by the annual meeting (21 percent). For 2014, however, the new Travel for Techniques Awards program and the AAI Careers in Immunology Fellowship program will nearly triple the AAI Education and Awards program expenses, bringing that category to rank second among AAI activities and claim 22 percent of AAI budgeted resources after *The JI* (42 percent).

Pamela J. Fink, editor-in-chief (EIC) of *The JI*, reported on operations and initiatives during her first year as EIC. Dr. Fink recognized the members of the AAI Publications Committee, thanked outgoing section editors, and acknowledged new editors beginning their service on July 1, 2014. Fink reported publishing data, noting that *The JI* ranked first in number of citations among 135 immunology journals. Fink noted that 3,345 manuscripts were submitted in 2013 and 3,257 reviewers were used. Average time from submission to initial decision continues to decline. Fink cited new features of *The JI*, including the new “Novel Immunological Methods” section in the table of contents; “Immunology Notes and Resources” articles; the Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCiD) option, allowing authors to enter their ORCiD during manuscript submission; and DOIs assigned to back content.

The following awards were presented, with Hogan presiding:

**Distinguished Service Awards**
- Kristin A. Hogquist, Ph.D., University of Minnesota, for outstanding service to AAI and the immunology community as chair of the AAI Program Committee, 2009–2012
- Jeremy M. Boss, Ph.D., Emory University School of Medicine, for outstanding service to AAI and the immunology community as EIC of *The JI*, 2008–2013

**Pfizer-Showell Travel Award** to Edward A. Miao, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**Lustgarten-eBioscience Memorial Award** to Guangyong Peng, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor, St. Louis University School of Medicine

**Chambers-eBioscience Memorial Award** to Irving C. Allen, Ph.D., assistant professor, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

**Lefrançois-BioLegend Memorial Award** to Kristine-Ann G. Buela, graduate student, University of Pittsburgh

**AAI-Life Technologies Trainee Achievement Awards**
- Dingding An, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, Harvard Medical School
- Baoyu Liu, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Carrie L. Lucas, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH
- Nathan Mathewson, graduate student, University of Michigan Medical School
- Melissa Y. Tjota, graduate student, University of Chicago
- Noah J. Tubo, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, University of Minnesota

The meeting was adjourned by Executive Director Hogan at 2:30 p.m.

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**AAI Council Past President’s Award**

Former AAI president Gail Bishop (right) receiving the AAI Past President’s Award from Michele Hogan, presenting on behalf of AAI Council
AAI Outreach Program

AAI, through its Outreach Program, continues to support member-organized immunology meetings that offer speaking opportunities and awards to early career investigators. The meetings supported by the Outreach Program this year have represented a broad immunological and geographic spectrum, spanning basic and clinical immunology, and both the east and west coasts. Four meetings occurring between February and May received AAI support for the first time: the Translational Research Cancer Centers Consortium’s (TRCCC) annual meeting, the Trudeau Institute’s International Symposium, the American Physician Scientists Association (APSA) annual meeting, and immunologyLA.

Translational Research Cancer Centers Consortium Annual Meeting

The association provided support for 12 AAI Young Investigator Awards for outstanding oral abstracts at the TRCCC annual meeting, held February 19–20 in Seven Springs, Pennsylvania. The conference, entitled, “Cancer Immunotherapy for the People: Where Do We Stand?” was co-chaired by Yasmin Thanavala (AAI ’14) and Scott Abrams (AAI ’96) and incorporated sessions and lectures on immunotherapy, inflammation, and immunosuppression in cancer. Mac Cheever (AAI ’86) delivered the first of two keynote addresses, speaking on “The Cancer Immunotherapy Network-Priorities, Trials, and Goals.” Suzanne Ostrand-Rosenberg (AAI ’79) presented the second keynote address, “Inflammation, Immune Suppression, and Cancer: It’s the RAGE.” AAI Young Investigator Award recipients were chosen from six oral abstract sessions on topics ranging from novel animal models to the tumor microenvironment. The AAI Young Investigator Awardees were Heather Gibson and Sijana Dzinic (Wayne State University); Matthaiou Efthymia-Iliana, Mireia Uribe, and Stefano Pierini (University of Pennsylvania); Amran Averick and Guangio Li (University of Pittsburgh); Amy Ku, Colleen Netherby, Jayakumar Nair, and Michelle Messmer (Roswell Park Cancer Institute); and Eugene Cozza (Pennsylvania State University-Hershey).

Trudeau Institute International Symposium

The Trudeau Institute’s seminar, held April 4–6 in Lake Placid, New York, was designed to foster collaborations between leaders in academia and industry for the development of therapeutics for inflammatory and infectious diseases. Three researchers from the Trudeau Institute, Marcia Blackman (AAI ’92), Andrea Cooper (AAI ’96), and Elizabeth Leadbetter (AAI ’10), organized the meeting, titled “The Yin and Yang of Inflammation: The Role of Inflammation in Health and Disease.” The program featured talks by AAI member industry scientists and academic researchers alike, followed by a facilitated workshop to promote interactions among conference participants.
Four young scientists’ poster presentations were selected for AAI Young Investigator Awards during a poster session held the first evening of the meeting. Cooper and the meeting’s keynote speaker David Lee, global head of autoimmunity and dermatology translational medicine at Novartis, presented the awards to predoctoral and postdoctoral trainees and early career faculty during an evening reception. The awardees were Cody Spencer (Trudeau Institute), Tara Strutt (University of Massachusetts), Margarite Tarrio (Brown University), and Eric Yager (Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences).

**American Physician Scientists Association Annual Meeting**

The APSA 10th Annual Meeting drew 359 attendees, April 25–27, to the Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park. Stephanie Jackson (AAI ’11) co-organized the event, at which physician scientists from across the country presented their latest research and engaged in professional development activities, including a grant-writing workshop and a panel that focused on “Interweaving the Growth of Women and Medicine in the 21st Century.” The program also featured talks by prominent immunologists Laurie Glimcher (AAI ’83) and Anthony Fauci (AAI ’73).

The APSA organizing committee selected five trainees to receive AAI Young Investigator Awards from among the immunology poster abstracts submitted. Awardees were Andrew Cox (University of Rochester), Maria Themeli (Memorial Sloan-Kettering), Andrew Jones (Saint Louis University), Nicole Kretzer (Washington University in St. Louis), and Jason Meyer (University of Kentucky).

**immunologyLA**

Approximately 150 attendees from several west-coast institutions, including University of California-Irvine, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and City of Hope, gathered on May 22nd at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles, California, for immunologyLA. Meeting co-organizer Helen Goodridge (AAI ’09) welcomed attendees to the meeting and introduced Jonathan Kaye (AAI ’91), who chaired the opening session on immune cell development and function. The meeting also featured a session chaired by Diane Da Silva (AAI ’03) covering the latest immunotherapy and sessions on inflammation research.

Eleven faculty members judged the trainee poster and oral presentations and selected the five AAI Young Investigator Award recipients. Oral presentation award recipients were Mary Rodgers (University of Southern California) and Corey Seehus (Cedars-Sinai Medical Center). The poster presentation awardees were James Bowman (University of Southern California), Michelle Jhun (Cedars-Sinai Medical Center), and Hadi Maazi (University of Southern California).
GRANT AND AWARD DEADLINES

October 14

2015 Lurie Prize in Biomedical Sciences
- **Prize/Award:** Prize of $100,000 in recognition of outstanding, early-career achievement in biomedical research; prize may be used as the awardee chooses
- **Eligibility:** Promising young biomedical research scientists (defined as 52 years old or younger as of January 1, 2015) meriting recognition for outstanding achievement and nominated by any member of an accredited educational and/or scientific institution
- **Details:** www.fnih.org/work/lurie-prize-biomedical-sciences
- **Contact:** lurieprizeinfo@fnih.org

October 15

AAI Travel for Techniques (TfT) Awards
- **Prize/Award:** Multiple awards providing up to $1,500 each in reimbursement of travel expenses for a visit to another laboratory specifically to learn a technique beneficial to award applicant’s research
- **Eligibility:** AAI regular and associate member scientists with independent research programs; awarded travel may be that of the applicant, a trainee under the applicant’s mentorship, or another lab member; award selection is based on relevance of the technique to the applicant’s program, inaccessibility of the technique at local institutions, and financial need
- **Details:** www.aai.org/Careers/TfT.html
- **Contact:** erwalsh@aai.org

October 31

Warren Alpert Foundation Prize
- **Prize/Award:** Prize of $250,000 along with award citation, plaque, and special scientific symposium in honor of the recipient(s) at Harvard Medical School
- **Eligibility:** One or more scientists meriting recognition for scientific achievement that has led to the prevention, cure, or treatment of human diseases or disorders, and/or whose research constitutes a seminal scientific finding of great promise for ultimately changing disease understanding and/or treatability; nominees may be from any country and must be nominated by a research institution without restriction as to country
- **Details:** http://www.warrenalpert.org/online-nomination
- **Contact:** Edward Canton: (617) 432-2116; edward_canton@hms.harvard.edu

November 1

Cancer Research Institute Clinic and Laboratory integration Program (CLIP) Grants
- **Prize/Award:** Funding of up to $100,000 per year for two years for qualified basic, pre-clinical, or translational research scientists exploring clinically relevant questions aimed at improving the effectiveness of cancer immunotherapies
- **Eligibility:** Any scientist with a tenure-track faculty appointment of assistant professor or higher rank seeking support for research conducted at a medical school or not-for-profit research center in the United States or abroad
- **Details:** http://www.cancerresearch.org/grants-programs/grants-fellowships/clinic-and-laboratory-integration-program-(clip)
- **Contact:** Office of Grants Administration: (212) 688-7515; grants@cancerresearch.org

November 3

2015 AAI Career Awards (see also Call for 2015 Award Nominations, page 2)
- **Prize/Award:** Multiple awards recognizing early- and mid-career scientific achievement in immunology (including achievement specifically related to human immunology), distinguished service to AAI and the field, and excellence in mentoring the next generation of scientists; included are awards conferring prizes ranging from $5,000 to $10,000
- **Eligibility:** Any AAI member in good standing nominated by another AAI member in good standing; details for each award are at www.aai.org/Awards/Career/index.html
- **Details:** www.aai.org/Awards/Career/index.html
- **Contact:** awards@aai.org

November 4

Burroughs Wellcome Fund Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease Program
- **Prize/Award:** Funding of $500,000 over five years to support new avenues of infectious disease pathogenesis inquiry, including higher-risk research projects with potential for significantly advancing the understanding of the interplay between human and microbial biology
- **Eligibility:** Accomplished doctoral investigators with tenure-track assistant professor (or equivalent) appointments who have an established record of independent research and are nominated by accredited, degree-granting institutions in the United States or Canada; candidates must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States or Canada
- **Details:** http://www.bwfund.org/grant-programs/infectious-diseases/investigators-pathogenesis-infectious-disease-0
- **Contact:** Victoria McGovern, Ph.D., Sr. Program Officer: (919) 991-5112; vmcgovern@bwfund.org
Meetings and Events Calendar
Mark Your Calendar for These Important Dates!

2014

**October 9, 2014**
Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy: Delivering the Promise
Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute, NIH, Bethesda, MD
ncifrederick.cancer.gov/events/
CancerImmunology/default.asp

**October 15–19, 2014**
2014 SACNAS National Conference
Los Angeles, CA
sacnas.org/events/national-conf

**October 19–22, 2014**
17th Annual New York State Immunology Conference
Sagamore Resort and Conference Center
Bolton Landing, NY
amc.edu/NYIC

**October 23–25, 2014**
SLB-IEIIS2014
Joint Meeting of the Society for Leukocyte Biology and the International Endotoxin and Innate Immunity Society
Salt Lake City, UT
slbieiis2014.org

**October 26–29, 2014**
Cytokines2014
Annual Meeting of the International Cytokine and Interferon Society - ICIS
Melbourne, Australia
cytokines2014.com

**November 6–9, 2014**
STIC 2014 - 29th Annual STIC Meeting
Gaylord National Hotel & Convention Center National Harbor, MD
sitcancer.org/sitc-meetings

**November 10–14, 2014**
11th International Workshop - IMMUNOTHERAPY 2014: Chronic Inflammation in Cancer and Autoimmunity: Revisiting the Links
Hotel Nacional de Cuba Havana, Cuba
immunotherapy2014.cim.co.cu/IT-2014

**November 12–15, 2014**
ABRCMS 2014
San Antonio, TX
abrcms.org

**November 19–22, 2014**
17th Annual New York State Immunology Conference
Sagamore Resort and Conference Center
Bolton Landing, NY
amc.edu/NYIC

**November 30–December 4, 2014**
9th Federation of African Immunological Societies Conference
Nairobi, Kenya
faisconference2014.com

2015

**January 24–27, 2015**
54th Midwinter Conference of Immunologists at Asilomar
Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove (near Monterey), CA
midwconimmunol.org

**February 11–15, 2015**
2015 BMT Tandem Meeting
San Diego, CA
cibmtr.org/Meetings/Tandem/index.html

**March 28–April 1, 2015**
Experimental Biology (EB) (APS, ASPET, ASIP, ASN, AAA, ASBMB)
Boston, MA
Contact: eb@faseb.org

**May 8–12, 2015**
IMMUNOLOGY 2015™ AAI Annual Meeting
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
New Orleans, LA
immunology2015.org

**June 14–19, 2015**
First International Convention: IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY - VACCIPHARMA 2015
Melia Marina Varadero
Varadero Beach, Cuba
scf.sld.cu

**July 11–15, 2015**
The American Society for Virology 34th Annual Scientific Meeting
The University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario, Canada
asv.org

**August 2–7, 2015**
AAI Advanced Course in Immunology
Seaport World Trade Center
Boston, MA
aai.org/Education/Courses/Advanced/index.html

**September 6–9, 2015**
ECI 205: 4th European Congress of Immunology
Vienna, Austria
eci-vienna2015.org

Track updated meeting listings anytime via the online Meetings and Events Calendar — visit http://www.aai.org/Careers/Calendar/index.html.

www.aai.org
Meetings and Events Calendar

Mark Your Calendar for These Important Dates!

October 6–9, 2015
Influenza Vaccines for the World IVW 2015
Albufeira, Portugal
meetingsmanagement.cmail2.com/t/d-l-vpity-vckugr-t

October 9–13, 2015
ASBMR 37th Annual Meeting
Seattle, WA
asbmr.org

November 5–8, 2015
14th International Workshop on Langerhans Cells
Kyoto, Japan
lc2015.jp

2016

February 18–22, 2016
2016 BMT Tandem Meeting
Honolulu, HI
cibmtr.org/Meetings/Tandem/index.html

May 13–17, 2016
IMMUNOLOGY 2016™
AAI Annual Meeting
Washington State Convention Center
Seattle, WA
aai.org/Meetings/Future_Meeting.html

August 21–26, 2016
ICI 2016: International Congress of Immunology 2016
Melbourne, Australia
ici2016.org

2017

May 12–16, 2017
IMMUNOLOGY 2017™
AAI Annual Meeting
Walter E. Washington Convention Center
Washington, D.C.
aai.org/Meetings/Future_Meeting.html
New AAI Awards Programs for 2014!

The American Association of Immunologists annually honors the research achievements and professional promise of over 850 scientists through fellowships, career awards, and travel grants. In 2014, AAI launched two exciting awards programs, adding significantly to its already robust support for scientists.

Apply at www.aai.org/awards

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JULY 15

APPLICATION DEADLINES: THE 15TH OF JUNE, OCTOBER, AND FEBRUARY

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 8-12, 2015  ERNEST N. MORIAL CONVENTION CENTER  NEW ORLEANS, LA

IMMUNOLOGY2015.org
Get a GRIP: An AAI program designed to help new investigators prepare their NIH grant proposals

AAI is pleased to offer a program to match new PIs with established PIs who have significant, successful grant-writing careers. The Grant Review for Immunologists Program (GRIP) invites new PIs to submit an outline or NIH-style abstract to the GRIP coordinator who, with the assistance of a small volunteer subcommittee, will attempt to match the topic of the proposal with the research experience of an established PI. Matches will be made as quickly as possible to allow new PIs to meet upcoming NIH grant deadlines. Participation is open only to AAI members and is strictly voluntary. The program is not intended to supplant internal mentoring programs.

GRIP is now accepting both new PI and established PI participants. Please send your CV and a brief description of either your potential research project (new PIs) or grant-reviewing experience (established PIs) to infoaai@aai.org (please write “GRIP” in the subject line).

Program details at aai.org/Education/GRIP