

W DEPARTMENT of IMMUNOLOGY

NEWSLETTER — NOV. 2016



ADVANCING UNDERSTANDING OF THE FUNCTION OF THE IMMUNE SYSTEM, ENHANCING OUR ABILITY TO FIGHT INFECTIOUS DISEASE, CANCER AND AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE



NEW FACULTY: Welcome Dr. Jakob von Moltke



The Department of Immunology continues to grow, and this past September we welcomed our newest Assistant Professor, Dr. Jakob von Moltke, who comes to us from UCSF. Jakob's received a BA in Genetics, Cell and Developmental Biology from Dartmouth College and a Masters of Arts in Biotechnology from Columbia University. He earned his PhD in Molecular

and Cell Biology from the UC, Berkeley, working with Dr. Russel Vance on Type I immune responses. Jakob was awarded the prestigious Weintraub Graduate Student Award for his thesis research in the Vance lab. Jakob then went on to UCSF and completed his postdoctoral training working on Type 2 allergic immune responses against parasitic worms in Dr. Richard Locksley's lab; work he will continue here at the UW. There Jakob was awarded a Damon Runyon Postdoctoral Fellowship. We are extraordinarily pleased to welcome Jakob to the department!

HIGHLIGHTS and UPDATES

- * The Center for Innate Immunity and Immune Disease (CIID) had its first Symposium in July 2016 to an overflow audience. CIID



Dr. Mike Gale and a student at CIID Symposium

Scholars held a series of eight lectures for early scientists at the undergrad and high school levels. CIID also organized Immunology laboratory tours for high school and community college students with

- hands-on experiences and a talk about the Zika virus.
- * Careers in Immunology Series: The department kicked off a new careers initiative in 2016 focused on exposing Immunology postdocs and grad students to the careers of scientists outside of academia. Our first alumni panel geared towards biotech and research careers consisted of Courtney Beers, Jason Fontenot, Jordan Jarjour and Alice Wiedeman. A second panel is planned for March 2017 with alumni from foundations, Science Writer/Editor, Patent Law, Development and other Teaching Careers.
- * New Affiliate Assistant Professor: Dr. Naeha Subramanian, from the Institute for Systems Biology (ISB) joined the department Feb. 2016.
- * The Russell and Rae Weiser Endowed Lecture was given this year by Dr. K. Chris Garcia from Stanford.
- * The 2015–16 Seminar Series was very successful – a big 'Thank you' to the Benaroya Research Institute for their continued, generous support.

MESSAGE from the CHAIR



Dr. Joan Goverman
Professor and Chair

This past April, we underwent a rigorous review of our Graduate Program. This is the first review since 2003, and I am pleased to report that the Reviewers were extremely impressed with our graduate program and our department as a whole. They commented that "the Department has a well-deserved and outstanding reputation as one of the top Immunology programs in the country", and noted that we "excelled at recruiting an impressive cohort of junior faculty, which have been successfully integrated into the department and the training program". Our graduate program is highly competitive: applications increased by 40% over the previous year, our acceptance rates are near 10% and approximately 40% of applicants offered positions matriculate in the program. I want to thank everyone in the department, past and present, for helping us achieve excellence in all that we do!

If you would like to contribute to the mission and vision of the Department of Immunology visit Our Giving Page at <http://bit.ly/1Nm7MOj> select "Fund for Excellence in Immunology"

Make A Gift

GRADUATE PROGRAM UPDATE

- * We welcomed six new graduate students to the Immunology Graduate Program this year: Fahd Al Qureshah, Nick Hubbard, Gerald Kellar, Joanna Maltbaek, Jack McGinty and Marija Nadsombati.
- * Seven Immunology graduate students defended their PhD degrees: Travis Friesen (Fink Lab), Chrissie Lim (Ram Lab), Tennille Thelen and Andrea Valladao (Ziegler Lab), Akshay Krishnamurthy (Pepper Lab), Mike Stolley (Campbell Lab) and Kathleen Pestal (Stetson Lab).
- * Two MCB graduate students in Immunology labs also defended their PhD degrees: Katie Brempelis (Crispe Lab) and Alyssa Sheih (Ziegler Lab).
- * Our graduate students and postdocs took home the most awards of any institution at the 55th Midwinter Conf. of Immunologists. Congrats to: Akshay Krishnamurthy and Nicole Arroyo (Pepper Lab), Kristen Mittelstaedt (Campbell Lab), Simon Glatigny, PhD, (Bettelli Lab) and Mridu Acharya, PhD, (Lacy-Hulbert Lab).
- * Titus Award: Graduate student Ty Crowl (Stetson Lab) is the first student to receive the Dept. of Immunology's new Titus Fellowship. This fund is made possible by a bequest from Dr. Richard G. Titus, who received a PhD in the Dept. of Microbiology and Immunology at the UW in 1977 under the mentorship of Dr. Russell Weiser. Dr. Titus felt that he owed the opportunity to pursue a career that he loved to the training he received in immunology as a PhD student, and he requested that this endowment be used to support graduate student training in Immunology at the UW. We hope to award this fellowship every other year.
- * Assistant Professor Dr. Michael Gerner and Graduate



Program Coordinator Sandy Turner engaged many interested students and potential applicants to our program at the 2016 Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) conference in Long Beach, California.

- * Thank you to graduate students Joey Leal and Rudy Nazitto for hosting the Immunology Graduate Program booth at the UW Grad School Fair in October. The annual fair is open to all undergraduate students interested in learning more about UW graduate programs.



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DAN STETSON NAMED HHMI FACULTY SCHOLAR



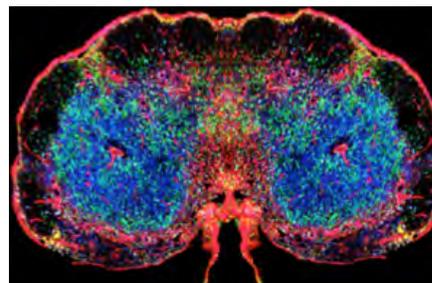
Immunology Associate Professor Dr. Dan Stetson was one of three UW School of Medicine faculty named Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Faculty Scholars, a program created to spur discovery among early-career investigators seen as leaders in their fields. Congrats Dan!

2016 DEPARTMENT RETREAT

The 27th Annual Department of Immunology Retreat was held at the Sleeping Lady Conference Center in Leavenworth, Washington; we were surrounded by towering mountains and majestic evergreens. Dr. Carl June, from U Penn provided the keynote presentation. Members of the Immunology Department and their colleagues shared a day and a half of scientific presentations from faculty, postdocs and students as well as some fun social activities (retreat pictures on page three). Congratulations to poster award winners Johannes Schwerk, PhD, (top left Postdoctoral Research Associate) in the Ram Lab, and Ty Crowl (bottom left) Graduate Student in the Stetson Lab. A special thank you to the Sandra L. Clark Immunology Education Fund for its support of the graduate student award; the postdoc award is sponsored by the department.



ABOUT THE BANNER IMAGE

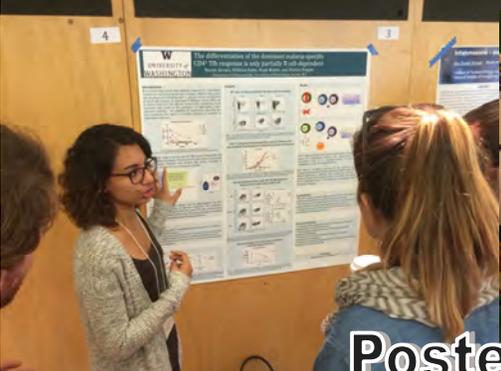


This image is a mouse lymph node, where different innate (green), adaptive (blue) and stromal (red) cells were visualized with confocal microscopy. The Gerner Lab

utilizes cutting-edge microscopy tools, such as 2-photon intra-vital microscopy, multi-parameter whole-organ confocal microscopy and analytical Histo-Cytometry.



2016 Retreat

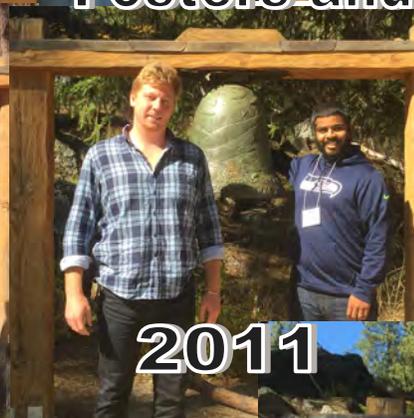


Posters and Presentations

Our Grad Students



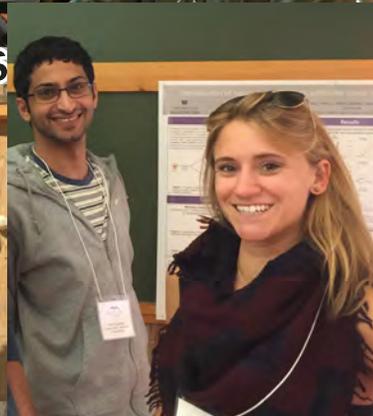
2010



2011



2012



2013



2014



2015



2016

(This photo includes Immunology and prospective MCB students)

