

ACMCIP SUBGROUP
(AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON MOLECULAR, CELLULAR AND IMMUNOPARASITOLOGY)

Subgroup Meeting Minutes

Sunday, November 2, 2014
3:30 – 5:30 pm, Le Galerie 4
New Orleans Marriott
New Orleans, LA

President: Julian Rayner, PhD

Secretary/Treasurer: Niraj H. Tolia, PhD

In Attendance:

Julian Rayner, PhD, President
Manoj Duraisingh, PhD, Immediate Past President
Niraj Tolia, PhD, Secretary/Treasurer
José Stoute, MD, Immediate Past Secretary/Treasurer
Timothy Yoshino, PhD, Communication councilor
Amy Bei, Post-doc and student councilor
John Adams, PhD, Councilor
Rick Fairhurst, PhD, FASTMH, Councilor
Akhil Vaidya, PhD, Emissary from MBL Molecular Parasitology Meeting

- I. The meeting came to order at 3:45 p.m.
- II. **Planned Activities for the Committee:** The Committee discussed the institution of three new awards. The first award, to be named after Dr. William Trager, will honor a senior investigator with noted accomplishments within the Society. There was some discussion on whether to honor specific research breakthroughs, or to make it a broader career recognition award; there was strong support for the former. ASTMH has granted an annual budget of \$1500 to spend on training, there was some discussion about how to best use this. Two new training awards were discussed, an ACMCIP travel award for low and low-middle Income (LMIC) trainees that will enable LMIC trainees who are conducting basic parasitology research to participate in the Annual Meeting, and an ACMCIP Award for Advanced Training to enable trainees to attend practical training courses in the fields of molecular, cellular or immunoparasitology. The goal is to institute all three awards in time to be awarded at the 2015 meeting.
Action: JR to draft outline of Trager award and circulate; JR to contact Trager family to ask whether William Trager's name can be used
Action: AB to draft LMIC trainee award outline and circulate
Action: TY to draft Advanced Training award outline and circulate
- III. **Further Training Activities:** The two trainee awards above arose from suggestions by Drs. Yoshino and Rayner to further the Committee's support of training activities. An award to support a trainee with the best oral presentation in the ACMCIP sessions to attend the next Wood's Hole Molecular Parasitology Meeting (MPM) was raised by Dr. Duraisingh. This award would be analogous and reciprocal to the MPM award that enables selected trainees from the MPM meeting to present at ASTMH. Dr. Vaidya pointed out that the MPM organizing committee rotates every three years, and while there was support from the current committee (of which he is a member), the new committee should be approached when it is formed.
Action: MD to continue ongoing discussions about further deepening links between ACMCIP and MPM
- IV. **Symposium suggestions:** Suggestions for the annual ACMCIP Symposium for 2015 were sought, and three were raised: 1) Epigenetics, 2) Microbiome, and 3) Biology of Vaccines. Further opinions and decision to be made by e-mail.
Action: JR to follow up and finalize Symposium title and speakers
- V. **Pre-meeting course suggestions:** Suggestions for the annual Basic Science pre-meeting course were sought, and Dr. Adams suggested "*In vitro* and *in vivo* models of parasitic disease".
Action: JA to lead development of course, in collaboration with Christine Petersen
- VI. **Elections:** Dr. Duraisingh nominated Niraj Tolia, PhD as Secretary/Treasurer. The motion was seconded and all members present voted unanimously.
- VII. **Certificates:** Awarded to the best abstracts from students/post-docs from the Woods Hole Molecular Parasitology meeting.
- Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF MOLECULAR, CELLULAR AND IMMUNOPARASITOLOGY (ACMCIP)

Executive Council Membership

Member	Position	Terms
Julian Rayner	President	2015
Manoj Duraisingh	Past President	2015
Niraj Tolia	Secretary/Treasurer	2015
Rick Fairhurst	Councilor	2015
Timothy Yoshino	Councilor for Communications	2015
Amy Bei	Councilor for Trainees	2015

CHARTER OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF MOLECULAR, CELLULAR AND IMMUNOPARASITOLOGY

Objectives

The American Committee of Molecular, Cellular and Immunoparasitology (ACMCIP) is organized under the auspices of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) and has the following objectives:

1. To promote an organization that facilitates interactions among scientists who work in the varied disciplines of parasitology, especially in basic laboratory, pre-clinical and translational research, clinician sciences and population-based sciences.
2. To foster transfer of fundamental discoveries in basic research to applications that improve human health and to promote learning basic science aspects of parasitic diseases from humans afflicted with parasitic diseases.
3. To sponsor symposia or workshops to promote advanced research in medical parasitology.
4. To facilitate recruitment and training in the most recent advances in medical parasitology.
5. To recognize outstanding contributions to parasitology.
6. To coordinate interactions and activities with other organizations and sponsored meetings to promote the objectives of ACMCIP.
7. ACMCIP will meet at least annually under the aegis of the ASTMH Annual Meeting.

Membership

Membership will require attendance at the annual business meeting of ACMCIP, as certified by a sign-up sheet circulated at the meeting.

Established investigators will be assessed an annual fee of \$25.00 per year. No fee will be charged to post-doctoral or pre-doctoral trainees. Membership will continue unless a member is absent from three consecutive annual business meetings. A former member may reinstate membership by attendance at any subsequent annual business meeting of ACMCIP. ACMCIP will establish a fund for voluntary donations to be managed by ASTMH. Funds will be used for activities that further the objectives of ACMCIP, including receptions, annual awards, fellowships and international training opportunities, payment of page charges in the *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene* for qualifying articles (eg. editorials, topical reviews, symposium proceedings, cutting-edge papers, etc.).

Organization

There will be an elected leadership in the form of an Executive Council. The membership of the Executive Council should reflect the wide diversity of ASTMH, include a diverse set of disciplines and be international in scope. There will be an elected Chair. Councilors will be elected to represent the major aspects of molecular, immunological, biochemical, cell biological and clinical field aspects of medical parasitology. There will be an annual business meeting of ACMCIP during the ASTMH Annual Meeting. Administration of ACMCIP will be done in close relationship to the ASTMH office and the chair of the program committee. Subcommittees will be formed to deal with important issues such as awards, training initiatives, fundraising, interfacing with the *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, planning of ACMCIP-supported symposia and workshops at the ASTMH Annual Meeting, to coordinate the selection of speakers from the Woods Hole Molecular Parasitology meeting and the Woods Hole Immunoparasitology meeting to present at the ASTMH Annual Meeting.