

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

Subgroup Meeting Minutes

Sunday, November 13, 2016

3:30 – 5:30 pm

Marriot – Room 302

Atlanta Marriott Marquis

Atlanta, GA USA

President: Julian Rayner, PhD

Secretary/Treasurer: John Adams, PhD

Council Members

President: Julian Rayner, Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute

Incoming President: Christine Petersen, University of Iowa

Immediate Past President: Manoj Duraisingh, Harvard School of Public Health

Secretary/Treasurer: John Adams, University of South Florida

Councilor for Communications: Timothy Yoshino, University of Wisconsin

Councilor from Trainees: Rich Davis, University of Iowa

Councilor for International Membership: Andres Lescano, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia

Councilor: Rick Fairhurst, National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

- I. Introduction of attendees
- II. Highlights discussion of ACMCIP activities
 - a. ACMCIP awards:
 - i. LMIC, \$1000
 - ii. Advanced training, \$750
 - iii. Trager award, \$1000
 - b. Efforts to increase ACMCIP balance sheet to enhance programmatic offerings:
 - i. more members
 - ii. fund raising to endow awards
 - c. Awards: was the process of deciding Trager award appropriate?
 - i. Yes, there was a very high quality cadre of candidates
 - ii. There are quite a few were disqualified because seminal paper outside of 2-10 previous 10 years
 - iii. LMIC & advanced training also highly competitive 8-9 very well qualified applicants
 - iv. There is still a need to increase visibility to potential new members within ASTMH and outside community
 - d. Communication to membership
 - i. The goal is to provide 2-3 newsletters per year, chronologically:
 1. meeting review, mid-year update, pre-view;
 2. network meeting during the conference, with beverages;
 3. timing is problematic.
 - ii. Should ACMCIP have its own twitter account and/or utilize other social media (e.g., twitter was successfully during MPM 2016)
 - iii. Create a session for opportunities to bring in people?
 - e. Next year's ASTMH meeting is in Baltimore
 - i. Potential symposium topics: cellular immunology, antigenic variation/host-pathogen interactions; correlates of protection; single cell biology; novel insights in parasite biology; parasite vaccines; technological approaches for parasite vaccines;
 - ii. Potential pre-meeting course topics: technological approaches for parasite vaccines; single cell biology; microbiome interactions and involvement in parasitism; ?
 - f. Should we reorganize ACMCIP council?
 - i. Consider re-distribute responsibilities to individual council members
 1. awards: intl councilor, past President
 2. communication: councilor, sec-treasurer
 3. trainee events: Rick Fairhurst, councilor for trainee
 4. symposium + scientific session: President
 - ii. term limits for councilors
 - g. Resources for trainees
 - h. Interactions with other meetings?

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

Subgroup Meeting Minutes

Sunday, October 25, 2015
3:30 – 5:30 pm
Marriot – Room 302
Philadelphia Marriott Downtown
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

President: Julian Rayner, PhD
Secretary/Treasurer: Niraj H. Tolia, PhD

In Attendance:

Julian Rayner, PhD, President
Niraj Tolia, PhD, Secretary/Treasurer
Timothy Yoshino, PhD, Councilor for Communication
Amy Bei, PhD, Councilor for Trainees
Manoj Duraisingh, PhD, Past President
John Adams, PhD, Councilor
Rick Fairhurst, MD, PhD, Councilor
Christine Peterson, PhD, Councilor
Andres (Willy) Lescano, PhD, Councilor
Kyle Dennis, PhD, Councilor

I. The meeting came to order at 3:40 p.m. Minutes of the last Council Meeting were discussed and all action items completed. President (Julian Rayner) and Secretary/Treasurer (Niraj Tolia) provided reports.

II. Planned Activities for the Committee:

a. The Committee discussed avenues to increase membership. Manoj Duraisingh, Julian Rayner and Rick Fairhurst all suggested reinventing name. Julian Rayner and Timothy Yoshino suggested using the handle 'parasitology' on all mailings but retaining ACMCIP as official title.

b. The Trager award, named after Dr. William Trager, was initiated in the past year to honor a senior investigator with noted accomplishments within the Society. However, poor response led to limited nominations for this award. The Committee discussed methods to increase the number of applicants including advertising at the Molecular Parasitology Meeting, advertising in *AJTMH*, targeting group leaders in ACMCIP for nominations, and soliciting a list of nominators. Manoj Duraisingh suggested that ACMCIP Committee members should not nominate applicants to ensure transparency.

Action: Rick Fairhurst and Timothy Yoshino to contact Judy DeAcetis to investigate cost and methods of advertising in *AJTMH*.

Action: Rick Fairhurst to communicate to Council when nominations are open.

Action: Julian Rayner to investigate physical cost of award with *ASTMH*.

Action: All members to suggest nominators with contact information (email) to Niraj Tolia.

c. The communications strategy was reviewed and it was settled on three newsletter mailings through the ACMCIP email lists.

III. Further Training Activities:

a. Two new training awards were initiated in the past year, 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 number of applications was high for both awards, several worthy candidates were identified, and awards were made. Julian Rayner suggested maintaining the two awards for 2-3 years before adjusting.

b. New networking initiatives were discussed. The trainees in attendance agreed that additional networking events would be of interest. Christine Petersen suggested a day long boot camp to include networking opportunities and grant writing training – similar to the summer scholars offered by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund. Andres Lescano emphasized the need to include international scholars. Niraj Tolia raised concern that a separate boot camp on a distinct day may limit networking interactions. Julian Rayner suggested a shortened 3-4 hour event within the main meeting with structure. Timothy Yoshino suggested coordinating networking event with T32 driven symposium.

Action: Christine Petersen to find a reasonable time for networking idea. Base it on global health networking event. Find out what is relevant to ACMCIP.

- c. Trainees suggested increasing avenues for mentorship. Manoj Duraisingh raised idea of assigning mentors to trainees for networking purposes. Amy Bei also requested that ACMCIP should seed exchange and feedback on grants and fellowships similar to a virtual study section.
- d. Trainees requested additional fellowships for LMIC working in the US, and for trainees to train in another PI's laboratory. Manoj Duraisingh indicated additional fellowships would require additional advocacy and John Adams raised the point that this could be done through joint efforts with BWF, Wellcome Trust, and Gates foundation.

Action: Julian Rayner and Christine Petersen should take lead on this and write a white paper.

- IV. Symposium suggestions:** Suggestions for the annual ACMCIP Symposium for 2016 were sought, and three were raised: 1) Field/Molecular Interface, 2) Chemical Biology, and 3) Biology of Parasitic Vaccines. Further opinions and decision to be made by e-mail.

Action: Julian Rayner 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 Manoj Duraisingh suggested Chemical Biology.

Action: Finalize course, identify and solicit course leaders.

- VI. Elections:** Manoj Duraisingh nominated Christine Peterson, PhD as President. The motion was seconded and all members present voted unanimously. Manoj Duraisingh nominated John Adams, PhD as Secretary/Treasurer. The motion was seconded and all members present voted unanimously. Rich Davis nominated as Councilor for Trainees with Amy Bei, PhD to overlap. Manoj Duraisingh nominated Andres Lescano as Councilor for International Outreach. 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 17:18 p.m.

AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF MOLECULAR, CELLULAR AND IMMUNOPARASITOLOGY (ACMCIP)

2017 Executive Council Membership

Member	Position	Terms
Christine Petersen	President	2018
Julian Rayner	Past President	2017
John Adams	Secretary/Treasurer	2017
Manoj Duraisingh	Councilor	2017
Rick Fairhurst	Councilor	2017
Michael Ferdig	Councilor	2017
Timothy Yoshino	Councilor for Communications	2017
Andres Lescano	International Councilor	2017
Richard Davis	Councilor for Trainees	2017

2016 Executive Council Membership

Julian Rayner	President	2016
Christine Petersen	President-Elect	2016
Manoj Duraisingh	Past President	2016
John Adams	Secretary/Treasurer	2017
Rick Fairhurst	Councilor	2017
Timothy Yoshino	Councilor for Communications	2017
Andres Lescano	International Councilor	2017
Richard Davis	Councilor Trainees	2017

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.

Awards

ACMCIP Award for Low and Low Middle Income Trainees

Award Recipients

2016

Emna Harigua Souiai
Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tunisia

2015

Abel Nathan
Madurai Kamaraj University, India

ACMCIP Award for Advanced Training

Award Recipients

2016

Vanessa Moraes
Oswaldo Cruz Foundation

2015

Heidi Hillesland
University of Washington

William Trager Award for Basic Parasitology



Award Recipients

2016

Stefan Kappe
Center for Infectious Disease Research