

i-SLB is an official publication of the Society for Leukocyte Biology

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INTRODUCING *i-SLB*

We're excited to introduce the inaugural issue of *i-SLB*, our new electronic newsletter. We learned from the membership survey that we conducted a few months back that you prefer shorter, more frequent, and electronic communication. Our aim is to provide our members with services that are most appealing and useful to them. You wrote, we listened, and we responded. We intend to continue in this fashion.

You'll be receiving *i-SLB* at least quarterly, and possibly more often as needs dictate. In it, you'll find information on upcoming meetings (both SLB's and others of interest to SLB members), Council deliberations and decisions, committee activities, and even an editorial or two from time to time by various members on issues important and interesting to us all.

As you read *i-SLB*, please don't hesitate to contact us with additional ideas for content. Remember, *i-SLB* is **your** newsletter. You can submit suggestions, and yes, even articles, to the Editor at slb@faseb.org.



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Matthew Fenton's term as President of SLB set a high standard for those who follow him in that office. Under Matthew's stewardship, the *Journal of Leukocyte Biology* thrived, led by Editor-in-Chief Joe Oppenheim and Managing Editor Amy H. Imming, and the SLB hosted

two excellent annual meetings, in San Antonio and in Boston, as well as guest symposia at meetings of other scientific societies. Matthew's steady leadership in all of SLB's undertakings in the past two years has earned him both the gratitude of the membership as well as the expectation of his continued sage advice in his new capacity as Past President.

As new leadership assumes responsibility for SLB, we recognize anew why we associate together in the collective we call SLB. From my perspective, three themes define the overall mission of SLB. First, SLB promotes communication of excellent science, with the particular focus on the biology, both normal and pathologic, of leukocytes, their affiliated cells, and associated soluble factors. Although most narrowly seen in the context of leukocyte-mediated host defense against microbial threats, the focus of leukocyte biology quickly blurs into something much larger, because of the intrinsic contribution of leukocytes to such a wide array of biological phenomena: tumor surveillance, wound healing and remodeling, oncogenesis, graft vs host disease, atherosclerosis, degenerative neurologic

disease, and others. Given the far-reaching biological connections of leukocytes, the second defining attribute of SLB logically follows: SLB is an inclusive organization, incorporating seemingly unrelated vantage points into the unified and overriding theme of leukocyte biology (and beyond). The relatively small size of SLB facilitates adoption of an integrated view of this complex biology, as common overall interests imbue the membership with a spirit of community, the third characteristic of SLB. As an integral part of the communal spirit, SLB directs both attention and resources towards engaging and mentoring the next generation of leukocyte biologists, the students, postdoctoral scientists, and junior faculty who represent the future of the field.

With these three complementary themes in mind — scientific excellence, an integrated appreciation of leukocyte biology, and a sense of community within the membership — we enthusiastically look to SLB's future. We anticipate that the *Journal* will continue to provide a first-rate vehicle for publishing the best and most innovative work in the field. The 2008 annual meeting, **Leukocytes: Tissue Interactions, Homeostasis and Host Defense**, set for November 6-8 in Denver, promises to be outstanding, with its title echoing the mantra of SLB. To gauge how well we meet your expectations of SLB, we recently circulated a survey to the membership to poll your opinions on several issues. We will use the feedback to guide us in initiating any necessary changes that can improve the leukocyte biology community. Efforts are already underway to make our website more informative and useful to the membership. We plan to initiate new programs at the local level to support and

promote interest in leukocyte biology among students and postdoctoral scientists, so look to the improved website soon for announcements of new opportunities.

As is true for any community, our vitality and continued improvement require input from all of our members, so please offer feedback and advice whenever you feel the need.

It is our good fortune that we embark on these new projects with an experienced guide newly added to our leadership. Cliff Brownstein, the new Executive Director of SLB, has extensive experience managing professional associations, including owning and serving as Chief Operating Officer of association management companies before joining the FASEB organization. Over the last decade, Cliff has managed or consulted with a wide range of professional medical and scientific organizations, including the Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, Congress of Neurological Surgeons, International Association of Forensic Nurses, American College of Radiation Oncology, Society for Mucosal Immunology,

American College of Foot and Ankle Orthopedics & Medicine, and others. His experience, coupled with his passion for motorcycling and baseball, make Cliff an important asset and collaborator in our moving SLB into the future.

We aim to have our members genuinely feel that SLB represents their scientific interests and provides opportunities to meet and engage like-minded (and not so like-minded) leukocyte biologists on professional and personal levels. Furthermore, we envision an SLB whose scientific excellence and collegiality foster deeply felt and long lasting allegiance in its members. Please join us and as engaged members invest your energy and insights in the SLB community.

William M. Nauseef, MD
SLB President

HAVE WE GOT A DEAL FOR YOU!!!

At SLB, the hits just keep coming! Starting with our upcoming 2008 Annual Meeting in Denver, we're offering a terrific **"3 for 2" deal** to labs submitting posters and attending the meeting. For a lab with two students/postdocs submitting posters (two posters), a third lab member can register for the Meeting for free! The third attendee may be the principal investigator, or may be someone else. However, all three must be SLB members before attending the Meeting.

So, whether you're a junior faculty member, a student, or a postdoctoral scholar—take advantage of this generous offer and make plans to attend the SLB 41st Annual Meeting in threes—you'll only pay for two. That adds up to a great deal in our book!

BE THE FIRST ON YOUR BLOCK TO INITIATE AN SLB-SPONSORED JOURNAL CLUB MEETING

SLB is very excited to announce a brand-new program designed to support local discussion groups (e.g. Journal clubs, work-in-progress sessions) dedicated to the broad field of leukocyte biology. We encourage you to form a group and sign up for our **Pizza and Pubs** program.

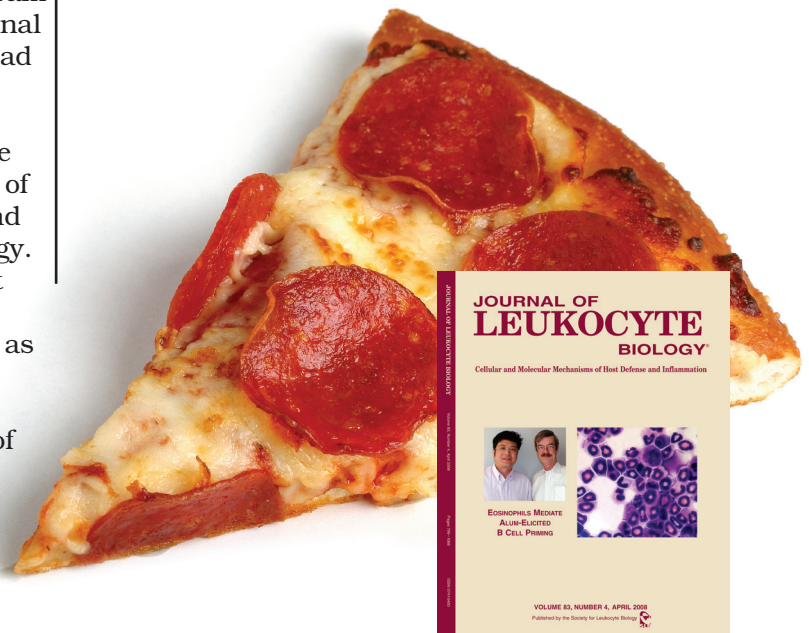
SLB will provide \$200 per year to local groups to be used at their regular meetings. This can buy you a lot of pizza! It can also buy a lot of interesting discussion and interaction about the exciting world of leukocyte biology.

To qualify, your group needs to have at least eight people, of which at least two must be PIs who are SLB members, and one student/postdoc who will join SLB as a new member.

To apply, simply send us an email (slb@faseb.org) with the names and email addresses of the members of your group, indicate the two individuals who are current members, provide a brief description of the lab group/journal club/discussion group, and furnish a paid application for a student membership (you may download this off the SLB Web site, www.leukocytebiology.org). Feel free to sign up more

than just one student. The more, the merrier!

We look forward to seeing many **Pizza and Pubs** groups forming around the country and abroad.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING SLB MEETINGS

If you haven't already marked your calendars for these upcoming SLB Annual Meetings, be sure to block out the dates now.

SLB's 41st Annual Meeting
November 6-8, 2008
The Westin Tabor Center
Denver, Colorado

“Leukocytes: Tissue Interactions, Homeostasis, and Host Defense”

Click on [2008 Meeting Program](#) for details on the program.

Special Satellite Symposium
Sunday, November 9, 2008
8 am - 12 noon
The Westin Tabor Center
Denver, Colorado

“Alcohol, Leukocytes, and Host Defense”

This is a special add-on symposium jointly supported by:
The Alcohol Research Program, The Burn and Shock Trauma Institute,
and The Department of Surgery, Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood, IL;
the Alcohol and Immunology Research Group (AIRG); the Society for Leukocyte Biology (SLB); and
The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA).

Click on [Alcohol, Leukocytes, and Host Defense](#)
for more information.

SLB's 42nd Annual Meeting
October 18-21, 2009
Lisbon Centre de Congressos
Lisbon, Portugal

“Cellular and Cytokine Interactions in Health and Disease”

We are excited to announce that this will be a joint meeting with both
the International Cytokine Society and the International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research.
Watch this space and our Web site for additional details as they develop.