



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

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Happy New Year and welcome to the 2010 *iSLB*! Starting with this issue, I am assuming the editorial responsibilities for *iSLB*, an activity previously executed by the SLB President. I will endeavor to make *iSLB* an efficient mechanism to provide you with useful insights into what's happening in SLB — the new initiatives, opportunities for members to participate in SLB activities, updates on the upcoming annual meeting, interesting developments at the *Journal*, and other information likely to interest you. The current issue includes the inaugural President's Comments from incoming president Liz Kovacs, an update on developments with *JLB* from Editor-in-Chief Luis Montaner, new information about the 2010 annual meeting in Vancouver, and announcements of two new liaisons with members of the European Phagocyte Group and the European Macrophage and Dendritic Cell Society. Please take a few minutes from your busy schedule to relax and bring yourself up-to-speed on some of the new and exciting happenings in **your** Society for Leukocyte Biology!



Silvia Uriarte, iSLB Editor

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

While it might sound corny, SLB has been a part of my academic career ever since I can remember. I literally grew up with the Society, joining as a postdoctoral fellow and being an active member, attending nearly every meeting for the past 2 decades. Unlike many

other Societies, I found that at SLB meetings, the "famous people," as I used to call them, were visible and accessible and that appealed to me as I developed as an independent scientist. I volunteered to serve on committees as a junior faculty member and was elected to the council twice, first as a beginning Assistant Professor, in 1991, and again in 2004. Now, as I take over the presidency, I reflect on my past/continued affiliation with the Society, what I have gained from the Society and what it has done for me and my career.

A few things stand out in my mind as hallmarks of SLB. 1) The meetings whether solo or jointly organized with other Societies have always focused on outstanding science and have often been held in phenomenal locations. 2) Inclusion of trainees (students and

postdoctoral fellows) both on the Program and at the meetings has always been of great importance to the Society. Meetings continue to have large numbers of oral presentations selected from submitted abstracts, many of which had students and postdoctoral fellows as the first author. Additionally, the Council has devoted up to \$60,000 (Yes, that is \$60,000!!!) in travel award funds for students, postdocs to attend the meetings. Beginning in 2010, junior faculty will also be eligible for travel awards. For those of you reading this, I encourage you to apply for these travel awards. As many of you who know me will remember, my personal motto is "If you don't ask, you won't get."

While my predecessor, Bill Nauseef accomplished quite a bit during his 2 year term as President, we still have much more to do. We have noted the response to surveys sent to the membership after the 2008 and 2009 meetings. From this, and other feedback from Society members, we have established two new task forces: 1) Professional Development and 2) Women & Diversity. Both are staffed by member volunteers. Look for exciting developments from these groups in the near future.

*Elizabeth Kovacs,
SLB President 2010-2011*



NEW AT JLB: E-JLB AND TECHNICAL ADVANCES NOW INVITED



JLB will be providing to all SLB members a new *JLB* finished format to arrive by e-mail and to be only accessible through a browser program — “e-*JLB*.” As a digital issue format of *JLB*, this print-like format allows readers to use an interactive pdf to “leaf through” the material as if it were a hard copy. When you

click directly on any article, you will be directed to the online pdf file. Alternatively, you can “read” through the pages of e-*JLB* by clicking on the specific article as listed in the Table of Contents. Please be sure you test out e-*JLB* when you receive the link by e-mail, as it is pretty cool. Note too that each issue link will be available for browsing for 60 days after publication.

Under a new manuscript category, Technical Advance, *JLB* will be accepting submissions that describe novel methods of significant interest to our readership. Note that we will review and publish only those articles that match our readership’s interest; we do not intend to make *JLB* a methods journal. If you have a new and exciting method or technical advance that suits *JLB*’s areas of interest, we would love to get your submission. We are ready to publish it.

Luis Montaner,
JLB from Editor-in-Chief

THE EUROPEAN MACROPHAGE AND DENDRITIC CELL SOCIETY

The European Macrophage and Dendritic Cell Society (EMDS, www.macrophage.de) was officially founded in 1999. It is committed to promote science in the field by running an annual conference and by supporting young scientists. The annual conferences are attended by 150 to 250 scientists with young scientists forming a strong group. There are no parallel sessions and a large part of the oral presentations are taken from the submitted abstracts. The conference always has a theme, which is defined by the conference organizers. The 2009 meeting in Regensburg, Germany focused on ‘Phenotypic Diversity of Macrophages and Dendritic Cells in Tissues and Organs’ while the 2010 meeting in Edinburgh, United Kingdom will emphasize systems biology and infection (www.emdsmeeing.eu). On top of these topics the conference always addresses basic and clinical aspects. Typically a special issue containing reviews and original articles by conference participants is edited by the conference organizer(s). Support to young scientists is given via travel awards and poster prizes.

WEB REMINDER

If you haven’t done so already, please check out the new SLB web site at www.leukocytebiology.org. This web site is the result of months of hard work by our web site task force, chaired by Miki Rahat. The new web site offers many new features including a members only membership directory, online payment of dues, more information on the society and online discussion boards.

LOSS OF A VALUED COLLEAGUE

The biomedical scientific community suffered a great loss on January 10, 2010 with the unexpected death of Gary M. Bokoch. For more than two decades, Gary has been a prominent figure in the world of phagocyte biology and a leading investigator with respect to elucidating the importance of low molecular weight G proteins in neutrophil motility, understanding the molecular basis of signal transduction during phagocyte activation, and detailing the fine regulation of the NADPH oxidase. Gary’s expertise in the cell biology of phagocytes was recognized internationally, and his creativity and intellectual rigor will be sorely missed. Gary is survived by his wife Janet and two daughters, Jennifer and Rebecca. Donations may be made to The National Kidney Association or the American Heart Association. A more detailed reflection on Gary’s scientific contributions to the field is planned for an upcoming issue of *Journal of Leukocyte Biology*.

CHANGES TO THE SLB COUNCIL

In January this year SLB says goodbye to three council members and welcomes three new council members.

Outgoing members – please join us in expressing our deepest appreciation for their service to SLB:

Matthew Fenton,

Past-President and Council Member
Michelle Swanson, Council Member

Joost Oppenheim, Council Member
Incoming Members – please join us in expressing congratulations and appreciation for their willingness to serve SLB.

Jill Suttles, President Elect
Robert Stout, Council Member
Sarah Gaffen, Council Member

New Emeritus Members

SLB would like to congratulate the

following members on achieving Emeritus Status:

John Ortaldo;
Robert J. Smith
Robert O. Webster
Joe Brice Weinberg

SLB members who have been active members for 10 or more years and are at least 65 years old may request Emeritus Status.

Vancouver

The Three Rs of Immunity

WELCOME TO VANCOUVER 2010!

As I write this, the 2010 Winter Olympics are in full swing here in Vancouver. When we've gotten through this, and fortress Vancouver returns to its normal self, then the real excitement begins with the countdown to the 2010 Joint Annual Meeting of the Society for Leukocyte Biology and the International Endotoxin and Innate Immunity Society, **The Three Rs of Immunity**, October 7-9, 2010. Though right now there are no guarantees about the snow conditions for the Olympics, we can promise you great science and lots of exciting new data in October when Vancouver will be basking in a post-Olympic glow. So come to learn from five exciting plenary sessions focused on *Recognition, Response and Resolution* of the immune response, *Innate Immunity and Sepsis* and *Genetic Determinants of Innate Immune Responses*. These plenary sessions will be complemented by 12 exciting symposia spanning broad interests including: Purinergic Receptors and Immunity, Soluble

Pattern Recognition Receptors, Regulatory Myeloid Cells, Exosomes in Immunity, Leukocytic Phagolysosomes, the TH17 Axis and Dendritic Cells, Non-Conventional, Non-Myeloid Cells in Bridging Innate and Adaptive Immunity, Regulation of LPS Signaling, The Inflammasome System, Host-Microbe Interactions, LPS Structure and Function, and The Phylogeny of Innate Immunity. All of the scientific sessions promise to be podium performances that will bring gold medal luster to a great 2010 joint meeting for the societies. Set in the vibrant Vancouver city center offering great and varied cuisine, just minutes from the sea and mountains and a short drive from British Columbia's beautiful Okanagan wine country, you won't want to miss this opportunity. On behalf of my co-organizers, we look forward to welcoming you here in October 2010.

Neil Reiner

IMPORTANT ANNUAL MEETING DATES:

March, 2010: Abstract submission opens at www.SLBIEIIS2010.org

July 16, 2010: Abstract submission deadline.

August 1, 2010: Early Bird Registration Deadline

October 7-9, 2010: Meeting!

EUROPEAN PHAGOCYTE GROUP

SLB has formed a loose affiliation with the European Phagocyte Group, an informal group of scientists formed around the annual European Phagocyte Workshop. Those meetings are held at various European cities (most recent ones included Frankfurt, Geneva and Uppsala) under the umbrella of the Annual Meeting of the European Society for Clinical Investigation and attract 80-100 phagocyte biologists from Europe and overseas. The next meeting will be held February 24-27, 2010 in Bari, Italy. See www.phagocytes.net or www.esci.eu.com for more details.

The group also hosts a website www.phagocytes.net with various phagocyte-related information and manages a Google Group service (groups.google.com/group/phagocytes) to announce phagocyte-related events and share other phagocyte-related information. The Phagocytes Google Group currently has approx. 600 members worldwide. It is a restricted service exclusively for registered members; hence it cannot be used to distribute spam or other advertisement. On average, not more than 2-3 e-mails a month are being distributed through that service. However, it is a great resource to keep in touch with the phagocyte community.

The European Phagocyte Group has offered to add SLB members to their Google group. We want to make certain that any SLB who does not wish to be added to this group has the opportunity to opt out. To opt-out please send an e-mail to slb@faseb.org with the topic of "European Phagocyte Group - Opt-out."