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THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
IMMUNOLOGISTS

# AAI NEWSLETTER

## FOCUS ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

### NIH Director Varmus, Congressman Porter To Step Down

The two principal advocates for NIH in the 1990s have announced they are leaving government service.

NIH Director Harold Varmus announced on October 7 that he will be leaving NIH after six years' service to assume the Presidency of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Nobel Laureate Varmus negotiated the corridors of congress and the administration with the same skill he showed in the laboratory and, given the generous budget increases that NIH has received in recent years, Varmus certainly ranks among the most successful NIH directors ever.

Congressman John Porter (R-IL) announced on October 12 that he will not seek re-election next year. Porter will continue to serve as Chairman of the House Labor/HHS Appropriations Subcommittee, which writes the annual NIH funding bill, through next year and the FY2001 appropriations process. Perhaps more than any other individual, Porter is responsible for the dramatically rising NIH budgets of the past five years. He was the first-ever recipient of the AAI Public Service Award in 1994 and has been a great champion for NIH and biomedical research, and a great friend to AAI.

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*"FOIA is not a workable mechanism for assuring that the public has complete access to research data used in federal regulatory decisions and policymaking,"*  
*Robert R. Rich, Chair,*  
*AAI Committee on Public Affairs*

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### NIH Funding Dramatically Boosted in House And Senate Action

The months-long budgetary stalemate in Washington appears to be ending. On September 23, Congressman John Porter's Labor/HHS Appropriations Subcommittee passed a spending bill providing NIH with a \$1.35 billion increase over FY99's \$15.613 billion appropriation. On September 27, Senator Arlen Specter's Senate Labor/HHS Appropriations passed a \$2 billion, 12.8% funding increase for NIH in Fiscal Year 2000. The Clinton Administration, which had originally proposed a \$300 million, 2% increase for NIH, is all but certain to support a dramatically higher congressional appropriation for biomedical research.

Though the House and Senate increases are less than the 15% necessary for the doubling of NIH's budget in five years, Congress continues to demonstrate a historically unprecedented commitment to medical science. While it is impossible to predict what the final appropriation for NIH will be, the Senate number is likely to become the benchmark for

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subsequent negotiations, and we can expect NIH's congressional champions to continue to press for additional resources. NIH funding, which is included in the largest and most controversial social spending bill, has been in limbo while the Clinton Administration and Republican-led Congress were locked in a stand-off over tax cuts and federal budget priorities for FY2000, which begins on October 1, 1999.

## Other Issues:

### FOIA Disclosure of Federally-supported Research Data:

The next step in the battle over the application of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to all federally-supported research data is OMB's release of its final implementation rule. AAI commented to OMB, praising the agency's good faith effort at implementing a flawed statute. In a letter to OMB, AAI Committee on Public Affairs Chairman Bob Rich said "FOIA is not a workable mechanism for assuring that the public has complete access to research data used in federal regulatory decisions and policymaking," and urged repeal of the original legislative language. The author of the FOIA provision, Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL), also submitted a comment signed by three other Senators, and asserted that, in its attempt to accommodate the research community's concerns, OMB has subverted the law's intent. Shelby and colleagues' comment is available on the web at:

<http://www.senate.gov/~shelby/press/prsrs283.htm>

### Regulatory Burden Relief Continues

Two recent developments signal that continued progress on regulatory burden relief remains a high priority of Congress and the NIH. In the Committee Report accompanying the House NIH appropriations bill (see NIH budget story above), NIH is praised for its recent "NIH Initiative to Reduce Regulatory Burden" and urged "to continue this initiative." For its part, NIH has announced a three-month wordplay to implement Initiative recommendations and adopt strategies to make regulatory reform an on-going process. NIH will likely name an advisory committee, perhaps a subcommittee of the NIH Director's Advisory Committee, to monitor progress and raise new areas of regulation where reform is needed. A long-term challenge will be the reform of regulations at other agencies, such as USDA and OSHA, that are not within NIH's jurisdiction but regulate NIH grantees. AAI Committee on Public Affairs Chair Robert R. Rich first raised this issue in congressional testimony in 1995, and AAI and FASEB continue to press for the elimination of duplicative or excessive regulations on the conduct of biomedical research. The Initiative Report is available on the web at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/regulatoryburden/>

### Ebiomed/PubMed Central:

In response to public comment, NIH has modified its proposed "Ebiomed" online scientific publishing effort (AAI's response to the original Ebiomed proposal has been posted on the NIH website). The newly renamed PubMed Central is to become a "web-based repository for barrier-free access to primary reports in the life sciences," and NIH intends to "archive, organize and distribute peer-reviewed reports from journals, as well as reports that have been screened but not formally peer-reviewed." AAI endorses the concept of rapid communication of scientific results, as is the intent of PubMed Central. However, in a recent letter to Dr. Varmus, *The JI* Editor in Chief Frank Fitch, and AAI Executive Director Michele Hogan, questioned the administrative burden implied in the proposal. As *The JI* will allow open access to all content after one year, the transfer and re-posting of content by the NIH seems redundant. They suggested seamless pointing to *The JI Online*. This suggestion has also been offered by other FASEB society publishers. In a recent AAI Publications Committee meeting, transfer of *The JI* content to the NIH was not supported.

Full details on the PubMed Central proposal and an opportunity to comment are available on the web at:

<http://www.nih.gov/welcome/director/pubmedcentral/pubmedcentral.htm>

## Panel Recommends Changes for NIH's Center For Scientific Review (CSR) AAI Comments Favorably

In April 1998, the Panel on Scientific Boundaries for Review was established to examine the organization and function of NIH's CSR review process. The purpose of the evaluation is to establish a peer review system that will not only accommodate new and expanded research opportunities, but will encourage innovation from all those involved in the process. The evaluation is being conducted in two phases, the first of which is to be completed this November.

Under the first phase, the panel has proposed the development of a new set of Integrated Review Groups (IRGs). These IRGs will provide a home for review of all areas of research and help the CSR anticipate new fields of research and opportunity. The panel has recommended the formation of 21 IRGs, the first five dealing with the fundamental biological processes, or technologies that underlie approaches to the properties and treatments of all organ systems, disease processes, and general health issues.

Additionally, a new set of cultural norms has been proposed under which the CSR review process should be conducted. These norms will help the applicants, reviewers, and administrators by more clearly defining such issues as who is a peer; what is the role of a peer reviewer; and what are the roles and responsibilities of the Scientific Review Administrators (SRAs), chairs and study section members. The panel has noted that the review process could greatly benefit from immediate adoption of these proposed cultural changes, rather than waiting for implementation of all proposed changes.

In an October 15 letter to Boundaries Panel Chair Bruce Alberts, AAI President Roger M. Perlmutter offered AAI's endorsement of the proposals thus far and pledged to monitor Phase 2 carefully. Perlmutter also

- suggested that past scientific performance should be incorporated as a peer review metric;
- expressed concern about the consequences of peer-review reform for clinical research;
- offered a caution about using senior, roving investigators in study sections;
- requested that the outcomes of pilot reform studies be made public; and,
- urged that immunologists be included in the vaccinology IRG and study sections.

AAI also endorsed the provision of additional resources for CSR in the performance of its critical mission.

The second phase will begin in 2000, and is likely to continue over the following two years. In this phase, study sections within the IRGs will be created. Since the purpose of these IRGs is not only to optimize the CSR review process, but to accommodate

new areas of research, the panel is recommending that the new study sections within each IRG be reviewed on a five-year basis.

A complete draft of the Phase I Report from the Panel on Scientific Boundaries for Review may be accessed at: [www.csr.nih.gov/bioopp/intro.htm](http://www.csr.nih.gov/bioopp/intro.htm).

## Clinical Investigation Program

### Call for Proposals - the Melanoma Initiative Deadline: November 1, 1999

The Cancer Research Institute announces the availability of clinical investigation grants to support Phase I/II academic clinical trials of immunotherapies. CRI seeks proposals aimed at testing novel therapeutic vaccines and antibody strategies for melanoma. Grants to support clinical trials will be in the amount of \$150,000 a year for three years. The proposals should be brief, with emphasis on relevant background information, clear study design and objectives, and strengths and past contributions of the research group. The clinical protocol must be included.

### Call for Proposals - the Gynecologic Initiative Deadline: December 1, 1999

The Cancer Research Institute seeks proposals to analyze immunological responses to human HPV, particularly HPV types associated with cervical cancer. Proposals to be funded will develop and utilize immunological methods to analyze the role of antibodies and cellular immunity in the control of HPV infections, HPV persistence and HPV-initiated precancerous and cancerous conditions. The objective of this funding program is to establish a strong immunological basis for the monitoring and developing of HPV vaccines. Grants will provide up to \$100,000 per year for three years. The proposals should be brief, with emphasis on relevant background information, clear study design and objectives, and strengths and past contributions of the research group.

CRI does not provide funds for indirect costs. CRI supported research may be conducted in the United States or abroad, at nonprofit medical centers or hospitals. There are no citizenship restrictions. Application forms are available from the Institute. You may contact us by phone at 212- 688-7515, fax 212-832-9376, or e-mail [cancerres@aol.com](mailto:cancerres@aol.com).

Forms may also be downloaded from:  
[www.cancerresearch.org](http://www.cancerresearch.org).

For more information contact:  
Cancer Research Institute National Headquarters  
681 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10022-4209  
Phone: 212-688-7515  
Fax: 212-832-9376  
Email: [cancerres@aol.com](mailto:cancerres@aol.com)  
Web: [www.cancerresearch.org](http://www.cancerresearch.org)

# JDF Announces Revised Research Funding Plan – More Than \$75 Million In FY2000

In accordance with the JDF's Research Task Force findings, and upon recommendation by the JDF Board of Directors, JDF is announcing a dramatic increase in research funding for FY2000 to more than \$75 million. Three fundamental goals of the research program are:

1. Prevention of the Disease and its Recurrence
2. Restoration of Normal Metabolism
3. Avoidance and Reversal of Complications

## Receipt Dates for Applications

Regular grants and training awards: **Feb. 1, 2000** for funding in June, 2000.

Special grants: Letter-of-intent required; see contact information below.

## JDF Research Priority Areas

1. Modulation of the Immune System
2. Beta-cell Replacement/Islet Transplantation
3. Genetic Engineering/Gene Therapy
4. Hypoglycemia
5. Complications (Retinopathy, Neuropathy, Nephropathy)

## Funding Mechanisms

- Special research grants: up to \$25 million total for five-year period. These "special" JDF awards are for large, goal oriented projects which focus on Task Force recommended areas of diabetes-related research. JDF special grants are in excess of \$300,000/yr, ranging to as high as \$5 million per year for up to five years.
- Regular research grants: up to \$1 million total for three-year period. These awards are given to scientists who have directed their expertise to target JDF research emphasis areas. By increasing funding from \$200,000 for a two-year period to up to \$1 million for a three-year period, regular research grants will now provide even more substantive funding.
- Innovative grants: up to \$50,000 for one year. Innovative grants are a relatively new funding mechanism by JDF to encourage researchers with promising new approaches. Funding will be provided to develop preliminary data and/or to test the feasibility of a promising new approach.

## Training awards:

- JDF Postdoctoral Fellowships: \$29,000-\$40,700/yr for two years. The fellowships provide crucial training support to doctoral recipients who will focus on research related to diabetes. Through these training awards, JDF plays an essential role in ensuring that talented new researchers will continue to enter the diabetes field.

- JDF Advanced Postdoctoral Fellowship: up to \$370,000 total for four years. This fellowship will allow the most promising postdoctoral fellows to continue to receive critical research training and to position themselves to work at the leading-edge of their field of diabetes-related research. The award includes the ability to apply for funding to assist fellows in the transition to independent faculty or research appointments.

- JDF Career Development Award: up to \$625,000 total for five years. These awards provide salary and research support for exceptional scientists in research related to diabetes who are beginning their careers as junior faculty. These prestigious awards provide support during the crucial first five years as an independent investigator.

- JDF Clinical Scholars Award: up to \$750,000 total for five years. Through this award, JDF will foster the development and productivity of established, independent physician-scientists who will translate research from the laboratory to the clinic. The award is intended to give the recipients the freedom and flexibility to explore fundamental scientific questions, to apply the resulting knowledge at the bedside, and to bring insights from the clinical setting back to the laboratory for further exploration.

## APPLICATION FORMS

See JDF's research web page [www.jdfcure.org/research/](http://www.jdfcure.org/research/) for detailed description of funding information, application forms and instructions.

## CONTACTS:

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Email: [rmarsch@jdfcure.org](mailto:rmarsch@jdfcure.org)  
Phone: 212-479-7529

Dr. Catherine Sigal  
Email: [csigal@jdfcure.org](mailto:csigal@jdfcure.org)  
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Phone: 212-479-7589

Dr. Robert Goldstein  
Email: [gold@jdfcure.org](mailto:gold@jdfcure.org)  
Phone: 212-479-7523

## Moving?

**If you have moved, relocated, or just changed your email address, be sure that AAI can keep in contact with you. Please send any address, phone, fax, email, or title changes to the AAI membership department at (301) 530-7195, or email: [members@aai.faseb.org](mailto:members@aai.faseb.org).**

## 2000 Predoctoral Fellowships in Biological Sciences

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute will award 80 fellowships for full-time study towards a Ph.D. or Sc.D. degree in the biological sciences listed below. Awards are for five years. Fellowship awards provide an annual stipend of \$16,000 and a \$15,000 annual cost-of-education allowance.

Eligible fields of study include:

biochemistry	mathematical and computational
bioinformatics	biology
biophysics	microbiology
biostatistics	molecular biology
cell biology	neuroscience
developmental biology	pharmacology
epidemiology	physiology
genetics	structural biology
immunology	virology

The fellowships are intended for students who have completed less than one year of graduate study toward M.S., Ph.D., or Sc.D. degrees in biological sciences. Students who hold or are pursuing medical or dental degrees (M.D., D.O., D.V.M., D.D.S.) may also be eligible to apply for fellowship support for study toward a Ph.D. or Sc.D.

The program is open to both U.S. citizens and foreign citizens. Students with U.S. citizenship may take the fellowship abroad. Non-U.S. citizens must study in the United States.

**The application deadline is November 9, 1999.**

This international fellowship competition is administered by the National Research Council. For copies of the program announcement or application:

Hughes Fellowship Program  
The Fellowship Office  
National Research Council  
2101 Constitution Avenue  
Washington, DC 20418  
United States of America  
Telephone (202) 334-2872  
Fax (202) 334-3419  
E-mail [infofell@nas.edu](mailto:infofell@nas.edu)  
[www.national-academies.org/osep/fo](http://www.national-academies.org/osep/fo)

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute, an Equal Opportunity Employer, welcomes applications from all qualified candidates and encourages women and members of minority groups to apply.

## 2000 AFAR Award Programs

### AFAR RESEARCH GRANTS

AFAR provides up to \$50,000 for a one- to two-year award to junior faculty (M.D.s and Ph.D.s) to do research that will serve as the basis for longer term research efforts. AFAR-supported investigators study a broad range of biomedical and clinical topics. Since 1981, over 550 AFAR Research Grants have been awarded. **Deadline for receipt of application is December 15, 1999.**

### AFAR/PFIZER RESEARCH GRANTS IN THE NEUROSCIENCES AND AGING

This program was created to address specific areas of research that focus on age-related research in the neurosciences. Projects may involve basic, clinical or epidemiological research. It is anticipated that 4 grants of up to \$50,000 will be awarded in 2000. Candidates may propose to use the award over the course of one or two years as justified by the proposed research. Preference will be given to candidates in the first or second year of a junior faculty appointment. **The deadline for receipt of application is December 15, 1999.**

### JOHN A. HARTFORD/AFAR MEDICAL STUDENT GERIATRIC SCHOLARS PROGRAM

To encourage medical students - particularly budding researchers - to consider geriatrics as a career, the Medical Student Geriatric Scholars Program awards short-term scholarships through a national competition. The program provides an opportunity for these students to train at an acclaimed center of excellence in geriatrics. Each scholar receives a \$3,000 stipend. **The deadline for receipt of application is February 7, 2000.**

### GLENN FOUNDATION/AFAR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR RESEARCH IN THE BIOLOGY OF AGING

Inaugurated in 1994, this scholarship program - designed to attract potential scientists and clinicians to aging research - provides Ph.D. and M.D. students the opportunity to conduct a three-month research project. Students will work in an area of biomedical research in aging under the auspices of a mentor. Each scholarship carries an award of \$5,500, of which \$4,000 will go to the student and \$1,500 to the mentor. **Deadline for receipt of application is February 25, 2000.**

For information and applications contact:

American Federation for Aging Research  
1414 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10019  
Phone: (212) 752-2327  
Fax: (212) 832-2298  
Email: [amfedaging@aol.com](mailto:amfedaging@aol.com)  
Web: [www.afar.org](http://www.afar.org)

## SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES WANTED!

AAI is looking for summer research opportunities in order to help undergraduate students. If you are willing to host a summer intern, please send the following information to [comley@aai.faseb.org](mailto:comley@aai.faseb.org):

- name
- e-mail address
- fax and/or phone number
- URL of personal Web page if available
- how you would like to be contacted about this opportunity

Please include pertinent information regarding the program, i.e., should an applicant apply first to your institutional internship program or directly to you; whether this is a paid or volunteer internship position; etc. Please also include a one-sentence description of your research topic.

This information will be included in a future electronic registry on the AAI Education Committee Web page of potential summer opportunities.

## **IMPORTANT!** New Instructions for Accessing *The Journal of Immunology Online*

To access *The JI* online, you must now enter your AAI subscriber number preceded by 2 zeros (00). To access to the full text of *The Journal of Immunology* online, you must be a member of AAI or a paid subscriber. For additional help, please contact the help desk at (410) 691-6985, or email: [helpdesk@edoc.com](mailto:helpdesk@edoc.com).

## WEB SITES OF INTEREST

The AAI lists these web sites as a service to our membership and readership. AAI does not endorse or guarantee the information on the listed sites. If you wish to comment, or offer sites of interest, please contact AAI at [infoaai@aai.faseb.org](mailto:infoaai@aai.faseb.org).

### **National Foundation for Infectious Diseases**

<http://www.nfid.org>

### **Leroy Hood Laboratory**

This lab is part of the Department of Molecular Biotechnology at the University of Washington, in Seattle.  
<http://chroma.mbt.washington.edu>

### **The Cytokines Web**

This site provides leading-edge scientific information about cytokines and their receptors, including 3-D structural information and topological and evolutionary relationships. It also contains information about potential therapeutic uses for some human cytokines.

<http://www.psynix.co.uk/cytweb/>

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University of Texas Medical Branch

**Vincent K. Tsiagbe, Ph.D.** ('00)  
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NCI, NIH

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Vice President and COO  
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**Virginia M. Sanders, Ph.D.**

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Loyola University, Stritch School of Medicine

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## Other Appointments

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IUIS General Assembly - J. Sprent, R.W. Dutton, K.L. Knight,  
R.M. Perlmutter  
American Type Culture Collection - M.M. Hogan (2000)

## REFERENCE REAGENTS FOR MURINE AND HUMAN CYTOKINES

The Biological Resources Branch (NCI), the Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), and the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control (UK) have made available reference reagents for murine and human cytokines. The reagents are available in small amounts (~1 g/sample) for use in the calibration of *in vitro* bioassays and in-house standards and are not to be used for experimental purposes.

To obtain a list of Human Reference Reagents and Murine Reference Reagents available, contact:

Dr. Craig W. Reynolds  
Biological Resources Branch, NCI-FCRDC  
Bldg. 1052, Room 253, Frederick, MD 21702-1201  
Fax: 301-846-5429  
Email: reynoldsc@mail.ncifcrf.gov  
<http://www.ncifcrf.gov/FCRDC/BRB/>

Shipments will be made collect express.  
Please allow 3 to 4 weeks for delivery.

# Director, Division of Immunobiology

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center/University of Cincinnati College of Medicine is seeking a director for a new Division of Immunobiology to be located in the Children's Hospital Research Foundation. Candidates may be either MDs or PhDs and must have a strong background in immunobiology, as well as a proven track record of extramural funding. Resources are available to build a research division of six to eight faculty. The new division also will be expected to provide academic leadership in immunology research and teaching at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

## Join a National Leader

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center is one of the nation's top pediatric care and research institutions. The Children's Hospital Research Foundation ranks third nationally in NIH funding to full-service children's hospitals. In 1998, sponsored program awards exceeded \$37 million. Laboratory space is growing from 405,000 to 525,000 square feet with a new addition to be completed in 2001.

Successes include the Sabin oral polio vaccine and an understanding of lung surfactant protein, both used worldwide. Major research programs apply the newest approaches, including the use of transgenic mice and gene targeting, to problems ranging from the molecular mechanisms of embryonic development to gene therapy.

Our medical and research staff comprise the department of pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. We train more than 300 residents and postdoctoral physicians and researchers each year.

To Apply:

Send CV and two letters of recommendation to:

David N. Glass, M.D.  
Children Hospital Medical Center  
3333 Burnet Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45229-3039  
Email: [glasd0@chmcc.org](mailto:glasd0@chmcc.org)

Children's Hospital Medical Center is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

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## New AAI Policy for Classified Ads and Positions Wanted

The classified ad rate for the AAI newsletter is \$50 for the first column inch, and \$5 for each additional line. This is a per issue fee and includes posting on the AAI homepage ([www.scienceXchange.com/aai](http://www.scienceXchange.com/aai)).

Position wanted ads are free to all AAI trainee and postdoc members. Position wanted ads are limited to 50 words or less.

Materials may be sent to:

Linda Jean Comley  
American Association of Immunologists  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Material may also be sent via email to:

[comley@aai.faseb.org](mailto:comley@aai.faseb.org)

Ad placement is at the discretion of the AAI.

# THE JOURNAL OF IMMUNOLOGY

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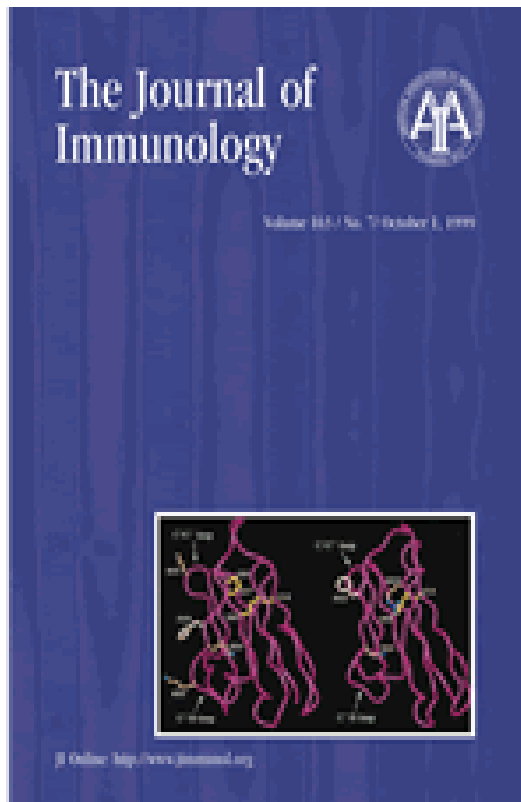
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## Members in the News

### **Dinah Singer, Ph.D., to Head NCI's Division of Cancer Biology**

Dinah Singer, Ph.D., has been named as the director of the Division of Cancer Biology by the National Institutes of Health's National Cancer Institute. Dr. Singer is currently a senior scientific officer at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). She will oversee the administration of more than \$600 million of NCI-funded grants.

"Singer brings many impressive skills and great experience to this important job," said NCI Director Richard Klausner. "Her service on numerous Advisory Boards at (NIH) and throughout the biomedical research community has encompassed areas such as technology transfer, education, and women scientists."

Dr. Singer received her M.Phil. and Ph.D. at Columbia University. She has served as deputy editor for *The JI* and as an associate editor of *Immunity*. She has been an AAI member since 1986.

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### **Howard B. Dickler, M.D., Will Head Research at the University of Maryland School of Medicine**

Howard B. Dickler, M.D., has been chosen as the new associate dean for Research and Graduate Studies at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Dickler will oversee the school's \$130 million research program that encompasses 23 different areas of medical speciality. For the past ten years, Dr. Dickler had served as the chief of the Extramural Clinical Immunology Branch of the NIAID, where he managed an extensive research program which focused on the development of autoimmune diseases. He also developed research programs in immuneonficiency diseases of children.

"Dr. Dickler has extensive experience in both basic and clinical research. He has planned and managed complex projects that involve scientists from academic institutions and private industry, as well as several NIH institutes and charitable foundations. His skills and knowledge will be extremely valuable for the growth and success of our research programs," said Donald Wilson, M.D., M.A.C.P., dean of the University of Maryland School of Medicine. "The University of Maryland School of Medicine is an exciting and growing place, and I look forward to using my experience to help it grow further," said Dr. Dickler. The University of Maryland School of Medicine ranks 13th among public medical schools in NIH research funding and has 983 scientists on the faculty.

Dr. Dickler has been an AAI member since 1974.

### **K. Frank Austen, M.D., Receives Award for Asthma Research**

K. Frank Austen, M.D., professor at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, has been awarded the Warren Alpert Foundation Prize, a prestigious award recognizing significant breakthroughs in the understanding and curing of major diseases. The awardee receives a \$100,000 award.

Dr. Austen's dedication to understanding the biology of asthma made it possible for a new class of asthma medications, leukotriene inhibitors, to be developed. More than 3.5 million people worldwide benefit from four new versions of these drugs. "It is a great privilege and honor to be recognized by the Warren Alpert Foundation and Harvard Medical School," Dr. Austen said. "The drugs developed from our research are the first to treat the cause of the disease and not just the symptoms."

"Dr. Austen is a brilliant physician-scientist whose remarkable work exemplifies the importance of long-term effort in research," said Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., director of the NIAID, NIH.

Dr. Austen has been an AAI member since 1962 and served as an AAI Councillor and president from 1973-1978.

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### **Richard S. Kalish, M.D., Ph.D., Awarded A National Alopecia Areata Foundation Biomedical Research Grant**

Richard S. Kalish, M.D., Ph.D., State University of New York at Stony Brook, along with Amos Gilhar, M.D., has been awarded a National Alopecia Areata Foundation Biomedical Research Grant to investigate "The Molecular Basis of Alopecia Areata."

Together, Drs. Kalish and Gilhar have demonstrated that alopecia areata lesions can be induced by white blood cells that attack hair follicles. The purpose of the project is to first confirm that pigment cell proteins can turn on white blood cells that are involved with alopecia areata, and then to find which pigment cell proteins are involved with alopecia areata. Identification of the protein which induces alopecia areata would be a major breakthrough, as it would make possible the development of specific immunotherapy for alopecia areata.

Dr. Kalish has been an AAI member since 1986.

## Morris Reichlin, M.D. Named Vice President of Research at OMRF

Morris Reichlin, M.D., the Ben C. and Addie Mae Wileman Chair in Biomedical Research, has been named the first Vice President of Research at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF). He will work directly with the scientific staff and will assume responsibility for the ten research programs at OMRF.

“Dr. Reichlin is ideal for this new position,” said OMRF president and AAI member Dr. J. Donald Capra. “His long career at OMRF and the OU Health Sciences Center gives him a vast perspective on scientific research in Oklahoma City and the state. His national prominence and visibility will also be a great influence in our recruiting efforts.”

Reichlin received his B.A. and M.D. degrees from Washington University in St. Louis. He has held positions at the University of Vermont and the State University of New York in Buffalo before moving to OMRF as a member and head of the Arthritis and Immunology Program. He received the Distinguished Investigator Award in 1996 from the American College of Rheumatology for his significant contributions to the field of rheumatology. Dr. Reichlin has been an AAI member since 1966.

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## Allen B. Edmundson, Ph.D., Named to the “2000 Outstanding Scientists of the 20th Century” List

Allen B. Edmundson, Ph.D., has been named to the “2000 Outstanding Scientists of the 20th Century” list. This list is compiled by the International Biographical Centre (IBC) of Cambridge, England. Edmundson is the head of the Protein Crystallography Research Program at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF). Edmundson’s research involves solving the three-dimensional structures of proteins through x-ray crystallography.

“We are indeed proud of the achievements of Allen Edmundson here at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation,” said OMRF President and AAI member J. Donald Capra. “He is a tremendous asset to the Foundation, to the state of Oklahoma, and to the scientific community at large.”

Edmundson received his Ph.D. degree from The Rockefeller University, one of the first students admitted to the university’s graduate program. He received a M.E.R.I.T. Award from the National Cancer Institute at the NIH in 1986. He has served as an adjunct professor of biochemistry and biophysics at Texas A&M University and as the first Visiting Research Scholar at the University of Technology in Sydney, Australia. Edmundson has been an AAI member since 1993.

## Joost Oppenheim, M.D., to Serve as FASEB Treasurer Commencing July 1, 2000

Joost Oppenheim, M.D., has been appointed to serve as the FASEB Treasurer-elect for one year beginning July 1, 1999, and then as the FASEB Treasurer commencing July 1, 2000. The treasurer is chair of the FASEB finance committee. The FASEB Board appoints a treasurer upon recommendation of a Member Society on a society rotational basis. The rotation is in the order of affiliation of member societies with FASEB. Duties of the treasurer include attending FASEB board meetings (without vote); working with the Comptroller and Executive Director with regards to uses of the FASEB funds; advising the Board concerning the propriety of fiscal practices with relation to established Federation policy and with relation to the policies of granting and taxing agencies.

Dr. Oppenheim has been an AAI member since 1968.

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## Robert I. Lewy, M.D., Ph.D. Joins Cancer Treatment Centers of America/Tulsa

Robert I. Lewy, M.D., Ph.D. has joined the Cancer Treatment Centers of America/Tulsa (CTCA/T) as a medical oncologist and will also serve as director of CTCA/T’s new, highly specialized and medically integrated Leukemia/Lymphoma/Myeloma (LLM) unit.

Lewy was a senior fellow of the Cardeza Foundation, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, PA, and an associate director of the Mantua Halfway House Diagnostic and Rehabilitation Center, PA. He has also had teaching posts at Baylor College of Medicine, Ben Taub General Hospital, and St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital, both in Houston, TX.

Lewy received the American Medical Association’s (AMA) Physician Recognition Award from 1995-1998. He has been an AAI member since 1997.

AAI is interested in the achievements of its membership. Please let us know if you have recently received an honor or award, been elected as a member to a prominent society, or have conducted media interviews. Send the information, with a short biography and photo (and a copy of the article/tape for media interviews) to:

Members in the News  
American Association of Immunologists  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20814-3994  
Email: comley@aai.faseb.org

## FASEB/Marc Program 1999 Grantwriting Seminar/Workshop Recipients

Congratulations to the following AAI recipients:

**Yixin Li, Ph.D.**

Hospital for Special Surgery Medicine, Cornell Univ. Med. Col.

**Martha Zuniga, Ph.D.**

University of California - Santa Cruz

The FASEB/MARC Training Program on "Research Grants: Application and Process Training" is funded by the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) Programs through the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). FASEB recognizes the significant disadvantage young scientists and minority scientists have in competing against the "veterans" for obtaining funds necessary to conduct research.

The primary purpose of this effort will be to assist minority scientists, postdoctoral fellows, and predoctoral students in developing successful grant applications. It will focus on those who have applied to NIH or NSF for grant support but have been unsuccessful as well as those about to apply for the first time.

## In Memoriam

**Monte V. Hobbs, Ph.D.**

Monte V. Hobbs, Ph.D., passed away on May 24, 1999. He was a leader in research of the aging process in immunology and a pioneer in the development and implementation of the RNase protection assay to study cytokines. He mentored many developing scientists during a period of marked change in research science.

Dr. Hobbs received his Ph.D. in 1982 in microbiology/immunology from the University of Iowa. His thesis research, conducted in the laboratory of AAI member Thomas Feldbush, involved studies of the role of the third component of complement in the development of secondary antibody responses. His postdoctoral studies were conducted in the laboratory of AAI member William Weigle of The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, California. Dr. Hobbs' early work focused upon the immunoregulatory properties of the Fc portion of immunoglobulin. His subsequent research contributed to the definition of a new paradigm for age-related changes in T cell-dependent immunity. Dr. Hobbs also devoted his energies to developing the multi-probe ribonuclease protection assay for the analysis of multiple cytokine mRNAs within a sample of total RNA. Via the simultaneous use of multiple probes, this has been an extremely powerful tool for investigating cytokine networks and has been adapted for the study of cytokine receptor, cell death, and cell cycle gene expression. In 1996 he moved to the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where he was an associate research scientist in the department of epidemiology, in the school of public health. His research focused on T cell subsets, with particular emphasis upon cell death in CD4 and CD8 T cells. He had been an AAI since 1984.

An annual award for a graduate student in Immunology at the University of Michigan has been established in Dr. Hobbs' memory. Contributions made payable to the University of Michigan may be sent to:

Patty Laird  
Dept. of Epidemiology  
University of Michigan  
109 Observatory Rd.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2029

*Submitted by James Riggs, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Biology, Rider University, Lawrenceville, NJ*



## Working for You! AAI Membership Benefits

### The Obvious

There are obvious and tangible benefits you receive as a member of The American Association of Immunologists (AAI). These include:

- Membership in the largest and most prestigious professional association of immunologists in the world;
- Membership in the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB);
- Membership in the International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS); A subscription (print and on-line access) to *The Journal of Immunology*; the official journal of the AAI;
- A subscription to the AAI Newsletter;
- Voting privileges in association elections and actions;
- Eligibility for AAI Awards;
- A subscription to the FASEB Newsletter;
- An annual copy of the FASEB Directory of Members;
- Reduced subscription rates to 16 books and journals with a total possible savings of more than \$6,600;
- Reduced registration rates, hotel accommodations, car rentals and airline fares at the AAI annual meeting, the joint Experimental Biology meetings, and the International Immunology meetings.

### The Not-so-Obvious

There are also benefits that are less obvious, but every bit as important to your professional well-being. These include:

- Representation of your views on research funding and science policy concerns to Congress and responsible federal agencies

The executive office includes an Office of Public Affairs that carries out an active and successful program on your behalf. This program is carried out with AAI Council approval and assistance from the Committee on Public Affairs. The committee chair, public affairs director, and AAI executive director convey AAI member concerns and needs to FASEB, Congress, the NIH, and other federal agencies. In addition to council and committee members, individual members of the AAI play a critical role in this process and member participation is strongly encouraged.

Through AAI's public affairs program, immunologists meet with members of Congress, key congressional staff, and federal officials; prepare and present AAI policy positions in congressional hearings; and attend congressional and executive

branch hearings and briefings. In the five years of its existence, AAI's public affairs program has placed AAI in the first rank of biomedical research advocates and become a model for other scientific associations.

### •Committee activities

The AAI's committees involve almost 100 members, and are supported by membership dues. AAI members in good standing can serve on committees. This gives all AAI members the opportunity to be part of the decision making process and give back to their profession. The AAI committees are:

- Awards
- Clinical Immunology
- Education
- Finance
- Membership
- Minority Affairs
- Nominating
- Program
- Public Affairs
- Publications
- Status of Women
- Veterinary Immunology

Some of the activities carried out by the committees include planning the annual meeting, sponsoring the summer Advanced Course in Immunology, selection and presentation of 12 special awards such as the AAI-PharMingen Award and the AAI Public Service Award, public education and public affairs activities, recruiting new members and assessing the needs of existing members including women and minority scientists, and oversight of publication policies.

AAI has also has representation on the following FASEB Committees:

- Committee on Research Education
- Executive Officers Advisory Committee
- Public Affairs Advisory Committee
- Research Conferences Advisory Committee
- Excellence in Science Award Committee
- FASEB Board
- Finance Committee
- Public Affairs Executive Committee
- Wellcome Visiting Professorship
- Publications Committee
- Annual Meetings

AAI holds an annual meeting, and periodically hosts the International Congress of Immunology. Each year, the annual meeting draws thousands of attendees, and hundreds of exhibitors. The AAI is proud to showcase presentations such as the President's Address, the President's Symposium, and the Distinguished Lecture Series. The annual meetings also features Major Symposia, Special Symposia, block symposia, and guest society presentations. These meetings are supported through grants, registration and exhibit fees, corporate donations, and membership dues.

*The Journal of Immunology (JI)* is owned and published by the AAI. It has an impact factor of 7.166 placing it 8th among 120 publications concentrating on immunology. The *JI* has more citations than any other immunology journal (86,000; 1997). In 1998, the *JI* published 1650 manuscripts in over 12,000 pages. This effort is supported by a trained publication and editorial services staff using state-of-the art computers and customized software to track and deliver manuscripts for review.

For additional information or membership applications, contact:  
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9650 Rockville Pike ♦ Bethesda, MD 20814  
Phone: (301) 530-7178 ♦ Fax: (301) 571-1816  
Email: infoaai@aai.faseb.org ♦ Web: www.aai.org

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. How much are the dues for Regular membership in The American Association of Immunologists (AAI)?

The 1999 membership fee is \$115.00. Members are also invoiced for a non-optional subscription to the print and electronic versions of *The Journal of Immunology (JI)*: (\$110.00 for Domestic members; \$213.00 for Canadian members; and \$200 for International members.) Members receive many benefits as outlined in "Working For You" including a subscription to the *AAI Newsletter* and the *FASEB Newsletter*, and an annual copy of the FASEB Directory of Members. Members also receive a special discount on 15 optional journal subscriptions.

### 2. What are the requirements for Regular membership in the AAI?

Applicants must have one first-authored publication in a reputable, refereed journal. This publication must be original research on an immunological topic. Applicants should also have a Ph.D., an M.D., or another equivalent advanced degree, although exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis for those who have had significant immunology research training and experience but do not possess an advanced degree.

### 3. What happens to my application after I submit it? How long will it take to become a member?

Applications are reviewed twice a year by the AAI Membership Committee. The Membership Committee sends its recommendations to the AAI Council for approval, and applicants are notified shortly after that time. All applications received between October 1 and March 1 will be reviewed at the Spring Council meeting (April or May). Applications received between April 1 and September 1 will be reviewed at the Fall Council meeting (usually November). Those applicants who have been approved

by the AAI Council at the Spring Council meeting will become members at the meeting and begin receiving their subscription to the *JI* on July 1. The dues and subscription for the current year are prorated for 6 months. Applicants who have been accepted at the Fall Council Meeting will be billed in October for the **following** full year's dues. Their subscription to *The JI* will begin with the January 1 issue.

### 4. What are the requirements for Trainee membership in the AAI?

Applicants must be regularly matriculated students or post-doctoral trainees currently enrolled in a training program at a university or institution. Applications must be verified and signed by an AAI member who is one of the following: a dean, a department chair, or a professor in charge. Applications may be obtained either by writing the AAI Membership Office or by downloading it from the website. The website address is: <http://www.aai.org>. Trainees may remain members for eight (8) years.

### 5. How much are the dues for Trainee membership in AAI and what are the membership benefits?

The 1999 Trainee membership fee is \$64 for Domestic members, \$158.00 for Canadian members, and \$154.00 for International members. This includes a subscription to *The JI* (print and electronic). Trainee members will receive a subscription to the *Journal of Immunology* and the *AAI Newsletter*. Subscriptions will start upon receipt of your application and end on December 31 of the current year. Trainee members will also have the privilege of attending and participating (without vote) in the AAI Annual Business Meeting. In addition, they will receive all AAI announcements and correspondence.

### 6. I am retiring, can I stay member?

YES! If you are an active member and are retiring because of age or disability, you may elect to accept the status of **Emeritus** member. As such, you will retain your voting privileges and have all dues fees waived. *The JI* may be purchased, as well as other optional journals, at the member rate.

### 7. What is Honorary membership?

An Honorary membership is a special category elected by the AAI Council to give special recognition to someone for his/her exceptional achievements made in the field of immunology. Honorary members should reside outside of the U.S. and not usually be current AAI members. Honorary members shall have all of the privileges of active members without the payment of dues. A subscription to *The JI* may be purchased, as well as other optional journals, at the member rate.

### 8. What happens if I am late in paying my membership renewal fee?

**Subscriptions:** Your subscription to *The JI* will stop on March 1

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