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# THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF IMMUNOLOGISTS AAI NEWSLETTER

## FOCUS ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The May 24 headline of Capitol Hill's local newspaper, *Roll Call*, reads "Jeffords Shakes Up the Senate." That may well be the political understatement of the year. Vermont Senator James Jeffords' decision to leave the Republican party and become an Independent (caucusing with the Democrats) has changed dramatically both the leadership and agenda of the United States Senate, and in my view, will fundamentally alter the prospects for passage of key elements of President Bush's agenda. While Jeffords' departure from the Republican fold brings the Senate ratio from 50-50 to 50-49-1, a relatively insignificant numerical change, the implications are broad. In addition to the change in Senate leadership, with Sen. Tom Daschle (D-SD) replacing Sen. Trent Lott (R-MS) as Majority Leader, every committee and subcommittee, which were chaired by Republicans - many of whom are conservative Republicans - are now chaired by Democrats, many of whom come from the party's liberal wing. Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA), who has been the ranking minority member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (which funds NIH) for the past six years, has become chairman of that subcommittee (taking over the reins from Sen. Arlen Specter [R-PA]). The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, which authorizes the legislation governing NIH, CDC, and other agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services, is now chaired by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA), who took the helm, ironically enough, from Sen. Jeffords. Other committees with less, but not insignificant impact on biomedical research will be similarly affected. While it's impossible to predict exactly what this change will mean, with a 50-50 Senate, such a change in political leadership was not impossible to predict.

As I have stated in this column before, AAI's approach has always been bipartisan (and from now on, "tripartisan") and we are fortunate to have good friends and supporters on both sides of the aisle. But we have been driven for the past six and a half years, as have all other professional associations and advocacy groups, by an agenda set by the Republican party in both the Senate and House. Clearly, with the Senate in Democratic hands, Democrats will take advantage of the opportunity to highlight and address issues that they have been concerned about but unable to bring forth. For example, at a recent hearing on medical innovation held by the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY) expressed her concern about cancer clusters in New York and asked a witness why we were not, as a nation, investing more in environmental/prevention research. Such an issue - what causes disease clusters and how to prevent them - may well end up much more prominently on the nation's research agenda.

At the same time that the Senate agenda will change, the Bush Administration will have to deal with the Democratic leadership and a new majority political party. Compromise, which many of us had predicted would be the watchword of the Bush presidency in the wake of the disputed election, will take on a whole new importance. Negotiations between the House and Senate on bills that have passed both chambers will likely be more contentious, and oversight by the Senate of Bush Administration plans and policies will likely increase.

Once again, in spite of all the political intrigue, AAI finds itself in the fortunate position of having a non-partisan issue

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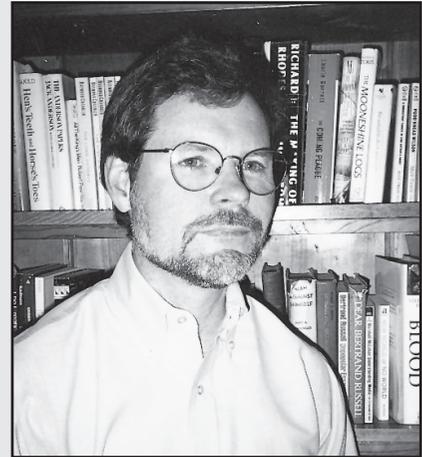
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## Lewis L. Lanier, Ph.D. Elected to AAI Council

Lewis L. Lanier, Ph.D., University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), has been elected as the newest member of the AAI Council. Dr. Lanier's term as councillor will run from July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2006. Dr. Lanier is a professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at UCSF. He received his Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology from the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. He has served as the chairman of the AAI Program Committee (1997-2000), as an associate editor for *The Journal of Immunology* (1986-1991), and as a faculty member for the AAI Advanced Course in Immunology (2000-present). Dr. Lanier has been an AAI member since 1980.



## New AAI Committee Members

Congratulations to all the newly elected AAI committee members. AAI also extends a special "thank you" to all the members who stood for election. The new committee members are:

### **Officers:**

James P. Allison, Ph.D., President  
Paul W. Kincade, Ph.D., Vice President  
Lewis L. Lanier, Ph.D., Councillor

### **Awards Committee**

David Parker, Ph.D.

### **Publications Committee**

Jon Sprent, M.D., Ph.D.

### **Finance Committee**

Betty Diamond, M.D.

### **Program Committee**

David Chaplin, M.D., Ph.D.  
Peter Cresswell, Ph.D.

### **Nominating Committee**

Nancy Ruddle, Ph.D., Chair  
Brigitte Huber, Ph.D.  
Ann Feeney, Ph.D.  
Ken Rock, M.D.  
Rafi Ahmed, Ph.D.

## AAI Joins Ranks of Incorporated Associations

A process that began last year as a routine bylaws review culminated recently in the marking of a significant milestone in the 88-year history of AAI. After operating on an unincorporated basis since its founding on June 19, 1913, AAI became an incorporated organization in March of this year with the filing of Articles of Incorporation in the State of Maryland.

When its mid-2000 examination of historical revisions to the AAI bylaws revealed AAI's unincorporated status, the AAI Council acted to rectify the long oversight. Recognizing that AAI shared the interest of most contemporary non-profit organizations in securing the benefits of incorporated status, the Council on October 27, 2000, voted to incorporate AAI. It authorized Executive Director Michele Hogan to implement the steps necessary to effect incorporation, including preparation of bylaws revisions for a vote of the AAI membership at the 2001 annual meeting. In addressing the task, Dr. Hogan enlisted the services of attorney Susan Dorn, of the Washington association law practice of Dorn & Klamp, P.C., to ensure AAI compliance with the various legal requirements of incorporating.

At its February 15 meeting, the Council reviewed and approved new Articles of Incorporation, as well as corresponding bylaws revisions and explanatory language to be sent to AAI members for review and approval. Council further adopted the recommended process by which AAI's incorporation would be carried out. It called for the filing of Articles of Incorporation in AAI's "home" state of Maryland in advance of the annual meeting, so that the articles would be on record when the vote of the membership was taken. Assuming a favorable vote, the process further provided that Council would disband AAI and officially establish "AAI, Incorporated", with the newly-incorporated association assuming all assets and liabilities of its predecessor.

On February 22, a memo concerning the incorporation proposal was issued from the AAI office in Bethesda to all AAI members. In it, AAI President Pippa Marrack invited members to review the bylaws revisions and explanatory language, and advised them of their opportunity to vote on the new bylaws at the annual Business Meeting on April 3 in Orlando.

With the formal filing of Articles of Incorporation on March 27, 2001, the official "birthday" of "AAI, Incorporated", the association was poised to complete its transformation, pending a favorable vote of the membership. On April 3, AAI members attending the Business Meeting voted without objection to approve the new bylaws. Following the Business Meeting, the Council voted to disband AAI, transfer its assets and liabilities to the newly incorporated AAI, and adopt the new bylaws on behalf of the new organization. The formal transfer of assets was completed on June 1, 2001.

While our association's legal status has been updated to reflect contemporary practice, AAI proudly remains true to the mission adopted by its founders the better part of a century ago. This is

reflected in the organization's "Purpose" as embodied, unchanged, in the bylaws governing the new AAI:

"The purpose of AAI shall be to advance knowledge of immunology and related disciplines, to foster interchange of ideas and information among investigators in the various disciplines, and to promote an understanding of the field of immunology."

Michael Cuddy  
Executive Assistant to the Director

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—increasing funding for biomedical research—as the centerpiece of our policy agenda. Sen. Harkin's leadership of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Service, and Education, should give us great assurance that NIH's financial future will be secure. (See related story on page 6.) And Sen. Kennedy's strong past support of NIH and commitment to the biomedical research enterprise, including biotechnology, cannot be questioned. We are fortunate to be greeting friends in key positions as the Senate turns over, but must remember that our Republican Senate friends have been great supporters of our efforts and no doubt will continue to be. Finding the funds to fulfill our research goals, and keeping biomedical research a non-partisan cause, remain the key challenges facing us in any political climate.

Lauren G. Gross  
Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs

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### 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 Center for Biotechnology Information**

NCBI creates public databases, conducts research in computational biology, develops software tools for analyzing genome data, and disseminates biomedical information - all for the better understanding of molecular processes affecting human health and disease.

[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov)

#### **The Protein Kinase Resource**

The Protein Kinase Resource (PKR) is a web accessible compendium of information on the protein kinase family of enzymes. This resource includes tools for structural and computational analyses as well as links to related information. The PKR is a collaborative project of protein kinase researchers and computational biologists working to create a database integrating molecular and cellular information.

[www.sdsc.edu/kinases](http://www.sdsc.edu/kinases)

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*Executive Director*  
M. Michele Hogan, PhD

April 27, 2001

Ruth L. Kirschstein, M.D.  
Acting Director  
National Institutes of Health  
9000 Rockville Pike  
Building 1, Room 126  
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Kirschstein:

As you know, the American Association of Immunologists (AAI) is a professional association representing the interests of six thousand biomedical scientists whose pivotal research advances the understanding of immunological science and its application to medicine. AAI respectfully submits the following comments in response to the recent *NIH Statement in Response to the NAS Report: Addressing the Nation's Changing Needs for Biomedical and Behavioral Scientists* ("Statement"). As requested in NIH's published notice (NOT-OD-01-027), we will also be posting these comments to [PersonnelNeeds@od.nih.gov](mailto:PersonnelNeeds@od.nih.gov).

AAI applauds NIH for responding quickly and appropriately to the National Academies of Sciences (NAS) Report: *Addressing the Nation's Changing Needs for Biomedical and Behavioral Scientists* ("Report"). This Report identifies many areas of deep concern to AAI and proposes important solutions that require prompt implementation. AAI is pleased that NIH has clearly understood the urgency and significance of the NAS findings and has already taken steps to begin to address many of the problems noted.

In general, AAI strongly supports NIH's Statement and its underlying theme: that post-doctoral fellows and graduate students working in labs receive insufficient compensation for the work they do and for their contribution (both current and future) to science. AAI believes that this is both an economic and moral issue: *economic* because talented students will not choose a career in biomedical research if they cannot support themselves and their families; and *moral* because every successful investigator knows that the major work and discoveries of science are as much due to dedicated yet severely underpaid post-docs and graduate students as they are to the fairly-compensated PI involved. Without the work of this cheap labor pool, all the funding increases in the world would mean little to the advancement of science, medicine, and human health. We owe our post-docs/students a decent salary and, as described below, the compensation and benefits given other hard-working contributors to the scientific enterprise.

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## NIH Moves to Increase Stipends for Post-Docs

On March 22, 2001, NIH announced a plan to increase stipends for post-doctoral and graduate students under its National Research Service Award (NRSA) in response to a recent report on the issue from the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). In the "NIH Statement in Response to the NAS Report: Addressing the Nation's Changing Needs for Biomedical and Behavioral Scientists," Notice: NOT-OD-01-027, the NIH described its plan to implement selected recommendations from the NAS report and sought comment from the biomedical research community. AAI, which has been deeply concerned about the impact of low post-doctoral stipends on the future of biomedical research, submitted a comment letter (see page 4) expressing strong support for the NIH proposal while also seeking certain modifications and clarification. The original NAS report can be found at <http://www4.nationalacademies.org/pd/postdoc.nsf>, while the NIH statement can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/index.html>. Click on notice NOT-OD-01-027.

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In this regard, AAI strongly supports NIH's proposed increase in stipends for National Service Research Award ("NRSA") supported post-doctoral and graduate students and urges a faster time period for implementation. It is AAI's view that such a phase-in can best be accomplished during and shortly after the "doubling" of the NIH budget, when the effect on budgets will be best cushioned. We are concerned that the smaller increases in appropriations that are likely in subsequent years will make the phase-in more difficult and therefore less likely to occur as planned. While we acknowledge some concern among our own members regarding a possible "ripple" effect on institutions not experiencing similar budget increases but which might feel pressure to match the NRSA increases, we nevertheless believe that this change must be made at some time in the near future and would be best accomplished while the NIH budget is receiving large funding increases. We hope that NIH will soon address two related issues: 1) current grant recipients' concerns about how to accommodate these future salary changes within existing grants, and 2) guidance for institutions in implementing fair and effective stipend schedules for both pre-docs and post-docs.

AAI also strongly supports NIH's unwillingness to place caps on the number of Ph.D. candidates. While there may be a legitimate need to influence the number of students pursuing doctoral degrees in the various life sciences, AAI believes that this is not a proper function of NIH and is better left to the marketplace. As the NIH Statement observed, existing workforce models may be unreliable in calculating appropriate replacement needs "as we face an explosion in post-genomic sciences and an expansion of linkages between biology and the allied disciplines."

AAI also supports NIH's plan to better coordinate, collect, analyze, and publish data describing pre-doctoral and post-doctoral research assistants and associates. Without more accurate information, even the best-intentioned efforts to address future biomedical workforce needs will be for naught.

With respect to the proposed limits on training duration, AAI agrees that this is a necessary and realistic approach to take. AAI also supports the Statement's exhortation that individuals who are retained at institutions beyond this more limited post-doctoral training period should be promptly converted to appropriate non-training research staff positions.

AAI supports several other NAS recommendations which NIH seeks to implement, including increasing NIH support for programs to encourage diversity (racial, ethnic, and, we would add, gender); increasing support for dual degree training, particularly for MD/Ph.D.s; and continuing support for foreign scientists, many of whom contribute much to the scientific enterprise both here in the United States and as international collaborators.

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Finally, AAI urges NIH to address a serious problem identified in the NAS Report but which is discussed only briefly in the NIH Statement: the need for ensuring adequate employment benefits, including health insurance and pension benefits, for post-doctoral fellows. Salary increases alone will not address either the economic or moral deficiencies of the current compensation packages received by most post-docs (graduate students are usually and appropriately treated as students for these purposes). The NIH Statement does urge the following: "by five years of post-doctoral training experience, training should be completed and individuals who are being retained at the institution should be converted to non-training positions that provide appropriate levels of income and a benefit package that includes such items as retirement, leave, and health insurance. The increased costs associated with such positions have been and will continue to be allowable under NIH research grants." AAI believes that both post-doctoral NRSA recipients and other post-doctoral fellows should receive the same employment benefits available to most employees at their institutions, including health insurance, leave, and retirement contributions. (They should not be forced - as they are now - to make up for "lost time" on pensions later, at the same time in life that they are trying to save for the purchase of a home or for their children's college education.) Therefore, AAI urges NIH to require an institution's provision of such benefits to all post-doctoral fellows as a condition of receiving NIH funds.

AAI greatly appreciates having this opportunity to comment on NIH's Statement and would be happy to provide any additional information.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Frelinger, Ph.D.  
Chair, AAI Committee on Public Affairs

## Harkin, Specter Receive AAI 2001 Public Service Award

AAI presented its 2001 Public Service Award to Senators Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Arlen Specter (R-PA) at a Capitol Hill reception on June 12, 2001. AAI President Pippa Marrack, Ph.D., presented the awards to both Senators for "outstanding leadership, achievements, and advocacy on behalf of biomedical research and the National Institutes of Health." The senators were recommended for this award by the AAI Committee on Public Affairs, chaired by Jeff Frelinger, Ph.D., and approved by the AAI Council.

From 1995 until their roles switched with the change in Senate leadership in early June, Specter was the chairman and Harkin was the ranking minority member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, which has jurisdiction over funding of the National Institutes of Health. Under their strong leadership, NIH has received - in the first three years of the effort to double the NIH budget - the appropriations needed for doubling to occur within five years. Both senators have strongly supported the doubling effort and have been leading and vocal advocates for increased government support of biomedical research.

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## AAI Submits Testimony to Congress on NIH Funding

*On May 2, 2001, AAI Committee on Public Affairs Chair Jeff Frelinger, Ph.D., submitted the following testimony on behalf of AAI to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, which has jurisdiction over funding for the National Institutes of Health. Frelinger submitted similar testimony to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education in March.*

The American Association of Immunologists (AAI) is a professional association of six thousand research scientists and physicians dedicated to understanding the immune system, resulting in the prevention, treatment, and cure of disease. We appreciate this opportunity to submit written testimony for the Hearing Record regarding the FY 2002 appropriations bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. Our comments will be confined to issues involving the Department of Health and Human Services, and specifically, the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

### **FY 2002 appropriations for the NIH**

AAI is grateful for this subcommittee's and the Congress's strong commitment to biomedical research through the ongoing

effort to double the budget of the National Institutes of Health. In addition to the sheer purchasing power of the increased appropriations, allowing for the funding of more quality research grants, better lab equipment, and training for the next generation of scientists, this national commitment has energized researchers around the world who realize that many of the scientific achievements and discoveries of recent years, including the sequencing of the human genome, are just the first essential steps toward unraveling the mysteries of the human body and the treatments that may prevent or even cure deadly diseases. We urge this subcommittee, therefore, to support rapidly unfolding biological discoveries by continuing the process of doubling the NIH budget with additional appropriations of \$3.4 billion for FY 2002, for a total budget of \$23.7 billion.

### **Immunology and its promising research**

While "immunology" may not be a discipline that Americans contemplate in their daily lives, AAI's members' life's work affects every person throughout the world every day. Immunologists study both the immune system that helps protect the body from harm and the maladies, from the common cold or flu to cancer and AIDS, which can invade it. Many of us work to discover the cause of a particular immune response, which can range from successfully destroying an invading virus or bacteria to fighting one's own body tissues (resulting in an "autoimmune" response and possibly causing an autoimmune disease). Others work to find a way to prevent an undesirable immune response, *i.e.*, an allergic response to a vaccine or drug treatment. And others of us work to find a treatment for a known immune response that leads to illness or disease (such as diabetes). So when you read the newspaper and see stories about scientists working to develop effective vaccines for HIV/AIDS and influenza; to discover new defenses against re-emerging infections such as tuberculosis and drug-resistant bacterial infections; to regulate autoimmune diseases such as diabetes and lupus; to develop treatments to prevent the rejection of transplanted organs and bone marrow; and to discover the causes of cancer and promising new treatments; you are reading about immunology and the budget of the

National Institutes of Health.

To give you an example of the type of research conducted by immunologists, let us cite a few examples of some exciting work now being done.

- On March 9, 2001, the *Washington Post* reported on a new study by immunologists that supports the prospect of an AIDS vaccine. According to the article, "[i]n a study offering new evidence that AIDS can be controlled by vaccine, inoculated monkeys stayed healthy despite exposure to high levels of virus.... The new vaccine is being fast-tracked toward human testing." The study was reported in the March 9 issue of the journal *Science*.

- Immunologists are studying responses of the fortunate few people who are repeatedly exposed to HIV but don't get the

virus, to determine how their immune system appears to fend off active infection of HIV - crucial information for the design of an effective vaccine.

- Immunologists are also working at understanding how the immune system can recognize cells infected with viruses. Here mice, genetically modified to have only a very simple immune system, but one which can recognize a lethal virus infection, are critical to understanding how an immune response is initiated, how the immune system remembers past infection, and therefore how it will respond to future infection. These studies, originally made for a virus infection in mice, have led to clinical trials in cancer immunotherapy (see *Time Magazine*, January 15, 2001)

- Immunologists are studying the role of cytokines (hormone-like substances made by cells that regulate immune and other biological functions) in mice to discover their role in protecting their hosts from intestinal parasites such as worms and also to determine their deleterious role in asthma, allergy, rheumatoid arthritis, and lupus. This research might help determine the best way to reduce or prevent the overproduction of cytokines, to prevent these diseases, and to identify and reduce side effects from potential treatments. Earlier research by this same team of scientists helped to determine that cytokines play a critical role in causing asthma.

- Immunologists are studying how cytokines affect the immune response to self-antigens (molecules already in the body) in the insulin secreting cells in the pancreas. Understanding the immune response is critical because we know that autoimmune destruction of the pancreas is the cause of Type I diabetes, a disease which classically attacks young people. A recent paper has shown that by changing the way the self-antigen is exposed to the immune system, the disease can be prevented in mice genetically predisposed to develop diabetes.

- Immunologists are studying periodontal disease (gum disease), which is the major cause of tooth loss in the United States. Current work is seeking to understand how the two major bacterial species cause this disease. This involves cloning the bacterial genes necessary for allowing the bacteria to cause disease, and understanding the body's response to the bacteria. Both the bacteria and the response are necessary to cause tooth loss.

- Immunologists are studying the effect of aging and environmental factors on the development of autoimmune disorders, with a special focus on myasthenia gravis; a disease that causes muscle weakness. In this disease, the immune system responds to a critical molecule necessary for nerve signal conduction. Because this molecule is present only in very low amounts, people (and animals) are able to develop an immune response since immune tolerance was never produced. Immunologists have created a transgenic mouse in which this tolerance does occur. This allows the identification of the major mechanisms of disease to be discovered and ultimately controlled.

- Immunologists have identified a novel DNA binding protein that is produced only in the thymus and appears to play a role the production of the antigen receptor gene rearrangement. Because aberrant rearrangement of certain genes (oncogenes) has been seen in many lymphomas and leukemias, immunologists are studying the regulatory processes involved. Such studies may offer critical insight into both diseases.

- Immunologists are studying systemic lupus erythematosus (lupus), an autoimmune rheumatic disorder which can cause arthritis, rashes, kidney failure, central nervous system disease, and other serious medical problems. In studying the antibodies that are made in the disease and the substances to which they bind, a team of immunologists has theorized that the Epstein Barr virus may play a role in causing this disease and is now testing this theory. These immunologists are also working to identify the genes which they believe may predispose people to develop lupus.

As the above examples show, the work of immunologists is varied and relevant to the everyday lives of many American families. Our members devote their professional lives to painstaking work that may one day cure a disease, or contribute, on some smaller but significant level, to better scientific understanding of complex human physiological reaction.

#### **Making scarce dollars go further**

As this subcommittee struggles with difficult decisions regarding the funding level for NIH and other important government agencies and programs for FY 2002, we would like to suggest two ways that we believe that dollars allocated to biomedical research could be stretched further.

First, our researchers have found an increasing regulatory burden placed on them by various rules and regulations promulgated by a variety of government agencies. While our scientists appreciate that their work is funded by taxpayer dollars and respect their duty to account for the use of those funds, they have often found these regulations burdensome and lacking any measurable benefit, taking valuable time (and money) away from the research at hand. Reducing paperwork and streamlining and simplifying rules would certainly help obtain the greatest value from every research dollar.

Second, as our work described above makes clear, immunologists depend heavily on the use of animal models in their research. Without the use of animals, theories about immune system function and treatments that might cure or prevent disease would have to be tested first on human subjects, something our society, and our scientists, would never countenance. Despite the clear necessity for animal research, people and organizations that oppose such research are threatening scientists who use animal models. The legal and extra-legal methods used by these groups to further an animal-rights/anti-medical research agenda is diverting precious resources from our work, threatening the personal safety and security of scientists, and delaying the progress of important research that is already underway. Addressing this ongoing problem is an additional cost that, were it relieved, would enable NIH dollars to go further.

*"Testimony" continued on page 8*

*"Testimony" continued from page 7*

#### **NIH budget plans for supporting young scientists**

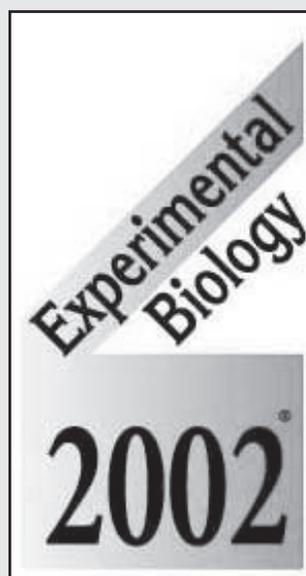
AAI would like to call to the subcommittee's attention NIH's announced plans to increase the level of stipends for post-doctoral recipients. AAI has been deeply concerned about the future supply of biomedical researchers, and in particular, the plight of post-doctoral fellows who are significantly underpaid and under-compensated for their work. In early March, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) held a *Convocation on Enhancing the Postdoctoral Experience For Scientists and Engineers* to discuss post-doctoral issues and a report recently issued by its Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (COSEPUP). Among the many recommendations of the COSEPUP committee was the need for better compensation and employment benefits for post-doctoral fellows. NIH responded by releasing on March 22 a statement in response to the NAS report (Notice NOT-OD-01-027), in which it indicates its plans to increase the stipends for National Research Service Award (NRSA) recipients over a period of five years. While AAI believes that the urgency of the situation requires a phase-in of higher stipends and the offering of basic employment benefits in considerably less than five years, AAI applauds NIH for responding to the COSEPUP report promptly and greatly appreciates NIH's leadership in beginning to address the need for better compensation for post-doctoral fellows. We urge this subcommittee and the Congress to support efforts to address the immediate need for better compensation and benefits for our nation's future biomedical research leaders.

#### **NIH budget on Research Management and Support (RMS) funding**

Current funding for management and oversight at NIH is \$693 million, or 3.3% of the NIH budget. As funding for NIH has increased, allowing for large new numbers of increasingly complex grants, there has been an inadequate increase in support for oversight to ensure that the funds are used wisely and well. As Congress has increasingly asked questions - rightfully so - about what NIH and the nation's researchers are doing with these additional funds, NIH is hampered by insufficient staff to either answer those questions or to ensure fully the proper management and oversight of existing grants.

Between 1984 and 2000, there was little if any increase in RMS funding. In FY 2000 and FY 2001, there were increases of 8% and 10% respectively, raising the RMS to its current level. But if NIH is to properly manage taxpayer dollars, ensure the continuation of its excellent and highly regarded peer review process, provide professional development to staff, manage its facilities, provide public education, and undertake the multitude of activities supported by the RMS budget, AAI believes that an increase in the RMS budget to 4.5% of the NIH budget, a level that is the historical average, is required. We urge this subcommittee to review this important budget category again this year, recognizing that for NIH to use well, and account for, the generous funding increases you have provided, the RMS budget needs your active support.

On behalf of AAI, may I express our appreciation for having this opportunity to submit our remarks and invite any members of the subcommittee who have questions to feel free to contact me for further information.



**April 20-24, 2002**  
**New Orleans**  
**Louisiana**

**Abstract Submission Deadline:**  
**November 7, 2001**

*The Call for Papers* will be  
available in September.

#### **AAI Featured Symposia**

AAI President's Address  
AAI Presidential Symposium  
AAI Distinguished Lecturers  
Richard A. Flavell  
Emil R. Unanue  
Irving L. Weissman

## Members in the News

### Richard J. O'Reilly, M.D., Installed as New ASBMT President

Richard J. O'Reilly, M.D., has been installed as the president of the American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (ASBMT). Dr. O'Reilly is the chair of the Department of Pediatrics and chief of the Bone Marrow Transplantation Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York. He is also the Vincent Astor Chair for Clinical Research and a professor of pediatrics and immunology at Cornell University Medical College. Dr. O'Reilly received his medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine in 1968. He has been an AAI member since 1975.

**Edward D. Ball, M.D.**, Director and Chief, Perlman Clinic, University of California, San Diego, has been installed as a new director of ASBMT. Dr. Ball has been an AAI member since 1983.

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### Margherita T. Cantorna, Ph.D., Receives FASEB MARC Travel Award

Margherita T. Cantorna, Ph.D., was one of the nine faculty recipients of the FASEB MARC Travel Awards presented at EB 2001. Dr. Cantorna is a professor in the Department of Nutrition at Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Cantorna has been an AAI member since 1995.

The FASEB MARC Travel Awards to FASEB Societies National Scientific Meetings Program is funded by the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) Programs through the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). This activity provides the opportunity for faculty members and two underrepresented minority students in the field of biomedical or behavioral science from minority institutions to attend national meetings sponsored by one or more FASEB constituent societies.

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## 50 Year Members

Congratulations to the following members for 50 years of membership in the AAI:

Alan W. Bernheimer, Ph.D.  
 Melvin Cohn, Ph.D.  
 Herman N. Eisen, M.D.  
 J. Anthony Morris, Ph.D.

### Owen N. Witte, M.D., and David Baltimore, Ph.D., Honored by the Warren Alpert Foundation

Owen N. Witte, M.D., UCLA, HHMI, and David Baltimore, Ph.D., California Institute of Technology, have been honored by The Warren Alpert Foundation as two of the five researchers whose discoveries at the basic science, pre-clinical or clinical levels collectively have given rise to Glivec, a once-a-day pill formerly known as STI-571. The pill has garnered recent widespread media attention due to encouraging results in studies of patients with chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML), which each year strikes more than 10,000 adults worldwide. The pill is expected to be approved by the U.S. Food & Drug administration within the next several months.



*Dr. Owen Witte  
 Photo courtesy of UCLA's  
 Jonsson Cancer Center*

The foundation, associated with Harvard Medical School, annually honors researchers who have made significant discoveries in prevention, treatment or cure of a disease. A \$150,000 honorarium will be awarded to and divided among this year's recipients.



*Dr. David Baltimore  
 Photo courtesy of  
 California Institute of  
 Technology*

Witte, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, a scientist at the Jonsson Cancer Center and a professor of Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics at the UCLA School of Medicine, said that it is "deeply rewarding to see how our basic science discoveries have helped give rise to a treatment that is extending lives and improving quality of life for thousands of cancer patients. It will be exciting to see what other applications this kind of targeted treatment strategy may have."

Witte and Baltimore pioneered the research linking a specific mutant gene, called Bcr-Abl, to CML. The findings have served as a basis for the evolution of Glivec, which targets the Bcr-Abl protein. Specifically, Glivec is a signal transduction inhibitor, a new class of drugs that can interfere with cell signaling pathways implicated in tumor growth.

Dr. Witte has been an AAI member since 1983, and Dr. Baltimore has been a member since 1984.

## 19 FASEB Society Members Elected to the National Academy of Sciences

Nineteen FASEB society members were among the 72 scientists and 15 foreign associates who were elected on May 1 to the National Academy of Sciences in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Election to membership in the Academy is considered one of the highest honors that can be accorded a U.S. scientist or engineer. The FASEB Society members elected are:

**Pamela J. Bjorkman; Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; Professor, Division of Biology, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA (AAI, Protein).**

Joan Siefert Brugge; Professor, Department of Cell Biology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA (ASBMB).

Lewis C. Chantley; Professor, Department of Cell Biology, Harvard Medical School; Chief, Division of Signal Transduction, Department of Medicine, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA (ASBMB).

**Peter Cresswell; Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; Professor, Department of Biology, Yale University, New Haven, CT (AAI).**

John H. Exton; Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; Professor of Molecular Physiology and Pharmacology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (APS, ASBMB).

**Douglas T. Fearon; Wellcome Trust Research Professor of Medicine, School of Clinical Medicine, Addenbrookes Hospital, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, U.K. (AAI, ASCI).**

Alexander N. Glazer; Director, Natural Reserve System; Professor, Division of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of California - Berkeley, CA (ASBMB).

Jeffrey I. Gordon; Alumni Professor and Head, Department of Molecular Biology and Pharmacology, Director, Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO (ASBMB, ASPET, ASNS, ASCI).

Lonnie O. Ingram; Distinguished Professor, Department of Microbiology and Cell Science, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL (ASBMB).

John Kuriyan; Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; Patrick E. and Beatrice M. Haggerty Professor, Laboratories of Molecular Biophysics, Rockefeller University, NY (ASBMB, BPS, Protein).

Lynn T. Landmesser; Professor and Chair, Department of Neurosciences, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH (APS).

Alfred Sommer; Professor of Epidemiology and International Health; Dean, Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore, MD (ASNS).

**Ralph Marvin Steinman; Senior Physician and Henry G. Kunkel Professor, Rockefeller University, NY (AAI, ASCI).**

Edwin W. Taylor; Louis Block Professor of Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology, Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology, University of Chicago, IL (BPS).

Ronald D. Vale; Associate Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; William K. Hamilton Distinguished Professorship of Anesthesia, Department of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology, University of California, San Francisco, CA (BPS).

### Foreign Members

Jorge E. Allende; Professor and Director, Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Chile, Santiago, Chile (ASBMB).

**Tasuku Honjo; Dean, Kyoto University Faculty of Medicine, Japan (AAI).**

David MacLennan; J.W. Billes Professor, Banting and Best Department of Medical Research, University of Toronto, Canada (ASBMB, BPS).

Ryuzo Yanagimachi; Professor of Anatomy and Reproductive Biology, Department of Anatomy and Reproductive Biology, John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI (SSR).

The National Academy of Sciences is a private organization of scientists and engineers dedicated to the furtherance of science and its use for the general welfare. The Academy was established in 1863 by a congressional act of incorporation, signed by Abraham Lincoln, that calls on the Academy to act as an official adviser to the federal government, upon request, in any matter of science or technology. Additional information about the institution is available at <http://national-academies.org>. A full directory of NAS members can be found at <http://national-academies.org/nas>.

## 2000 - 2001 Deceased Members

Jean Acton, Ph.D.  
Harrisonburg, VA

Rune Grubb, M.D., Ph.D.  
Lund, Sweden

Edwin Lennette, M.D., Ph.D.  
Berkeley, CA

Elmer Becker, M.D., Ph.D.  
Cleveland, OH

Hans-Jorg Heiniger, D.V.M., Ph.D.  
Marlborough, MA

W. James Metzger, M.D.  
Denver, CO

Ramzi Cotran, M.D.  
Boston, MA

Jacob Holper, Ph.D.  
Charleston, SC

Alfred Nisonoff, Ph.D. (Past AAI Pres.)  
Newton, MA

Janis Giorgi, Ph.D.  
Los Angeles, CA

Elvin A. Kabat, Ph.D. (Past AAI Pres.)  
New York, NY

Donald Shreffler, Ph.D. (Past AAI Pres.)  
St. Louis, MO

A. Arthur Gottlieb, M.D.  
New Orleans, LA

Robert H. Kelly, Ph.D.  
Pittsburgh, PA

AAI extends condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of the following recently deceased members:

Richard Asofsky, M.D.

Ralph Heimer, Ph.D.

B. Cinader, Ph.D., D.Sc., FRSC

Philip E. Seiden, Ph.D.

## AAI Welcomes New Members

AAI welcomes the following new members (2001 first quarter).

Addison, Christina Ph.D.  
Ben-Baruch, Adit Ph.D.  
Akira, Shizuo M.D., Ph.D.  
Apt, Alexander Ph.D., D.Sci  
Baca-Estrada, Maria Ph.D.  
Bae, Hyunsu Ph.D., M.D.  
Bartholomew, Amelia M.D.  
Baseta, Juana Ph.D.  
Beraud-Juven, Evelyn M.A.  
Bostik, Pavel M.D.  
Cao, Xuetao M.D., Ph.D.  
Carey, Gregory Ph.D.  
Casares, Sofia Ph.D.  
Chang, Sulie Ph.D.  
Chen, Qing Ph.D.  
Crisman, Jacqueline Ph.D.  
Cuff, Carolyn Ph.D.  
De Berardinis, Piergiuseppe M.D., Ph.D.  
Dhabhar, Firdaus Ph.D.  
Dickie, Peter Ph.D., M.Sc., B.Sc.  
Dinter, Harald Ph.D.  
Donis, Ruben Ph.D.  
Eberl, Matthias, Ph.D.  
Eichelberger, Maryna B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.  
Eissner, Guenther Ph.D.  
Elenkov, Ilia M.D., Ph.D.  
Equils, Ozlem, M.D.  
Farris, A. Darise Ph.D.  
Filgueira, Luis M.D.  
Flano, Emilio Ph.D., MS., B.S.  
Fleshner, Monika Ph.D., M.A., B.S.  
Fontenot, Andrew M.D.  
Freedman, Victoria Ph.D.  
Friedman, Harvey B.S., M.D.  
Fruman, David Ph.D.  
Furst, Sylvia Ph.D.  
Gadina, Massimo M.D.  
Gao, Jian-Xin M.D., Ph.D.  
Geahlen, Robert Ph.D.  
Gendler, Sandra Ph.D.  
Gomar, Lisardo B.Sc., Ph.D.  
Gonnella, Patricia Ph.D.  
Hagihara, Masao, M.D.  
Hahn, Chang Soo Ph.D.  
Hakonarson, Hakon M.D.  
Hartshorn, Kevan M.D.  
Heeg, Klaus M.D.  
Jouin, Helene Ph.D.  
Herbein, Georges M.D., Ph.D.  
Hsieh, Szu-Min M.D.  
Huang, Lanqing Ph.D.  
Hussell, Tracy Ph.D., B.Sc.  
Hu, Huaizhong M.D., Ph.D.  
Ihn, Hironobu M.D., Ph.D.  
Itoh, Yasushi M.D.  
Jackola, Duaine Ph.D.  
Juang, Yuang-Taung Ph.D., M.D.  
Kamradt, Thomas M.D.  
Kato, Tomohiro M.D., Ph.D.  
Kelly, Ben Ph.D.  
Kennedy, Michael Ph.D.  
Kirschner, Denise Ph.D.  
Krakowski, Michelle Ph.D.  
Ksander, Bruce B.S., Ph.D.  
Kurtz, Caroline Ph.D.  
Lai, Ming-Zong Ph.D., M.S., B.S.  
Lim, Seah M.D., Ph.D.  
Li, Lily Ph.D.  
Li, Xiumin M.D., M.S.  
Lorenz, Eva Ph.D.  
Luppi, Patrizia M.D.  
Lyadova, Irina Ph.D.  
Manchester, Marianne Ph.D.  
Maridonneau-Parini, Isabelle Ph.D.  
Matyas, Gary Ph.D.  
McElhaney, Janet M.D.  
McEvoy, Leslie Ph.D.  
Melenhorst, J. Joseph Ph.D.  
Metwali, Ahmed Ph.D.  
Metz, Christine Ph.D.  
Miller, Patrice M.D.  
Mitchell, Thomas Ph.D.  
Mizgerd, Joseph Ph.D.  
Molitor, Jerry Ph.D.  
Mooney, Nuala Ph.D.  
Mukherjee, Pinku Ph.D.  
Mullbacher, Arno Ph.D.  
Muranski, Pawel M.D.  
Myers, Nancy B.S.  
Nishikomori, Ryuta Ph.D., M.D.  
Nolta, Jan Ph.D.  
Nouri-Shirazi, Mahyar D.V.M., Ph.D.  
Okayama, Yoshimichi, M.D., Ph.D.  
Oksenberg, Jorge B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.  
Ostrowski, Mario M.D.  
Papadakis, Konstantinos M.D.  
Patil, Namrata, Ph.D.  
Pauza, Mary Ph.D.  
Pitha-Rowe, Paula Ph.D.  
Poe, Jonathan Ph.D.  
Pratt, Joanne Ph.D.  
Punturieri, Antonello, M.D., Ph.D.  
Randolph, Gwendalyn Ph.D.  
Riley, James Ph.D.  
Rosenberg, Eric M.D.  
Roy, Edward Ph.D.  
Saio, Masanao M.D., Ph.D.  
Salgame, Padmini Ph.D.  
Satake, Masanobu M.D.  
Schmidt, Madelyn Ph.D.  
Schmitz, Jurgen Ph.D.  
Schulze-Koops, Hendrik M.D., Ph.D.  
Shanley, Thomas M.D.  
Shimada, Shin-ichiro B.S., Ph.D.  
Shin, Myeong M.D., Ph.D.  
Shum, Benny M.S.  
Singer, Steven Ph.D.  
Solomkin, Joseph M.D.  
Soto, Francisco M.D.  
Suematsu, Makoto M.D., Ph.D.  
Test, Samuel M.D.  
Thornton, Sherry Ph.D.  
Utsunomiya, Yasunori M.D., Ph.D.  
Iwasaki, Akiko Ph.D.  
Vallon, Rudiger Ph.D.  
Van Damme, Jozef Ph.D.  
Van Parijs, Luk Ph.D.  
Van Rhee, Frits M.D., Ph.D.  
Vogel, Thorsten Ph.D.  
Volgina, Veronica Ph.D.  
Wang, Jianli M.D., Ph.D.  
West, Kenneth M.D.  
Whelan, Michael B.Sc., Ph.D.  
Wierda, William M.D., Ph.D.  
Xiang, Rong M.D., Ph.D.  
Yamaki, Kunihiko M.D.  
Yamamura, Takashi M.D.  
Yap, George Ph.D.  
Yasutomo, Koji M.D., Ph.D.  
Zoller, Margot M.D.  
Bohjanen, Paul M.D., Ph.D.  
Freedman, Bruce B.S., M.S., V.M.D.  
Banks, Theresa Ph.D.  
Jo, Eun-Kyeong M.D., Ph.D.  
Graf, Thomas Ph.D.  
Shrikant, Protul Ph.D.

## AAI 2001 Business Meeting

AAI held its 2001 Business Meeting on Tuesday, April 3, 2001, in Orlando, FL (at EB 2001). The following are the meeting minutes.

### General Business - AAI President Phillipa Marrack, Ph.D.

- Called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM.
- Thanked BD Biosciences for the financial support provided at EB 2001.
- Requested a moment of silence for the deceased AAI members (see page 9).
- Opened a discussion regarding the incorporation of the AAI. She explained that AAI was not incorporated and proposed to the membership that it would be beneficial for the organization to incorporate. She then explained the criteria for incorporating in the state of Maryland. In order to incorporate, the AAI membership present at the business meeting was required to vote on the issue. The resolution needed a 2/3 majority to pass.
- Asked for any questions/discussion from membership. No questions or discussion were put forth.
  - Resolution to incorporate with revised bylaws was proposed, and then seconded.
  - Vote was taken and resolution to incorporate with revised bylaws was passed.

### AAI Secretary-Treasurer Report - J. Donald Capra, M.D.

- Both the AAI and *The JI* are in excellent financial shape.
- Budgets:
  - AAI: \$1.2 million
  - The JI*: \$4.6 million.
- Commended the Finance and Publications Committees for their work on the budgets.
- Reserves: half of the net profits for both the AAI and *The JI* are put into reserves. There is a full year's operating budget (\$6 million) currently in reserves. AAI is one of the few associations able to reach this goal. He thanked Dr. Hogan and the AAI staff for their efforts in enabling AAI to reach this goal.
- Briefly reviewed the study conducted by the Finance Committee to determine where to invest the funds held in reserves. The funds are invested in a layered bond portfolio and two equity funds.

### Editor-in-Chief Report - Frank W. Fitch, Ph.D.

- Number of pages printed has increased over the past year to almost 14,000.
- Acceptance rate is at ~40%. This has been stable for two decades.
- Acceptance rate for the *Cutting Edge* is 25-30%.
- Reviewer turnaround time is ~42-45 days. With the installation of a new tracking program, this time should decrease.
- Page charges have not deterred submission of lengthy papers. 33% of papers submitted are 8+ pages in length.
- Listed breakdown of submissions by country (see figure 1 on page 14). 40% of submissions are foreign, indicating that *The JI* is perceived as a high quality journal outside of the U.S.

- Among 5,550 journals ranked by the ISI, *The JI* ranks in the top .25% in the number of citations and the top 2% in impact factor
- Search is underway for a new Editor-in-Chief. Dr. Fitch encouraged applications and recommendations from the membership.
- New tracking system working well. The reviewer database is in the process of being moved onto the new system. Once this is complete, reviewers will be asked to re-verify their area(s) of expertise in order to update the database.
- Work on the Legacy Project will begin soon. Papers published in *The JI* dating back to 1980 are going to be put on-line in a searchable PDF format. The papers will include inter-journal linking.
- The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM, and was followed by an Executive session of the AAI Council.

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Australia	1	0	0	1	1	5	3	1	2	2	0	1	17
Austria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
Belgium	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	0	8
Brazil	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
Canada	3	3	2	3	4	3	2	0	1	2	2	3	28
Colombia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croatia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denmark	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3
Finland	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	4
France	2	3	5	3	3	2	2	1	2	4	4	3	34
Gambia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	3	7	1	2	3	0	4	1	6	5	2	5	39
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hungary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
India	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3
Ireland	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Israel	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Italy	1	5	0	1	3	4	3	2	5	1	3	0	28
Japan	2	4	4	4	8	6	7	4	3	3	7	4	56
Korea	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	2	8
Luxembourg	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
The Netherlands	1	1	1	2	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	1	12
New Zealand	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Norway	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Poland	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Portugal	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
South Africa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spain	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	8
Sweden	0	2	2	2	1	1	0	2	2	1	0	3	16
Switzerland	5	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	3	3	18
Taiwan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	3	1	4	3	4	2	3	1	1	2	4	4	32
Uruguay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
USA	43	45	41	47	38	42	34	41	43	47	33	42	496
Total per issue	68	74	62	78	70	73	62	62	68	73	67	72	829
Percent Authorship													
Foreign Authors:							Vol. 163:	Vol. 164:					
US Authors:							43%	40%					
							57%	60%					

**Figure 1**

## 2001 John H. Wallace Summer Teacher AAI Research Fellowship Program

Teacher	Mentor	Teacher	Mentor
Jeff Baier Webster High School Webster, NY	Jan Moynihan, Ph.D. Univ. of Rochester Med. Center Rochester, NY	Kim Kubricht Wright Middle School Nashville, TN	Virginia L. Shepherd, Ph.D. VA Med. Center/Research Service Nashville, TN
Cynthia Kaye Cook Murrah High School Jackson, MS	Larry S. McDaniel, Ph.D. Univ. of Mississippi Med.Center Jackson, MS	Brenda Campbell Royal Hume-Fogg Academic Magnet HS Nashville, TN	Luc Van Kaer, Ph.D. Vanderbilt University Nashville, TN
Karen S. Evans Madison Central HS Madison, MS	Melanie R. Wilson, Ph.D. Univ. of Mississippi Med.Center Jackson, MS	Jaret Schug Webster High School Webster, NY	Jacques Robert, Ph.D. Univ. of Rochester Rochester, NY

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### AAI Mentors for High School Teachers Needed

AAI is looking for members willing to serve as mentors in the John H. Wallace High School Teachers Program. The program is offered each summer through AAI, and is supported through an Education grant from NIAID, NIH. The primary objective of the program is to help support teaching excellence at the secondary school level. This program provides support for middle and high school teachers to work in the laboratories of AAI members for a four-week period, coupled with 1-2 two weeks of curriculum development. It also provides travel funds to attend a teacher's workshop at the AAI annual meeting.

The goal of the program is to give science teachers the opportunity to participate in a hands-on research experience in immunology. This experience is intended to acquaint the teacher with modern research tools and techniques, and to allow them to bring the excitement of research to their classrooms. In addition, the fellowship program helps to establish long-term associations between science teachers and the research community. Women and minority teachers, and teachers in school systems with a high minority enrollment, are especially encouraged to apply for this fellowship.

These grants provide a unique opportunity for AAI members to have a direct impact on science education in their local school districts.

For application materials or questions, please contact:

AAI Teacher Fellowship  
c/o Dr. John Schreiber  
Division of Infectious Diseases  
Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital  
Case Western Reserve University  
11100 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44106  
Email: jrs3@po.cwru.edu

## Charles E. Culpeper Scholarships In Medical Science

The Rockefeller Brothers Fund is currently accepting applications for the 2002 Charles E. Culpeper Scholarships in Medical Science Program designed to support the career development of academic physicians.

Up to four awards of \$100,000 per year for three years will be made to **United States medical schools or equivalent United States educational institutions** on behalf of candidates who are U.S. citizens or aliens who have been granted permanent U.S. residence (proof required); who have received their M.D. degree from a **U.S. medical school** or the equivalent of an M.D. degree from an educational institution equivalent to a United States Medical School in 1993 or later (except under extraordinary circumstances, as approved by the Fund before submittal); and who are judged worthy of support by virtue of the quality of their research proposals. All scientific research relevant to human health is eligible for consideration. No institution may nominate more than one candidate.

In selecting awardees emphasis will be on identifying young physicians with clear potential for making substantial contributions to science as academic physicians. Since January 1988, 45 physicians have been selected as Charles E. Culpeper Medical Scholars.

**Deadline for applications is August 15, 2001.** Awards will be announced in January 2002, for activation on or about July 1, 2002. Application forms and instructions may be obtained from:

Rockefeller Brothers Fund  
437 Madison Avenue, 37<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10022-7001  
Phone: (212) 812-4200  
Fax: (212) 812-4299  
www.rbf.org

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## Fulbright Offers Lecturing/Research Awards in 140 Countries

The Fulbright Scholar Program is offering lecturing/research awards in 140 countries for the 2002-2003 academic year. Traditional Fulbright awards are available from two months to an academic year or longer. A new short-term grants program - the Fulbright Senior Specialists Program - offers two-to-six week grants in a variety of disciplines and fields. While foreign language skills are needed in some countries, most Fulbright lecturing assignments are in English.

Application deadlines for 2002-2003 awards are:

<b>August 1, 2001</b>	for Fulbright traditional lecturing and research grants worldwide
<b>November 1, 2001</b>	for spring/summer seminars in Germany, Korea, and Japan for international educators and academic administrators and for the summer German Studies Seminar
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## Training in Immunology. What Are the Issues, Where Are the Facts?

Paul W. Kincade, AAI Member

At no time in my experience has there been as much discussion about training. It was disturbing for me to hear that some individuals consider themselves "postdoc activists". Established investigators have written that poor compensation and too few positions are driving the most talented American students away from careers in biomedical research. If dissatisfaction among trainees is really widespread, and these conclusions are correct, we are doing something wrong. However, it would be equally wrong to reach conclusions without accurate information. Here I will discuss some of the issues I have learned about, conventional wisdom that may be wrong, and additional questions that have been inadequately addressed.

### Compensation

Stipends could represent one of the important issues concerning the recruiting and training of our successors. Dr. Jonathan Yewdell recently argued in this Newsletter [*So Who's Going To Do the Science?* "AAI Newsletter, March/April 2001, p.5] that stipends and benefits for graduate students and postdocs are too low. This opinion generally accords with AAI's views, as well as my own. NSF recently announced its intention to raise trainee stipends by almost 14%. Trainees supported under NIH NRSA programs will also enjoy 10% per year increases, bringing first year graduate student stipend levels to \$26,573/year and postdoctoral stipends to \$45,513/year by 2006. While the first year costs of these adjustments to NIH training grants will be \$50 million, the impact of the changes is much greater, because the vast majority of trainees are currently paid under research, rather than training grants. Many institutions utilize the "NIH scale" to establish minimum levels for postdocs, regardless of the mechanism of support. Assuming that principal investigators of research grants increase compensation as hoped, there will be less money for experiments or fewer trainees.

My institution provides health benefits for all employees and even relocation assistance for postdocs, but this is unfortunately not true everywhere. Fifty-six percent of non-academic organizations like mine provide medical benefits for postdocs and their dependents, while the corresponding coverage is found in only 10% of academic institutions and can vary depending on the source of support. This is clearly an important issue for trainees and, considering that our benefits are calculated as 23% of salary, an expensive problem for institutions. There is ongoing discussion on many levels about how to support needed increases in stipends and benefits. I would like regional differences in costs of living to also be considered. While a \$31 K stipend may be appropriate for a new postdoc in Oklahoma City, this is not the case for New York City, where an equivalent salary would be \$72K (<http://www2.homefair.com/calc/salcalc.html>).

These important and expensive changes are taking place at a time of relative plenty with respect to NIH funding. It is worth remembering that was not the case in the recent past and is unlikely to continue. Nevertheless, the organized voices of the scientific community have repeatedly spoken up for higher stipends and benefits. In addition to the FY 2002 FASEB Federal Funding Consensus Conference Report cited by Yewdell, the reports for FY 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, and 2001 also urged higher stipends. AAI representatives, including George Abraham and Frank Fitch, led the charge in years past. While all of our goals have not been reached, and the reasons for low stipends are speculative, it is clear that there are limits to how fast they can change.

### The quality and origin of trainees

I sometimes hear comments that are without basis and likely to be misconstrued. For example, some believe that slots in training programs are disproportionately filled by foreign trainees. Even if that were true, the benefits of this intellectual diversity on American science should be apparent. The faculty rosters of our leading medical schools, the National Academy, and Nobel Laureates attest to the contributions of immigrants to American science. Medical research is arguably one of the most competitive of careers, and only the best will succeed. Indeed, other countries, only too happy to attract well-trained investigators, regardless of nationality, envy our "brain gain". In the biological sciences, the percentage of postdocs who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents has been stable since 1992. There were some changes in the late 1980s, and the U.S. percentage declined from 1988-1990 and again from 1990-1992. Since that time, the percentage of U.S. citizens and permanent residents has remained about the same, near 50% (National Research Council, *Enhancing the Postdoctoral Experience*, Figure 2-5). Ph.D.s obtained by non-U.S. citizens rose from 5,102 in 1990 to a peak of 7,302 in 1995, before falling to 6294 in 1999. During the same period, Ph.D.s awarded to U.S. citizens rose from 12,210 in 1990 to 13,680 in 1998. This was followed by a decline to 13,309 in 1999 (National Science Foundation, 2001. *Science and Engineering Doctorate Awards: 1999*, NSF 01-314, Arlington, VA). Thus, advanced training in science has peaked and I see no factual basis for concern about over-training. Current concern is focused on signs that the U.S. will not be able to recruit foreign talent as successfully in the future.

Increased compensation both during and after training might attract more Americans to careers in biomedical science and I hope we continue to get "the brightest and best" for immunology. However, enrollments and numbers of degree recipients are down in other fields such as computer sciences where salaries are attractive. Ph.D. degrees in computer science rose from 612 in 1989 to a high of 997 in 1995. Since that time, the number of degrees awarded annually has declined. In 1999, the most recent year for which data are available, there were only 850 Ph.D.s awarded in computer science (National Science Foundation, *Survey of Earned Doctorates*, Appendix Table B-1). It should be a concern if science programs in the U.S. are inferior, if we are excessively dependent on foreign training, or if the excitement of careers in science is not sufficiently publicized to our youth. However, I suspect that more than money is involved and useful information about trends in science education is welcome.

"Training in Immunology" continued on page 20

# MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

## August

**Aug. 26-30** *Fifth International Symposium on Mass Spectrometry in the Health and Life Sciences: Molecular & Cellular Proteomics*, will be held at the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, CA. **Contact:** Marilyn F. Schwartz, Conference Coordinator, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, UCSF, San Francisco, CA 94143-0446.  
Phone: (415) 476-4893  
Email: sfms@itsa.ucsf.edu  
Web: www.donatello.ucsf.edu/symposium

**Aug. 30-Sept. 1** *15th Annual Meeting of the European Macrophage Society (EMS)* will be held in Vienna, Austria. **Contact:** Wiener Medizinische Akademie, Alser Strasse 4, A-1090 Vienna, Austria.  
Phone: 43 1 405 13 83 ♦ Fax: 43 1 407 82 74  
Email: macrophage2001@akh-wien.ac.at  
Web: www.macrophage2001.org

## September

**Sep. 21-23** *Immunotherapy 2001: American Academy of Immunotherapy* will be held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Washington, D.C.  
Phone: Reservations: (800) 241-3333  
Information: (800) 597-3991

**Sep. 21-22** *Translational Research in Autoimmunity* will be held at Almo Collegio Borromeo in Pavia, Italy. Sponsored by: IRCSS S. Matteo, Pavia, Università degli Studi di Pavia, IRCCS G. Gaslini, Genova. **Contact:** Eventi s.r.l., Corso Cavour, 18/20, 27100 Pavia, Italy.  
Phone: 39 0382 539106 ♦ Fax: 39 0382 306084  
Email: tra@20pr.com  
Web: medicine.ucsd.edu/albani/2001meeting

**Sep. 22-25** *The 41<sup>st</sup> Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy (41<sup>st</sup> ICAAC)* will be held in Chicago, IL. **Contact:** M.S. Hershey Medical Centre, Penn State Univ., 500 University Drive, Hershey, PA 17033.  
Phone: (717) 531-6521 ♦ Fax: (717) 531-6522  
Email: rcourtne@bcmic.hmc.psu.edu

## October

**Oct. 1-3** *Antibodies 2001* will be held in New York, NY. **Contact:** Cancer Research Institute, 681 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10022-4209.  
Phone: (212) 688-7515 ♦ Fax: (212) 832-9376  
Email: events@cancerresearch.org  
Web: www.cancerresearch.org

**Oct. 6-10** *2001 The New Regeneration* will be held at the Nomikos Conference Center, Santorini, Greece.  
Email: Panagiotis Tsonis, Ph.D. - tsonis@neelix.udayton.edu  
Web: www.aegeanconferences.org

**Oct. 7-12** *The Federation of Analytical Chemistry and Spectroscopy Societies (FACSS) Annual Meeting* will be held at the Cobo Center, Detroit, MI. **Contact:** FACSS National Office, 1201 Don Diego Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87505.  
Phone: (505) 820-1648 ♦ Fax: (505) 989-1073  
Email: facss@facss.org  
Web: facss.org

**Oct. 10-14** *Cellular and Molecular Physiology of Sodium-Calcium Exchange* will be held in Banff, Alberta, Canada. **Contact:** The American Physiological Society, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20814-3991.  
Phone: (301) 530-7171 ♦ Fax: (301) 571-8313  
Email: meetings@aps.faseb.org  
Web: www.faseb.org/aps

**Oct. 10-14** *Complement Associated Diseases, Animal Models, and Therapeutics* will be held at the Nomikos Conference Center, Santorini, Greece.  
Email: John D. Lambris, Ph.D. - lambris@mail.med.upenn.edu  
Web: www.aegeanconferences.org

**Oct. 13-17** *The American Society of Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting* will be held at the Hyatt Regency in the Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA. **Contact:** Janene Dawson, ASHI Association Manager, P.O. Box 15804, Lenexa, KS 66285-5804.  
Phone: (913) 541-0009 ♦ Fax: (913) 599-5340  
Email: ashamp@aol.com  
Web: www.ashi-hla.org

**Oct. 14-17** *Remodeling and Repair in Respiratory Disease* will be held at the La Fonda Hotel, Santa Fe, New Mexico. **Contact:** Alice M. Hannon, Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute, P.O. Box 5890, Albuquerque, NM 87185.  
Phone: (505) 845-1124 ♦ Fax: (505) 845-1193  
Email: ahannon@LRRRI.org  
Web: www.lovelace-symposium.org

**Oct. 15-19** *Molecular Autoimmunity* will be held at the Nomikos Conference Center, Santorini, Greece.  
Email: George Tsokos, M.D., Ph.D. - gtsokos@usa.net  
Web: www.aegeanconferences.org

**Oct. 18-20** *Genome and Hormones: An Integrative Approach to Gender Differences in Physiology* will be held in Pittsburgh, PA. **Contact:** The American Physiological Society, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20814-3991.  
Phone: (301) 530-7171 ♦ Fax: (301) 571-8313  
Email: meetings@aps.faseb.org  
Web: www.faseb.org/aps

**Oct. 23-24** *Intensive Review Course in Clinical Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health* will be held in San Francisco, CA. Sponsored by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) in cooperation with the American Committee on Clinical Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health. Phone: (847) 480-9592  
Email: [astmh@astmh.org](mailto:astmh@astmh.org)  
Web: [www.astmh.org](http://www.astmh.org)

**October 26-28** *V. International Workshop on C1, the First Component of Complement, and Collectins* will be held at the Conference Hotel Lufthansa Training Center, Seeheim-Jugenheim, Germany. The meeting will include all aspects of the first component of complement C1 - C1q, C1r, C1s, C1 INH, and collectins, MBL, MASP 1, MASP 2, SP-A, SP-D, Ficolins, etc., in health and disease. **Abstract Deadline: August 10, 2001.** **Contact:** Michael Loos, Ph.D. or Franz Petry, Ph.D., Inst. of Medical Microbiology and Hygiene, Johannes Gutenberg University, 55101 Mainz, Germany.  
Phone: 49 6131 393 7237 ♦ Fax: 49 6131 393 3439  
Email: Dr. Loos: [mloos@mail.uni-mainz.de](mailto:mloos@mail.uni-mainz.de) or Dr. Petry: [fpetry@mail.uni-mainz.de](mailto:fpetry@mail.uni-mainz.de)

### November

**Nov. 2-7** *ThymUS* will be held at the Wyndham El San Juan Hotel & Casino, San Juan, Puerto Rico.  
Email: [thymus@mskcc.org](mailto:thymus@mskcc.org)  
Web: [www.mskcc.org/thymus](http://www.mskcc.org/thymus)

**Nov. 5-8** *The Second Al Ain International Immunology Meeting - Immunoregulation in Health and Disease* will be held at the Intercontinental Hotel in Al Ain. The meeting is organized by The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates University. **Contact:** Organizing Committee, Dept. of Microbiology and Immunology, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, UAE University, P.O. Box 17666, Al Ain, UAE.  
Phone: 971 3 7039488 ♦ Fax: 971 3 7671966  
Email: [m.lukic@uaeu.ac.ae](mailto:m.lukic@uaeu.ac.ae)

**Nov. 10-11** *Updates in Special Bacterial Pathogens* will be held at the Hilton Atlanta and Towers, Atlanta, GA. Sponsored by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) in cooperation with the American Committee on Clinical Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health.  
Phone: (847) 480-9592  
Email: [astmh@astmh.org](mailto:astmh@astmh.org)  
Web: [www.astmh.org](http://www.astmh.org)

**Nov. 11-15** *65<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of the American College of Rheumatology* will be held in San Francisco, CA. **Contact:** American College of Rheumatology, 1800 Century Place, Suite 250, Atlanta, GA 30345-4300.  
Phone: (404) 633-3777 ♦ Fax: (404) 633-1870  
Email: [acr@rheumatology.org](mailto:acr@rheumatology.org)  
Web: [www.rheumatology.org](http://www.rheumatology.org)

**Nov. 11-15** *American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting* will be held at the Hilton Atlanta

and Towers, Atlanta, GA. Go to <http://abstract.cornetser.com/> for on-line abstract submission.  
Phone: (847) 480-9592  
Email: [astmh@astmh.org](mailto:astmh@astmh.org)  
Web: [www.astmh.org](http://www.astmh.org)

### FUTURE MEETINGS

**Feb. 20-24, 2002** *3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Autoimmunity* will be held in Geneva, Switzerland. **Contact:** Prof. Yehuda Shoenfeld, 3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Autoimmunity, P.O. Box 50006, Tel Aviv 61500, Israel.  
Phone: 972 3 5140018/9 ♦ Fax: 972 3 5172484  
Email: [autoim02@kenes.com](mailto:autoim02@kenes.com)

**Feb. 25-Mar. 1, 2002** *The Cellular and Molecular Biology of Cancer* Postgraduate short course will be held at the Wolfson Conference Centre, Imperial College Sch. of Med. **Contact:** Wolfson Conference Centre, Imperial College Sch. of Med., Hammersmith Hospital, Du Cane Rd., London W12 ONN, UK.  
Phone: 44 0 20 8383 3117 Fax: 44 0 20 8383 2428  
Email: [wcc@ic.ac.uk](mailto:wcc@ic.ac.uk)  
Web: [www.med.ic.ac.uk/divisions/cc/wolfson.asp](http://www.med.ic.ac.uk/divisions/cc/wolfson.asp)

**Apr. 20-24, 2002** *EB '2002* will be held in New Orleans, LA. **Contact:** EB '2002, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814.  
**Phone:** (301) 530-7010 ♦ **Fax:** (301) 530-7014  
**Email:** [eb@faseb.org](mailto:eb@faseb.org)  
**Web:** [www.faseb.org/meetings](http://www.faseb.org/meetings)

**Jul. 7-12, 2002** *XIV<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Pharmacology* sponsored by the International Union of Pharmacology, the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, will be held in the Moscone Convention Center, San Francisco, CA. **Abstract deadline is January 31, 2002.** **Contact:** Congress Secretariat, XIV<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Pharmacology, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814-3995.  
Phone: (301) 530-7061  
Email: [juphar@aspet.faseb.org](mailto:juphar@aspet.faseb.org)  
Web: [www.iuphar.org](http://www.iuphar.org)

**Jul. 7-12, 2002** *The American Society for Virology 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting* will be held in Lexington, KY, sponsored by The University of Kentucky, Lexington. **Contact:** Sidney E. Grossberg, Secretary-Treasurer, American Society for Virology, Dept. of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Medical College of Wisconsin, 8701 Watertown Plank Road, Milwaukee, WI 53226-0509.  
Phone: (414) 456-8104 ♦ Fax: (414) 456-6566  
Email: [segrossb@mcw.edu](mailto:segrossb@mcw.edu)  
Web: [www.mcw.edu/asv](http://www.mcw.edu/asv)

**Oct. 25-29, 2002** *66<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of the American College of Rheumatology* will be held in New Orleans, LA. **Contact:** American College of Rheumatology, 1800 Century Place, Suite 250, Atlanta, GA 30345-4300.  
Phone: (404) 633-3777 ♦ Fax: (404) 633-1870  
Email: [acr@rheumatology.org](mailto:acr@rheumatology.org)  
Web: [www.rheumatology.org](http://www.rheumatology.org)

*“Training in Immunology” continued from page 17*

Moreover, disturbing trends in physics and engineering do not seem to apply to immunology.

Many scientists think students are not as good as they used to be, but I question the factual basis of that opinion. There may not be a perfect way to assess the potential for success in the biomedical sciences of current students relative to those in the past. However, GRE examinations can at least be used to make rough comparisons and should reflect any disturbing trends (Zumeta, W. and J.S. Raveling, Chapter 6, in *“Innovation policy in the knowledge-based economy”*, Felman and Link, editors, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001). Between 1989 and 1998, average quantitative GRE scores of U.S. citizens planning graduate study in the biological sciences rose from 587 to 597. Average scores on the analytical portion rose from 583 to 590 over the same period. Only the verbal scores declined, falling from 534 to 507 (Educational Testing Service). The same data shows that the biological sciences have a markedly increased market share with respect to the very high scoring U.S. citizens planning to enter graduate school; the number of those students increased by 55% between 1992 and 1998, at the expense of computer, mathematical and physical sciences. It is important to note that these trends apply to students who have already entered graduate school, as well as those who have just taken the GRE. During the same interval, mean MCAT scores increased by about 10%. While numbers of top students applying for and entering graduate schools in the biological sciences have increased, numbers applying to medical school in 1999 (38,500) were about the same as in 1992 (37,400).

It is of course possible that immunology is somehow different from biochemistry and other biological sciences. Solid data on numbers of graduate student applicants and students enrolled in immunology would be helpful. Our new students have more sophisticated knowledge than before, but that may reflect general advances in science. The success rates for new investigators obtaining NIH grants exceed those of the recent past, but this is at a time when experienced investigators also did better. Lacking more objective data, each investigator must consider his or her personal experience with trainees and ask if the quality [of trainees] has changed over time. Applicants for fellowships I review are truly outstanding and I think the competition is much greater than in the past. Fortunately, excellent young scientists still come to my lab. If that were not the case, I would be unable to tell if the change was an adequate measure of the supply, or a reflection on our work.

The statement frequently heard is “there just aren’t enough good postdocs anymore”. I am confident that this sentiment results from the demand for lab workers that comes from the 10% per year increases in inflation-adjusted NIH grants we have enjoyed during the last ten years (see below). One might “blame” this problem on successful public affairs efforts conducted by AAI and other scientific organizations.

#### **Positions in immunology**

If the problem of low stipends is now being addressed, many other issues remain. Despite considerable study, there is no agreement about whether we are training sufficient numbers of biological scientists for the current demand. My own efforts to probe that important topic are summarized in a recent article;

“Careers in immunology: the new reality”, *Nature Immunology* 2:5, 2001. Many years are required to train a new investigator and it is difficult to predict manpower needs in an era of rapidly evolving opportunities in biomedical research. We know that medical schools have not expanded tenure-track faculty in proportion to substantial increases in NIH supported research, but we know much less about opportunities in industry. Research groups appear to be getting larger and there is a growing need for highly trained “staff scientists”. However, we need to find ways to provide job security and improved recognition for those individuals. It is my opinion that we provide a too narrow range of career goals to our trainees. While it can be exciting and rewarding to be a P.I., there are many other, and often better, ways to do immunology research.

Several studies revealed an extension of the number of years trainees spend as ‘postdoctoral fellows’ (Committee on Dimensions, Causes, and Implications of Recent Trends in the Careers of Life Scientists. 1998. *Trends in the Early Careers of Life Scientists*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press; and Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology. 1997. *Graduate Education Consensus Conference Report*. Bethesda, MD: FASEB.) Some concluded that this reflects over-training for numbers of available positions. It is also possible that staff scientists and others who are not necessarily being trained to become independent investigators inflate numbers of “postdocs”. Postdoctoral training continues to provide important apprentice opportunities, but was never intended as a holding pattern for job seekers. One might now ask, “Who will do the experiments?” I think it should be highly qualified people of all nationalities, who love experimentation and have clearly defined career goals. If they are trainees, they need a well-developed plan for the immediate future. If they are valued research workers, they merit the compensation and benefits provided to technicians and other relatively permanent staff. Fortunately, NIH has recently proposed to limit use of federal dollars from any source to support postdoctoral training for longer than five years ([http://grants.nih.gov/training/nas\\_rerort/NIHResponse.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/training/nas_rerort/NIHResponse.htm)).

My view is that immunology is wide open for talented, highly trained people who will never be satisfied with what is known. Individuals who love the excitement of discovery and the possibilities that immunology research will improve human life are in short supply. I hope that improved compensation will make it possible for them to do what they are driven to do. At the very least, low stipends should not be a disincentive. We can enhance the training experience in other ways and keep our field replete with fresh talent. Training issues are of great concern to AAI and I am confident we can continue to attract, train and select outstanding young scientists.

My personal emphasis will be on obtaining good information that may help avoid misunderstandings. We need a solid basis for our advocacy.

*Dr. Kincade is head of the Immunobiology Program at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, a member of the AAI Council, and one of AAI’s representatives to the FASEB Board. He also serves as Co-chair of the FASEB Science Policy Subcommittee on Careers and Training.*

*Member commentaries in the AAI Newsletter reflect the views of individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or official policies of AAI.*

**THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF IMMUNOLOGISTS**

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 Email Address: members@aai.faseb.org • Website Address: http://www.aai.org

**2001 TRAINEE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Students and Post-Doctoral Trainees may become Trainee members of the AAI. 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.

Qualified applicants must complete the information below and return this form with the required payment. Checks are to be made payable to *The American Association of Immunologists*. All checks must be drawn on a U.S. bank and International money orders are accepted.

Individuals may remain Trainee members for a maximum of eight (8) years. Certification **must** be renewed annually.

PRE-DOCTORAL TRAINEE

I hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please print clearly)  
 is a regularly matriculated *student* in the Department of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 at \_\_\_\_\_  
 (University or Institution)  
 and as such is eligible to become a Pre-Doctoral Trainee member of the AAI.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Signature- must be an AAI member)  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please print clearly)  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Dean, Department Chair or Professor in Charge)  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

POST-DOCTORAL TRAINEE

I hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please print clearly)  
 is a post-Doctoral Trainee in the Department of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 at \_\_\_\_\_  
 (University or Institution)  
 and as such is eligible to become a Post-Doctoral Trainee member of the AAI.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Signature- must be an AAI member)  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please print clearly)  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Dean, Department Chair or Professor in Charge)  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEDGE**

I \_\_\_\_\_, pledge that the copies of **THE JOURNAL OF IMMUNOLOGY** received by me as an AAI Trainee member are for my personal use. They will not be placed in a library for general use, sold, or replace a subscription currently purchased by an institution.

**1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2001**

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**QUALIFICATIONS AND APPLICATION FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP  
2001 MEMBERSHIP YEAR**

The American Association of Immunologists (AAI) is a professional organization whose members have a strong interest in, and have made substantial contributions to, the science of immunology. AAI is a member of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) and is responsible for the publication of *The Journal of Immunology*. To be eligible for election to membership in the AAI, a candidate must meet **one** of the following criteria:

1. Possess a Ph.D. (or equivalent graduate degree, *e.g.*, D.Sc.) in immunology or related disciplines, or an M.D. (or equivalent medical degree, *e.g.*, D.D.S.) and be the **first** author of **one** significant original publication on an immunological topic in a reputable, **English language**, refereed journal. Manuscripts “in press” are acceptable when accompanied by a letter from the publisher or Editor-In-Chief of the journal affirming its acceptance and imminent publication. Abstracts and unpublished papers **will not** be considered in evaluating whether a candidate meets the publications requirement for membership. The requirement for an advanced degree can be waived in certain circumstances if the candidate shows evidence of other appropriate training and research experience.
2. Be an established scientist with substantial achievement in a related discipline and have at least one collaborative paper on an immunological topic in a reputable, **English language**, refereed journal.

**THIS APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE:**

1) Three copies of your bibliography and curriculum vitae; 2) Three copies of a first author publication that meets the described criteria; 3) The name and signature of an active AAI member as your reference.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF DEGREE(S) AND DATE(S) RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT TITLE/ POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE#: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX#: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

RESEARCH SPECIALTY: \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCE:**

NAME OF AAI MEMBER (*please print clearly*): \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF AAI MEMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

Applications should be mailed to the AAI office and marked to the attention of the Chair of the AAI Membership Committee. Please **DO NOT** send payment with your application. You will be invoiced upon approval.

**Application Review Deadlines**

Applications are to be received in the AAI office by:           **March 31**           **June 30**           **September 30**           **December 31**

2001 Dues Rates: 1 January - 31 December:           **U.S. - \$225.00**           **Canadian - \$323.00**           **International - \$315.00**

# AAI-PHARMINGEN INVESTIGATOR AWARD

## DESCRIPTION

Since 1993, the AAI has presented the AAI-PharMingen Investigator Award to an early-career investigator who has made outstanding contributions to the field of immunology. This award was first called the “AAI Young Investigator Award” and retitled the “AAI Investigator Award” in 1995. In 1996, PharMingen became a co-sponsor of the award and the name was changed to reflect that partnership. In 1998, BD Biosciences became the parent company of PharMingen and co-sponsor of the award.

The award includes a plaque, a \$3,000 cash award, and travel support to attend EB 2002. The awardee is required to present his or her work at the AAI-PharMingen Investigator Award Ceremony and Lecture at EB 2002.

## ELIGIBILITY

Nominees must be members in good standing with the AAI and must have received an advanced degree (Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent) within the last 15 years (hence, a 2002 nominee must have received his or her degree on or after June 1, 1987).

## NOMINATION

Individuals must be nominated by a regular AAI member in good standing. Members cannot nominate themselves. Members of the AAI Council and AAI Awards Committee are not eligible to nominate candidates, nor be nominated themselves. Nominees will be evaluated by the AAI Awards Committee, and recommendations will be made to the AAI Council for final selection. A complete nomination package must be received by **December 1, 2001**. Please address all nominations to:

M. Michele Hogan, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
The American Association of Immunologists  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

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## AAI-PHARMINGEN INVESTIGATOR AWARD NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please include the following in the nomination package:

1. Name of nominee
2. Current mailing address (including email address)
3. Title and affiliation
4. Statement of contributions to immunology (*do not exceed 2 pages*)
5. CV including education and fellowships (institution, dates, degrees) and employment history
6. Bibliography (complete citations with titles; a reprint of **one** publication may be included)
7. A nomination letter submitted by an active AAI member
8. Two (2) letters of recommendation supporting this nomination must be submitted in addition to a signed nomination letter.

## AAI - HUANG FOUNDATION MERITORIOUS CAREER AWARD

### DESCRIPTION

This award, established by the AAI in 1999 in partnership with the Huang Foundation, is intended to recognize a mid-career scientist for outstanding research contributions he or she has made to the field of immunology.

The recipient will receive a \$10,000 cash award and travel support to attend EB 2002. The recipient will receive the award and present a lecture at the AAI-Huang Foundation Meritorious Career Award Ceremony and Lecture held at EB 2002.

### ELIGIBILITY

This award competition is open to regular members of AAI who are at a mid-stage in their career. Applicants are to have at least 15 years' experience in the field (hence, the 2002 nominee must have received his or her degree on or before June 1, 1987). While the number of years of experience is not firmly set, this award is *not* intended for senior investigators.

### NOMINATION

Candidates must be nominated by a regular AAI member in good standing. Members cannot nominate themselves. Members of the AAI Council and AAI Awards Committee are not eligible to nominate candidates, nor be nominated themselves. Nominees will be evaluated by the AAI Awards Committee, and recommendations will be made to the AAI Council for final selection. A complete nomination package must be received by **December 1, 2001**. Please address all nominations to:

M. Michele Hogan, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
The American Association of Immunologists  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

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## AAI - HUANG FOUNDATION MERITORIOUS CAREER AWARD NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please include the following in the nomination package:

1. Name of nominee
2. Current mailing address (including email address)
3. Title and affiliation
4. Statement of contributions to immunology (*do not exceed 2 pages*)
5. CV including education and fellowships (institution, dates, degrees) and employment history
6. Bibliography (complete citations with titles)
7. A nomination letter submitted by a regular AAI member in good standing
8. Two (2) letters of recommendation supporting this nomination must be submitted in addition to a signed nomination letter.

# AAI EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING AWARD

## DESCRIPTION

The Excellence in Mentoring Award was established by the AAI in 1995 to recognize the importance of the relationship between a mentor and trainee. A dedicated mentor can significantly influence the successful development and career of trainees. With this award, AAI honors a member for his or her contributions to the profession through outstanding mentoring.

The recipient will be recognized and receive the award at a ceremony during EB 2002.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Nominees must be regular members in good standing with the AAI who have demonstrated a commitment to mentoring throughout their career.

## NOMINATION

Candidates should be nominated by an AAI member in good standing who was mentored by the nominee and is well acquainted with the nominee's qualifications. AAI members cannot nominate themselves. Members of the AAI Council and AAI Awards Committee are not eligible to nominate candidates, nor be nominated themselves. The complete nomination package must be received by **December 1, 2001**. Please address all nominations to:

M. Michele Hogan, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
The American Association of Immunologists  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

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## AAI EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING AWARD NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please include the following in the nomination package:

1. The nomination letter should include the following nominee information:

- Name
- Present title and affiliation
- Current mailing address (including email address)
- Succinct career history and major scientific contributions
- List of former and current trainees mentored by nominee, including names, position with mentor (e.g., post-doctoral fellow, student), dates of training, and the trainees' current positions

2. Letters of recommendation from up to four *former* trainees of the nominee. Each letter must include a brief description of career history relevant to mentoring received, as well as current positions and affiliations. Please use no more than two (2) pages to provide a narrative description of the guidance provided by the nominee.

Qualities that may be considered are the nominee's commitment to mentoring throughout his or her career; advising on career choices; willingness to advise trainees on activities critical to success within the scientific community, e.g., grant writing, manuscript preparation, oral presentations, teaching skills, etc.; continued interest in the professional advancement of former trainees; and success as a role model.

## PFIZER - SHOWELL TRAVEL AWARDS

### DESCRIPTION

This award is intended to recognize the professional promise of early career investigators (assistant professor or equivalent) and assist them with travel to the AAI annual meeting for the purpose of presenting immunology research. This award was established in 1999 through an endowment from Henry J. Showell and Pfizer, Inc.

Award decisions will be based on career progress and the submission of an outstanding abstract selected for presentation in a block symposium (oral presentation) at EB 2002.

Awardees will be recognized and presented with a certificate during an awards ceremony at EB 2002. Support of up to \$1500 will be provided for travel expenses. Notifications of award will be sent prior to EB 2002

### ELIGIBILITY

Regular members in good standing with the AAI who have received their advanced degree within the past 10 years and hold a position of assistant professor or equivalent are eligible to apply for this award. Post-doctoral fellows or other trainees are not eligible.

### APPLICATION PACKAGES

A complete application package must be received by **February 15, 2002**. Please address all packages to:

M. Michele Hogan, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
The American Association of Immunologists  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

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## PFIZER - SHOWELL TRAVEL AWARDS APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please include the following in the application package:

1. A letter that includes the following information:
  - Name
  - Title and affiliation
  - Current mailing address (including email address)
2. Applicant's CV; please list current funding
3. A copy of the abstract submitted to EB 2002
4. A brief statement of applicant's research goals (not to exceed 1 page).

# AAI JUNIOR FACULTY TRAVEL AWARDS

## DESCRIPTION

This award is intended to assist young investigators with travel to EB 2002. Awardees will be selected on the basis of career progress and the submission of a first author abstract to EB 2002. Award recipients will be presented with a \$500 cash award and a certificate during an awards ceremony at EB 2002. Notifications of award will be sent prior to EB 2002.

## ELIGIBILITY

Junior faculty, *i.e.*, assistant professor or equivalent, who are regular AAI members in good standing and have submitted a first author abstract to EB 2002 are eligible to apply for this award. Post-doctoral fellows or senior faculty (associate professor and above) **are not** eligible.

## APPLICATION PACKAGE

A complete application package must be received by **February 15, 2002**. Please address all packages to:

M. Michele Hogan, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
The American Association of Immunologists  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

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## AAI JUNIOR FACULTY TRAVEL AWARDS APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please include the following in the application package:

1. A letter that includes the following information: (*Please clearly designate "AAI Junior Faculty Award" in the cover letter.*)
  - Name
  - Title and affiliation
  - Current mailing address (including email address)
2. CV including education, fellowships, employment history, and current funding
3. A copy of the abstract submitted to EB 2002.

## AAI - HUANG FOUNDATION TRAINEE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### DESCRIPTION

This award is intended to recognize promising trainees in the field of immunology. Awardees will receive a \$1000 cash award and travel support (up to \$1500) to attend EB 2002. Trainee applicants will be selected on the basis of career promise and presentation of an outstanding first author abstract at EB 2002.

This award was established by the AAI in 1997 through an endowment from The Huang Foundation.

### ELIGIBILITY

Students and post-doctoral fellows presenting a first author abstract at the annual meeting are eligible to apply. Awardees will be notified of selection prior to EB 2002. Recipients will be recognized and presented their awards at an awards ceremony during EB 2002. Applicants must be trainee members of AAI as of December 1, 2001.

### APPLICATION PACKAGE

The complete application package must be received by **February 15, 2002**. Please address all packages to:

M. Michele Hogan, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
The American Association of Immunologists  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

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## AAI - HUANG FOUNDATION TRAINEE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please include the following in the application package:

1. A letter that includes the following information:
  - Name
  - Title and affiliation
  - Current mailing address (including email address)
2. Applicant's CV
3. A copy of the abstract submitted to EB 2002
4. A brief statement of applicant's research goals (not to exceed 1 page)
5. A letter of recommendation from advisor/mentor
6. A completed AAI Trainee Award Certification Form.

# AAI MINORITY SCIENTIST TRAVEL AWARDS

## DESCRIPTION

In an effort to increase participation of under-represented ethnic minority U.S. scientists at its annual meeting, AAI has established the AAI Minority Scientist Travel Awards. These awards will provide travel support to attend EB 2002.

Awardees will be recognized and presented with this award during an awards ceremony at EB 2002. Awardees will receive a certificate and support of up to \$1200 for registration and travel expenses associated with the meeting. Notifications of award will be sent prior to EB 2002.

## ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be members (trainee or regular) in good standing with the AAI. An applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States or its territories, and a member of one of the following under-represented ethnic minority groups: African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Alaskan Native, or Pacific Islander (Polynesia/Micronesia).

Trainee applicants must include a signed AAI Trainee Award Certification Form.

## APPLICATION PACKAGES

A complete application package must be received by **February 15, 2002**. Please address all packages to:

M. Michele Hogan, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
The American Association of Immunologists  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

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## AAI MINORITY SCIENTIST TRAVEL AWARD APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please include the following in the application package:

1. A letter that includes the following information:
  - Name
  - Title and affiliation
  - Current mailing address (including email address)
  - Applicant's ethnic group:
    - African American
    - Hispanic
    - Native American (specify tribal affiliation)
    - Alaskan Native
    - Pacific Islander (Polynesia/Micronesia)
2. CV including education and fellowships (institution, dates, degrees) and employment history
3. If submitting an abstract to EB 2002, please enclose a copy.

