

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2024



AAI Has a Fresh New Look
PAGE 10



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THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF IMMUNOLOGISTS

ABSTRACTS	OPENS	CLOSES	FEES	
			MEMBERS	NONMEMBERS
Regular Submission period	October 1, 2024	November 19, 2024	\$0	\$140
Late-Breaking Submission period	January 7, 2025	January 21, 2025	\$110	\$175

REGISTRATION*	OPENS	CLOSES
Advanced	December 10, 2024	April 4, 2025
Late	April 5, 2025	May 2, 2025
Onsite	May 3, 2025	-

** Registration fees and rates to be determined*

**HONOLULU, HAWAII, USA
MAY 3 – 7, 2025**

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To see a list of AAI staff, visit

www.aai.org/staff

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AAI President's Message



**Stephen Jameson,
Ph.D. (AAI '96)**

**Professor and Harry Kay Chair
in Biomedical Research,
Center for Immunology—
University of Minnesota
Medical School, Twin Cities**

It is my distinct honor to represent you as this year's president of the American Association of Immunologists. I am excited to contribute to the continued success of AAI and its mission to improve global health and well-being by advancing immunology and elevating public understanding about the immune system. I am especially humbled to follow in the footsteps of Akiko Iwasaki (AAI President 2023–24), whose leadership and tireless commitment exemplify the spirit of this important role.

I have been a member of AAI for more than 27 years and have served on the AAI Council for the past five years. In that time, I have gained invaluable insights from you, our members and stakeholders. Over the past year, my colleagues and I on the AAI Council have engaged in numerous strategy sessions, analyzed feedback from our survey completed by over 4,000 individuals, and listened to our committees. Some of what we heard was expected, some was surprising, but all that we learned from you underscored your dedication and commitment to the field and its importance. I am deeply grateful to the entire Council for their dedication and am honored to be part of AAI's ongoing journey as an organization that amplifies the work of its members more broadly.

I am fortunate to be taking the helm of AAI now, with our new strategic framework ([vision.aai.org](https://www.vision.aai.org)) already in place to provide the guiding principles by which I can refine and shape my priorities—a framework that was developed by the Council in response to your expressed aspirations and concerns. It is an honor to be entrusted with furthering the big, ambitious goals you have for our association. As president of this vibrant community, I will do my very best to embody and embrace your ambitions, and to steer AAI in the directions we have laid out together as a community. Some of my earliest activities will further the strategic priorities that support the immunology community—primarily through exploring new learning opportunities and shoring up the association's operational capacity by assessing and making any necessary changes to our governance structure.

Governance Assessment

Those of you who participated in AAI's Business Meeting on May 5 at IMMUNOLOGY2024™ voted to amend AAI's bylaws, paving the way for an upcoming review of AAI's overall governance. I am pleased with the changes, as the bylaws that govern our association are outdated and do not reflect the existing environment or current practices. You voted to update the bylaws to explicitly permit electronic voting—both for elections and for future bylaws revisions. This will help as we set forth later this year to modernize AAI's governance structure, systems, and processes and to align them with the organization's newly defined strategic priorities.

Exploration of Digital Learning

Supporting the next generation of immunology leaders is a critical role of AAI. Throughout AAI's history, we have done this in numerous ways, including through our two outstanding journals, *The Journal of Immunology* and *ImmunoHorizons*, and by providing many opportunities and much support for members to attend our annual meeting. But people consume content in vastly different ways today, which means we need to provide options beyond in-person learning. Over the past year, AAI Committees and Staff have produced robust webinars ([virtual.aai.org](https://www.virtual.aai.org)) on topics from ARPA-H funding to AI's impact on education, reaching a global audience. While I am excited by this expansion of digital learning, I recognize that there are opportunities beyond traditional webinars. These may be on-demand courses that complement our annual Introductory and Advanced Courses in Immunology, or they may be new digital courses on emerging topics. I want AAI to be a place where the immunology community feels supported with resources and programs that enable continuous growth at every career stage and inspire interest in immunology among the next generation. Growing our digital learning opportunities is essential to achieving this goal.

Computational Immunology Course

In the realm of education and professional development, the analysis of “big data” has become crucial in immunology, with single-cell analysis becoming a standard for many studies. While there are many bioinformatics or computational biology courses offered, their relevance to immunologists varies considerably. There is a clear need for more training and education in this area. I want to thank Mark Davis (AAI president 2022–2023) for outlining a proposal for this

course in 2019, which AAI postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I have had multiple conversations with AAI leaders in this field, and we plan to reinvigorate this project. Stay tuned for more on this exciting potential opportunity.

Involving Members in the Implementation of our Strategic Framework

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, I want to thank all the incredible volunteers who commit countless hours to guiding and developing the AAI activities that make this organization so impactful. While I have identified some priority areas for my time as president, we rely on AAI members and volunteers to advance many more current and new initiatives.

Last year, we saw the launch of the AAI Volunteer Portal (volunteer.aai.org) making it easier for members to express their interest in serving the society in various roles, and many of you have already used the system. I am pleased to announce that new in 2024–2025, most AAI committee rosters include trainees as liaisons to represent the important perspectives of AAI trainee members, something that I am especially interested in developing during my term. The volunteer portal is open year-round, and I encourage all dedicated members to register their interest by submitting an AAI Volunteer Interest Form. You can help shape the future of both AAI and the field of immunology.

Finally, while our strategic framework outlines our vision, mission, goals and objectives, it does not specify how we will advance each goal. For this, we rely on AAI committees to generate ideas and work closely with the AAI staff who have been charged to create an implementation plan that will serve as a step-by-step guide for furthering the strategic objectives. The Council will have general oversight and will monitor progress, but it will be the volunteers on committees and the AAI staff who actively work to advance these priorities.

When I was elected to the AAI Council years ago, I started to think about my presidential year and what I might be able to accomplish. Throughout my time on Council, I have deepened my knowledge of the organization, and my thinking has evolved. With new leadership at AAI, exciting discussions of our vision for the future of the organization, and fresh energy for implementing these ideas, there is a lot to do that was not even on the horizon when I joined Council. My goal is to keep that momentum going, help us look beyond what AAI represented in the past (while proudly maintaining our legacy), and engage AAI membership in turning these visions into reality. I'm honored to serve in this position at such an auspicious time and look forward to what we can achieve in the AAI by working together.

PRESIDENT'S PROFILE: STEPHEN JAMESON, PH.D., AAI '96

Stephen Jameson, a member of the AAI Council since his election in 2019, commenced his leadership of AAI as the 108th president on July 1.

Jameson holds appointments as professor and Harry Kay Chair in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at the University of Minnesota (UMN) Medical School, where he is a member of the university's Center for Immunology and Masonic Cancer Center and past director of graduate studies for the Microbiology, Immunology, and Cancer Biology graduate program.

An AAI member since 1996, Dr. Jameson served AAI in multiple roles prior to being elected to Council, including as an elected member of the AAI Publications Committee and elected member of the AAI Nominations Committee. He also held appointments as associate editor and then section editor for *The Journal of Immunology* and has served as director and instructor for the AAI Advanced Course in Immunology. He has also participated as an invited major symposium chair and speaker at multiple AAI annual meetings.

The Jameson lab primarily focuses on the homeostasis, trafficking, and differentiation of CD8⁺ T cells, and how these can be regulated to promote beneficial responses

while limiting immunopathology. Main areas of focus include understanding the cues that maintain functionally competent naïve and memory CD8⁺ T cells, and the factors regulating memory T cell differentiation into recirculating versus tissue-resident populations. Through collaborations with colleagues at the UMN, Jameson's group also explores T cell development and tolerance, the influence of normal microbial exposure on immune responses (using "dirty mice"), and the basis for age-related immunological defects.

Dr. Jameson is a past member of the National Cancer Institute Board of Scientific Counselors (Basic Sciences) and has served on many grant review panels for NIH, in addition to various U.S. and international grant awarding foundations. He serves as a senior editor for *Cancer Immunology Research* and member of the editorial board for *Immunity*, and reviews for many journals.

Dr. Jameson's career awards and honors include the Frederick W. Alt Award for New Discoveries in Immunology, Cancer Research Institute (CRI); NIH MERIT Award; Special Fellowship, Leukemia Society of America; Postdoctoral Fellowship, CRI; and election to the UMN Academic Health Center Academy for Excellence in Health Research.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

An honors graduate in cellular pathology from the University of Bristol, England, Dr. Jameson obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge, England, and Agricultural and Food Research Council Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics Research (advisor: Jonathan Howard). He undertook postdoctoral research in immunology in the laboratory of Nicholas Gascoigne (AAI '88) at the Research Institute of

Scripps Clinic, La Jolla, CA, and subsequently as a senior immunology fellow in the laboratory of Michael Bevan (AAI '78) at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Dr. Jameson joined the UMN faculty in 1995 as an assistant professor and received his associate and full professor appointments in 2001 and 2006, respectively.



Stephen Jameson and Kristin Hogquist (foreground, middle right) pictured with current and recent “Jamequist” lab members at the University of Minnesota

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF IMMUNOLOGISTS STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

VISION

AAI envisions a healthy and enlightened global community through groundbreaking immunological research and enhanced public understanding of immunology.

MISSION

Our mission is to improve global health and well-being by advancing immunological science and supporting scientists through knowledge dissemination, community building, advocacy, and public outreach.

WHAT WE DO



We disseminate knowledge and breakthroughs concerning the immune system and its impact on health and disease through our esteemed journals, meetings, and educational opportunities.



We promote a broader public understanding of immunology and instill trust in its pivotal role in safeguarding health.



We empower, inspire, educate, and provide unwavering support to all immunologists and those interested in immunology. We provide opportunities for scientific collaboration and networking, cultivating an inclusive and interactive community dedicated to immunology research and its translation to new therapies.



We advocate for the resources required to better understand the immune system and advance the immunological enterprise.

GOALS

1

A modernized AAI organizational structure and capacity.

2

Increased public understanding of the relevance of immunology to health.

3

Robust and diverse educational, professional, and collaborative opportunities for the immunology community.

4

An efficient, effective, and well-funded immunological enterprise.

2024 AAI Election Results

AAI congratulates the following members on their election to the AAI Council and AAI committees for terms that commenced on July 1. Chosen by AAI voting members in balloting this spring, these elected leaders represent some of the nation's foremost academic and research institutions. Together with their Council and committee colleagues and on behalf of all AAI members, they will continue AAI's commitment to support research funding, shape science policy, and foster a deeper public understanding of the immune system's role in health and disease.

AAI extends a sincere thanks to all candidates who agreed to stand for election. We thank them for investing in their profession and in the mission of AAI through their participation.

COUNCIL

President 2024–2025



Stephen Jameson, Ph.D., AAI '96
Professor and Harry Kay Chair in Biomedical Research, Center for Immunology—Univ. of Minnesota Med. Sch., Twin Cities

Vice President 2024–2025



Ulrich H. von Andrian, M.D., AAI '97
Edward Mallinckrodt Jr. Professor of Immunopathology; Program Leader, Basic Immunology—Ragon Inst. of MGH, MIT and Harvard; Department of Immunology—Harvard Med. Sch.

Secretary-Treasurer 2024–2027



Joan Goverman, Ph.D., DFAAI, AAI '95
Professor Emeritus, Department of Immunology—Univ. of Washington

Councilor 2024–2028



Donna L. Farber, Ph.D., DFAAI, AAI '95
George H. Humphreys, II Professor of Surgical Sciences, Department of Microbiology and Immunology—Columbia Univ.

COMMITTEES

Awards Committee 2024–2027



Pamela L. Schwartzberg, M.D., Ph.D., AAI '01
Senior Investigator, Laboratory of Immune System Biology—NIAID and NHGRI, NIH

Finance Committee 2024–2027



Laurence Morel, Ph.D., AAI '99
Professor and Chair, Department of Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics—UT Hlth. San Antonio

Nominating Committee 2024–2025



**Barbara L. Kee, Ph.D., AAI '04
Chair**

Professor, Department of Pathology and Department of Family Medicine; Chair, Committee on Cancer Biology—Univ. of Chicago



**Robert L. Modlin, M.D., DFAAI,
AAI '86**

Professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Dermatology—Geffen Sch. of Med., Univ. of California, Los Angeles



Clara Abraham, M.D., AAI '04
Professor, Department of Internal Medicine and Member of Human and Translational Immunology—Yale Univ.



**Laura Santambrogio, M.D., Ph.D.,
AAI '03**

Associate Director, Precision Immunology—Englander Institute of Precision Medicine; Professor of Radiation Oncology and of Physiology and Biophysics—Weill Cornell Med.



**De'Broski R. Herbert, Ph.D.,
AAI '00**

Penn Presidential Professor of Immunology—Univ. of Pennsylvania; Professor of Pathobiology—Univ. of Pennsylvania Sch. of Vet. Med.

Program Committee 2024–2027



Carrie L. Lucas, Ph.D., AAI '09
Associate Professor of Immunobiology—Yale Sch. of Med.



**Katrin D. Mayer-Barber, Ph.D.,
AAI '16**

Tenure-Track Investigator, Lab of Clinical Immunology and Microbiology—NIAID, NIH

Publications Committee 2024–2028



**Kristen A. Hogquist, Ph.D., DFAAI,
AAI '95**

Professor, Center for Immunology—Univ. of Minnesota



A New AAI Logo for a New Strategic Framework

As the AAI leadership strived to capture members' aspirations for the organization in the Strategic Framework, it became clear that the existing logo did not reflect the vibrancy, inclusiveness, and dynamism of AAI today. It was time for a modern, fresh take that would appeal to a broad audience and convey the vibrancy of the field and the association to the public, policymakers, and others outside our own community. As with the strategic framework, the AAI leadership undertook a thorough process to rethink the organization's visual identity. President Akiko Iwasaki, the AAI Council, and AAI staff collaborated with a team of brand consultants and graphic designers, beginning with a review of the survey results and committee input that informed the strategic plan. Through interviews and workshops, they crafted the AAI value proposition.

The new logo needed to reflect the AAI vision and mission and to support the goals in strategic plan. It also needed to convey some very important concepts.

For members and prospective members, it was most important to communicate that AAI is a forward-looking, relevant, and essential home for the immunology community. As scientists, AAI members are knowledgeable, curious, logical, and creative. As an organization, AAI is inclusive—bringing immunologists together under one tent and nurturing and supporting them at all phases of their careers.

For the public, AAI needs to help people understand that immunologists strive to solve mysteries and create new knowledge for the benefit of all society. AAI wants the public to understand that immunology is essential and relevant to their health and well-being. People should feel reassured and enlightened by immunology, and AAI and its members should be positioned as a trusted source for credible information.

This new logo reflects a forward-leaning approach and symbolizes progress and unity. Its dynamic and vibrant design reflects AAI's diverse expertise and inclusivity, illuminating its unique role in advancing immunology.

- The slash (or forward-leaning "I") blending with an antibody-like structure symbolizes connection and creates an abstracted letter "A".
- The graphic also represents the broad tent that joins together the diverse field of immunology.
- The color gradient resembles a sunrise, or light filling space, to symbolize a vibrant community, excitement in the field, and the energy of our members.

This new visual identity, together with the strategic framework, sends a powerful message about who immunologists are and how AAI is evolving.



Register to Access AAI's On-Demand Introductory and Advanced Immunology Courses

Missed the AAI summer courses this year? Lectures from these premier immunology courses are now available to be viewed from the comfort of your own home, office, lab, or library—and according to your own schedule. Each course offers more than 20 topics for over 30 lecture hours by leading experts in the field of immunology.

AAI 2024 Introductory Course in Immunology

Course Director: Helen S. Goodridge, Ph.D., Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

This intensive course, taught by well-known immunologists, provides a comprehensive overview of the basics of immunology. This course is for students new to the discipline or those seeking more information to complement general biology or science training.

The course includes a detailed introduction to the basic principles of immunology, as well as a clinically oriented lecture series.

AAI 2024 Advanced Course in Immunology

Course Director: Wayne M. Yokoyama, M.D., Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

This intensive course is intended for advanced trainees and scientists who wish to expand or update their understanding of the field. Students should have a firm understanding of the basic principles of immunology and laboratory techniques.

Leading experts will present recent research advances in understanding the biology of the immune system and its role in health and disease.



Expand Your Immunological
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To learn more, visit www.aai.org/Education/Courses.

 American
Association of
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Community Collaboration Cutting-Edge Research

AAI is a welcoming, dynamic, and engaging community of immunologists and scientists in related disciplines, from all settings and applications—because of members like you.

If you have a colleague who would benefit from being involved, please encourage them to join at aai.org/membership.

Thank you for being a member and helping AAI thrive!



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FY2024 Appropriations Bill Flat-Funds Most NIH Institutes

On March 23, President Joe Biden signed into law a measure that included the final six appropriations bills for fiscal year (FY) 2024, including the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill that funds the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The House approved the bill on March 22 by a vote of 286–134 and the Senate approved it the following day by a vote of 74–24.

The total NIH budget for FY 2024 is \$47.081 billion, which is \$378 million (0.8%) below the FY 2023 level. This funding reduction, however, can be partially explained by a planned cut to initiatives funded by the 21st Century Cures Act. Through that law, Congress provided NIH with \$4.8 billion over 10 years, the great majority of which had to be allocated to the Precision Medicine Initiative, the BRAIN Initiative, and the Cancer Moonshot. While NIH received \$1.085 billion through the 21st Century Cures Act in FY 2023 for these projects, that funding ramped down to \$407 million in FY 2024. After excluding funding for the 21st Century Cures Act initiatives, the NIH budget for FY 2024 actually increased by \$300 million.

Most NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs) received flat funding for FY 2024, including the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Modest funding increases were approved for a few ICs, including the National Cancer Institute, to extend the Cancer Moonshot, and the National Institute on Aging, for research on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

The Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), which is technically part of NIH but funded separately, received \$1.5 billion for FY 2024, equal to its FY 2023 funding level.

In July 2023, the House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee approved a bill that included a \$2.8 billion cut to the NIH budget (including a \$1.5 billion cut to NIAID) and a \$1 billion cut to ARPA-H. Akiko Iwasaki, Ph.D. (AAI President 2023–24), Gretchen Diehl, Ph.D. (Committee on Public Affairs Chair 2023–24), and AAI Director of Government Affairs Jake Schumacher subsequently met virtually with staff from the offices of Chairman Robert Aderholt (R-AL, 4th) and Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-CT, 3rd) to explain why the cuts to NIH and NIAID would be so devastating and to strongly advocate against them.

The Senate Appropriations Committee subsequently approved a bill with a \$265 million increase for NIH and flat funding for ARPA-H. Fortunately, the bipartisan bill

approved by the Senate ended up serving as the starting point for negotiations on a final NIH funding level, and House negotiators ultimately abandoned their plan for a drastic cut.

AAI Submits Written Congressional Testimony Urging Increased Funding for Biomedical Research

CPA Chair Gretchen Diehl recently submitted written congressional testimony on behalf of AAI to both the House and Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees. In its testimony, AAI recommends an FY 2025 funding level of \$51.3 billion (an increase of \$4.2 billion) for NIH and an FY 2025 funding level of \$1.7 billion for ARPA-H (an increase of \$200 million).

In addition to advocating for increased funding for biomedical research, the testimony also outlines several exciting scientific advances related to immunology that have been, wholly or in part, funded by NIH. These advances were recommended for inclusion by the 2023–2024 AAI Public Policy Fellows, who also assisted in drafting this section of the testimony. This year, the advances include FDA approval of tumor infiltrating lymphocyte (TIL) therapy for advanced melanoma, personalized cancer mRNA vaccines, CAR T therapy for autoimmune diseases, oral immunotherapy for treatment of food allergy, RSV vaccines for adults and children, and new antibiotics.

Read the full testimony submitted to the House (bit.ly/3RspZ3B) and Senate (bit.ly/3Rtgn8N).

AAI Hosts 13th Annual PFP Capitol Hill Day

In March, the ten 2023–2024 AAI Public Policy Fellows Program (PFP) participants traveled to Washington, D.C., for a two-day Capitol Hill Day program. The Fellows were joined by CPA Chair Gretchen Diehl and Advocacy Programs Subcommittee Chair Jonathan Deane, Ph.D.

On March 19, NIAID Deputy Director Hugh Auchincloss, M.D., DFAAI (AAI '83), joined the Fellows and presented at the program's annual training dinner, an event Dr. Auchincloss has attended since the PFP's inception. Dr. Auchincloss gave an overview of the current state of affairs at NIH and NIAID, including providing up-to-date information on the scientific progress made against COVID-19 and other major diseases of great relevance to the public. The dinner also included a presentation by Jake Schumacher, AAI Director of Government Affairs, to ensure the Fellows were fully prepared for their congressional visits the following day.

On March 20, the Fellows visited 23 congressional offices, including personal meetings with four Members of Congress. The Fellows emphasized the importance of immunological research, communicated AAI's funding request for NIH for FY 2024 and FY 2025, and expressed AAI's support for ARPA-H.



From left to right: AAI Chief Program & Policy Officer Lauren Gross, CPA member Jonathan Deane, Public Policy Fellow (PPF) Samantha Yeligar, Senator Raphael Warnock (D-GA), PPF Heather Gustafson, PPF Srinu Mudalagiri, PPF Derek Theisen



From left to right: PPF Nick Maurice, Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-IA, 1st), PPF Emma Hornick, and PPF Amali Samarasinghe



From left to right: PPF Emma Hornick, PPF Samantha Yeligar, Rep. Steve Cohen (D-TN 9th), and PPF Amali Samarasinghe

NIH Announces Increases to Pre- and Post-doctoral Scholar Pay Levels

Based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee to the NIH Director (ACD), NIH increased annual pay levels of recipients of the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA). For fiscal year (FY) 2024, predoctoral scholars will receive \$28,224, an increase of approximately 4%, and postdoctoral scholars will receive pay beginning at \$61,008 annually, a rise of 8%, increasing based on number of years of experience. Although these levels fall short of the recommendation by the ACD, NIH has stated that it intends to continue increasing pay for NRSA recipients over the next five years. NIH indicated that these pay increases are likely to result in a smaller number of NRSA awards, especially given the flat funding levels NIH received for FY 2024.

NIH Director Monica Bertagnoli M.D., stated, “this revision of pay levels for NRSA recipients is just a first step toward reaffirming their value and ensuring they are appropriately compensated, and I am hopeful these continued efforts help us attract and retain our nation’s brightest scientific minds.”

In addition to the increase in annual pay, eligible NRSA recipients will receive an extra \$500 for childcare expenses and an extra \$200 for expenses related to their training.

AAI Welcomes the 2024–2025 Public Policy Fellows

On May 1, AAI announced the names of ten early career scientists who were chosen to participate in the 2024–2025 AAI Public Policy Fellows Program (PPFP) by the AAI CPA. The PPFP engages researchers in AAI advocacy activities focused on increasing federal funding for biomedical research, strengthening the research enterprise and workforce, and advancing the understanding of and support for immunology. AAI is excited to work with the following ten individuals over the next year:



Mark Brimble, Ph.D.
St. Jude Children's
Res. Hosp.



Patricia Ferrer Castillo, Ph.D.
Uniformed Services
Univ. of the Hlth. Sci.
Henry M. Jackson Fndn.



Brennah Britten, Ph.D.
Wistar Inst.



Rebekah Kendall, Ph.D.
Univ. of Montana



Douglas Chung, Ph.D.
Genentech



Jillian L. McCool, Ph.D.
Lawrence Livermore Natl. Lab



David Constant, Ph.D.
Oregon Hlth. & Sci. Univ.



Gianluca Veggiani, Ph.D.
Louisiana State Univ.

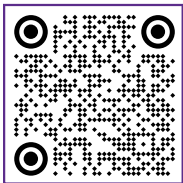


Neha Dubey, Ph.D.
Washington Univ.,
St. Louis



Insha Zahoor, Ph.D.
Henry Ford Hlth.

The fourteenth class kicked off its one-year fellowship at IMMUNOLOGY2024™, where Fellows attended the AAI Business Meeting and CPA policy sessions, and where they gathered at the AAI booth for the two “Meet the AAI Public Policy Fellows!” events. Past Fellows joined public affairs staff in answering questions about the program from newly appointed Fellows and other meeting attendees who were interested in the program.



If you are interested in applying for the 2025–2026 PFPF, and you are within 15 years of your terminal degree, scan this QR code and complete the pre-registration form to be notified when applications open later this year.

AAI Responds to NIAID RFI on its Strategic Plan

AAI recently submitted comments to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) in response to its Request for Information (RFI): “Inviting Comments and Suggestions on NIAID’s Strategic Plan.” NIAID sought feedback on its five proposed research priorities and additional cross-cutting themes.

In its general feedback, AAI strongly emphasizes the importance of funding a robust portfolio of foundational and discovery-based research and of supporting collaboration, especially among NIH Institutes and Centers. AAI also urges NIAID to emphasize the significance of biomedical research workforce development in its strategic plan, with a focus on supporting and retaining early-career talent. Given that the NIAID R01 payline has remained flat or decreased annually since 2019, despite steady NIH/NIAID budget increases (until fiscal year 2024), AAI suggests that NIAID undertake a broad evaluation of its portfolio to determine whether any large programs could be scaled back to allow for additional funding for investigator-initiated research. AAI also provided specific comments for the five research priorities, each of which has several specific goals (see *RFI* for full text).

In order to develop its response, AAI solicited input from the full AAI membership via an email alert. AAI received useful input from members and incorporated many points into its final comments, which were refined and reviewed by the CPA and the AAI Council.

Priority 1: Advance foundational research on the immune system, host-pathogen interactions, and pathogen biology.

- AAI particularly appreciates the emphasis on expanding foundational knowledge of immunology, highlights the transdisciplinary nature of the immune system, and encourages collaboration
- Given stagnant R01 paylines, AAI suggests NIAID broadly evaluate its research portfolio to enhance funding for investigator-initiated research
- AAI supports the development of novel alternative methods but encourages NIAID to continue supporting the responsible use and development of animal models

Priority 2: Apply foundational knowledge of the complex interactions between microbes and the immune system to develop and test medical countermeasures against known infectious diseases (non-HIV/AIDS).

- AAI is pleased to see that combatting antimicrobial resistance is a listed priority
- AAI highlights the importance of studying the microbiota and its relationship to the immune system as part of expanding knowledge of tissue-specific immunity

Priority 3: Apply knowledge of HIV/AIDS to reduce HIV incidence through the development of safe and effective prevention, treatment, and cure strategies.

- AAI commends NIAID for enormous progress made in the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and encourages NIAID to expand the scope of research to more substantially include comorbidities and relevant research (e.g., coinfection, autoimmunity, cancer, immune system development, thymus biology, etc.)
- AAI urges NIAID to continue to address disparities in HIV/AIDS research

Priority 4: Apply knowledge of basic immunology to develop and enhance intervention strategies for asthma, allergic and immune-mediated diseases, and transplantation.

- AAI recommends NIAID to specifically mention autoimmunity/autoimmune diseases and chronic inflammatory diseases, as well as adding inborn errors of immunity, and emphasizing foundational research of all listed conditions in Priority 4
- AAI encourages NIAID to increase research on alterations in the immune response in individuals with Down syndrome

Priority 5: Support innovative research efforts to prepare for and respond to nationally or internationally significant biological incidents affecting public health.

- AAI supports the ongoing effort of NIAID to identify, and develop measures against, “prototype pathogens” that are likely to cause the next pandemic
- AAI urges continued investment in COVID-19, long COVID, and other post-acute infection syndromes

Read the full AAI response here: bit.ly/4bM3yhU.

CPA Sponsors Sessions on Cancer Research and the Revised NIH Peer Review Framework at IMMUNOLOGY2024™

The AAI CPA hosted two interesting and well-attended policy sessions at IMMUNOLOGY2024™. The first session, entitled, “What It Will Take to End Cancer as We Know It: Opportunities and Realities in Cancer Research,” featured W. Kimryn Rathmell, M.D., Ph.D. (AAI ’23), Director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), who delivered an engaging presentation outlining her vision and goals for NCI. She discussed the “next era” of cancer research, the role of artificial intelligence in advancing this field, and how NCI is navigating the challenging funding landscape for FY 2024.

Dr. Rathmell frequently referenced the National Cancer Plan, a comprehensive framework to combat cancer that guides NCI strategy and research priorities and explained that NCI prioritizes investigator-initiated research and funding research project grants. She also highlighted the “game changing” advancements in cellular therapies for solid tumors as particularly exciting.

The session was chaired by CPA Chair Gretchen Diehl, and CPA member Lauren Ehrlich, Ph.D., who co-led a dialogue with Dr. Rathmell after her formal presentation. They touched on several broad topics, including how NCI determines priority areas, the nature of conversations with Congress, and the most exciting areas of cancer research on the horizon. The session concluded with Dr. Rathmell addressing a range of questions from the audience.

The second CPA policy session, “National Institutes of Health: Simplifying the Review of Research Project Grant Applications,” featured Dr. Ross Shonat, Director of the Division of Physiological and Pathological Sciences at the NIH Center for Scientific Review. Dr. Shonat discussed NIH’s current initiative to simplify the peer review framework for research project grant applications. He explained how the existing review criteria will be reorganized in a way that will help reviewers focus on the key questions needed to assess the scientific merit of applications: *can* and *should* the proposed research be conducted? Dr. Shonat also described how these changes may also help to reduce reputational bias in review. The new framework will take effect for most research project grant applications with due dates on or after January 25, 2025.

NIH sought public input on its plan to simplify the peer review process many times over the last several years, including through a formal Request for Information (RFI). AAI responded to the RFI in March 2023, expressing general support for the plan. Among other things, AAI urged NIH to educate the community about these changes and to provide adequate training to grantees and reviewers. Read the full AAI response here: bit.ly/3Rv4uPU.

NIH created a website with many useful resources about these impending changes to peer review, which includes background information, FAQs, training resources, and multiple webinars: grants.nih.gov/policy/peer/simplifying-review.htm.



From left to right: NCI Director Kimryn Rathmell, AAI Chief Program & Policy Officer Lauren Gross, AAI CEO Loretta Doan, AAI President Akiko Iwasaki, CPA Chair Gretchen Diehl, CPA Member Lauren Ehrlich, AAI Senior Science Policy Analyst Emily Kansler, and AAI Director of Government Affairs Jake Schumacher



From left to right: CPA Member Lauren Ehrlich, NCI Director Kimryn Rathmell, and CPA Chair Gretchen Diehl



Dr. Ross Shonat, CSR, presenting upcoming changes to NIH peer review to IMMUNOLOGY2024™ attendees

Iwasaki Named to *TIME*'s 2024 List of 100 Most Influential People and TIME100 Health



Akiko Iwasaki, Ph.D. (AAI '00) has been named one of 2024's most influential people by *TIME* magazine, as well as one of the 100 most influential people in health.

Dr. Iwasaki is a Sterling Professor of Immunobiology and Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology at Yale University and an HHMI Investigator. She was recognized by *TIME* for her leadership in identifying the mechanisms by which the immune system reacts to COVID-19, including key insights into the effects of and possible treatments for long COVID. Iwasaki was also included in the TIME100 Health list for her work toward a nasal COVID-19 vaccine.

Iwasaki's research focuses on understanding how viruses infect the host through the mucosal surfaces to cause diseases; how the immune system deals with viral infections within these local tissues; how acute infections lead to long-term diseases; and how to use such insights to design vaccines and therapeutics against acute and chronic viral diseases, post-viral diseases, autoimmunity, and cancer. To learn more about her research, visit medicine.yale.edu/profile/akiko-iwasaki.

For the full *TIME* profiles, visit time.com/6964230/akiko-iwasaki and time.com/6967146/akiko-iwasaki-2. Read the AAI press release congratulating Dr. Iwasaki at: bit.ly/4er7A14.

Rosenberg Receives the AACR Award for Lifetime Achievement in Cancer Research; First Cancer TIL Therapy Gets FDA Approval



Steven A. Rosenberg, M.D., Ph.D. (AAI '72) has received the American Association for Cancer Research Award for Lifetime Achievement in Cancer Research.

Dr. Rosenberg is a Senior Investigator in the Center for Cancer Research; Chief of the NCI Surgery Branch; and Head of the Tumor Immunology Section at the National Cancer Institute, NIH. He was selected for the award for "lifelong scientific achievements and paramount contributions to cancer research and patient care, most notably his pioneering research that established interleukin-2 (IL-2) as the first FDA-approved cancer immunotherapy and his major contributions to establishing fundamental principles involving cellular and genetic engineering and immunotherapeutic development."

He also recently won FDA approval for lifileucel (Amtagvi), the first treatment for cancer that uses tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes, or TILs. It is also the first cellular therapy to be

approved to treat a solid tumor. Dr. Rosenberg led the first clinical trials of TIL therapy in the late 1980s and at that time showed that it could shrink tumors in cases of very advanced melanoma. In the ensuing decades, his lab refined the process and conducted larger clinical trials. The process today involves collecting TILs from the patient and mixing them with IL-2 to produce billions of immune cells to attack the tumor. To learn more about his research, visit ccr.cancer.gov/staff-directory/steven-a-rosenberg.

Read the full announcements at www.aacr.org/governance/steven-a-rosenberg-award-recipient-aacr and at www.cancer.gov/news-events/cancer-currents-blog/2024/fda-amtagvi-til-therapy-melanoma.

Witte Receives the AACR Award for Outstanding Achievement in Blood Cancer Research



Owen N. Witte, M.D. (AAI '83) received the AACR Award for Outstanding Achievement in Blood Cancer Research.

Dr. Witte is the President's Chair, Developmental Immunology; Distinguished Professor of Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics and of Molecular and Medical Pharmacology; and Director Emeritus, Eli & Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is recognized for his "contributions to elucidating the role of tyrosine kinases in hematologic malignancies and for his pivotal role in developing novel cancer treatments. He was the first to identify the ABL fusion oncoprotein in leukemia and to predict that mutated ABL kinase could serve as a viable drug target, which would in turn lead to the development of imatinib as a frontline therapy for chronic myeloid leukemia. He later described Bruton's tyrosine kinases (BTK) as key drivers of antigen-activated lymphomas and autoimmune disease, a breakthrough discovery that would result in the clinical development of the FDA-approved BTK inhibitor, ibrutinib, for the treatment of B cell lymphoma." For more information about his research, visit stemcell.ucla.edu/member-directory/owen-n-witte-md.

Read the full announcement at www.aacr.org/governance/owen-n-witte-md-phd-faacr.

Freeman Receives the AACR-Cancer Research Institute Lloyd J. Old Award in Cancer Immunology

Gordon J. Freeman, Ph.D. (AAI '01) has received the AACR-Cancer Research Institute Lloyd J. Old Award in Cancer Immunology.



Dr. Freeman is Professor of Medicine in the Department of Medical Oncology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School. He is recognized for his “groundbreaking contributions to the discovery of the T-cell programmed death-1 receptor (PD-1) signaling pathway and the

PD-1 ligands, PD-L1 and PD-L2; for spotlighting the involvement of this pathway in tumor evasion of immunosurveillance; and for demonstrating that blocking this pathway could provoke an antitumor immune response. This quintessential work would ultimately lead to the development of immunotherapies for cancer, autoimmune diseases, and transplant rejection.” For more information about his research, visit www.dana-farber.org/find-a-doctor/gordon-j-freeman.

Read the full announcement at www.aacr.org/governance/gordon-j-freeman.

Ahmed Receives the AACR–Irving Weinstein Foundation Distinguished Lectureship



Rafi Ahmed, Ph.D., DFAAI (AAI '84) has received the AACR–Irving Weinstein Foundation Distinguished Lectureship.

Dr. Ahmed is a professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Emory University School of Medicine; investigator at the Emory Center for AIDS Research; and Director of the Vaccine Center and co-leader of the Cancer Immunology Research Program at Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University.

He is recognized for “unparalleled scientific contributions to immunology and vaccinology including the elucidation of the molecular mechanisms of T-cell exhaustion and T-cell memory formation and differentiation following antigen exposure. He is also being honored for his seminal demonstration that persistent viral exposure can result in PD-1-mediated T-cell exhaustion, and that anti-PD-1 antibodies are able to rescue normal T-cell function. His pioneering research has since been expanded to countless studies within the cancer research field dedicated to determining the cellular mechanisms by which T cells function. It has served as a vital catalyst to the ongoing emergence of immune-based therapies for the treatment of patients with cancer and various chronic diseases worldwide.” For more information about his research, visit winshipcancer.emory.edu/profiles/ahmed-rafi.php.

Read the full announcement at www.aacr.org/governance/rafi-ahmed-award-recipient-aacr.

Kaech Receives the ICIS Mentorship Award



Susan M. Kaech, Ph.D. (AAI '04) has received the International Cytokine & Interferon Society Mentorship Award.

Dr. Kaech is Professor and Director at the NOMIS Center for Immunobiology & Microbial Pathogenesis and NOMIS Chair at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. She is recognized

not only for “her cutting-edge research and seminal discoveries and scientific accomplishment, but for her ardent sponsorship and relentless championship of the junior faculty she has helped in the establishment and success of their own independent research programs. She is known as a ‘forever-mentor’ who cares more about her trainees (and often those completely unrelated to her lab) than she does about her own career, strongly supporting people in her lab long after they have left the lab.” For more information about her research, visit www.salk.edu/scientist/susan-kaech.

Read the full announcement at cytokinesociety.org/susan-kaech-is-the-2024-icis-mentorship-award-winner.

Five AAI Members Elected to the National Academy of Sciences

The following AAI members were elected to the National Academy of Sciences in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research.

AAI congratulates the following:

- Michael S. Diamond, M.D., Ph.D (AAI '07), Washington Univ. Sch. of Med.
- Stephen M. Hedrick, Ph.D., DFAAI (AAI '81), Univ. of California, San Diego
- Susan M. Kaech, Ph.D. (AAI '04), Salk Inst. for Bio. Sts.
- Anne O'Garra, Ph.D., DFAAI (AAI '90), Francis Crick Inst.
- Giorgio Trinchieri M.D. (AAI '76), Ctr. for Cancer Res., NCI, NIH

Read the full announcement at www.nasonline.org/news-and-multimedia/news/2024-nas-election.html.

Nine AAI Members Elected as Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

The following AAI members were elected as Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research.

AAI congratulations the following:

- Hongbo Chi, Ph.D. (AAI '07), St. Jude Children's Res. Hosp.
- Louis B. Justement, Ph.D. (AAI '91), Univ. of Alabama, Birmingham
- Liwu Li, Ph.D. (AAI '02), Virginia Tech
- Alexander Ploss, Ph.D. (AAI '12), Princeton Univ.
- Bali Pulendran, Ph.D. (AAI '00), Stanford Univ. Sch. of Med.
- Deepak Shukla, Ph.D. (AAI '16), Univ. of Illinois Col. of Med.
- Jatin M. Vyas, M.D., Ph.D. (AAI '07), Harvard Med. Sch.; Massachusetts Gen. Hosp.
- Owen Witte, M.D. (AAI '83), Univ. of California, Los Angeles
- Ramnik Joseph Xavier, M.D. (AAI '06), Harvard Med. Sch.; Broad Inst. of MIT and Harvard

Read the full announcement at www.aaas.org/fellows/2023-fellows.

Recognizing research and leadership
achievements of women in immunology

The AAI Lancefield Mid-Career Achievement Award

Sponsored by the AAI Committee on the Status of Women



The American Association of Immunologists (AAI) and the AAI Committee on the Status of Women (CSOW) are pleased to invite nominations for a new awards program launched last year specifically for mid-career women immunologists: The AAI Lancefield Mid-Career Achievement Award.

Purpose

The AAI Lancefield Mid-Career Achievement Award is named after Rebecca C. Lancefield, the first woman to serve as AAI President. This award recognizes and further encourages the research and leadership achievements of women in immunology. The Lancefield Award annually honors one outstanding mid-career investigator for research and leadership within the field. The award recipient will receive travel support to present their research in an award lecture during the AAI annual meeting.

Eligibility

Regular AAI members are invited to submit nominations for exceptional investigators who are:

- regular AAI members who identify as women
- engaged in active research as a principal investigator (or equivalent role)
- within at least seven but no more than 15 years of starting their first independent faculty/scientist position at the time of the award being granted.

The most competitive nominees will have significant accomplishments in both research and service, including teaching, leadership, mentorship, and administration.

Awardee Support

Recipients of the Lancefield Award will receive:

- a \$5,000 cash award
- complimentary AAI annual meeting registration
- travel support to attend the annual AAI meeting for presentation of their research in an award lecture, preceded by the award presentation
- an invitation to participate as a table leader during the Careers in Science Roundtables, sponsored by the CSOW, held during the AAI annual meeting.

For More Information

- For more information, please visit www.aai.org/Lancefield.
- Direct any inquiries to awards@aai.org.



AAI Congratulates Recipients of 2024 Intersect Fellowships for Computational Scientists and Immunologists

AAI congratulates eight members selected to receive AAI Intersect Fellowships in 2024. The AAI Intersect Fellowship Program for Computational Scientists and Immunologists provides independent research scientists with one year of salary support for postdoctoral fellows trained in basic bench research to undertake one year of training in computational science, or postdoctoral fellows trained in computational science to spend one year in an immunology research lab to learn basic immunological principles and laboratory techniques. Details about this program may be found at www.aai.org/Careers/Fellowships/Intersect.

The awardees selected for the 2024 Intersect Fellowships are:



Agak, Otieno, Pellegrini

George W. Agak, Ph.D. (AAI '23)
Assistant Professor
Univ. of California, Los Angeles

Postdoctoral Fellow: Woodvine Otieno, Ph.D. (AAI '23)

Co-PI: Matteo Pellegrini, Ph.D., Professor,
Univ. of California, Los Angeles

Project Title: Computational analysis of cell types and genetic elements of *Cutibacterium acnes* phylotypes associated with healthy and acne skin



Gottschalk, Strube, Faeder

Rachel A. Gottschalk, Ph.D. (AAI '18)
Assistant Professor
Univ. of Pittsburgh

Postdoctoral Fellow: Laura Strube, Ph.D. (AAI '24)

Co-PI: James Faeder, Ph.D., Associate Professor,
Univ. of Pittsburgh

Project Title: Modeling JAK-STAT network asymmetries and context-specific signaling



Darville, Yount, Zheng

Toni Darville, M.D. (AAI '04)
Professor
Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Postdoctoral Fellow: Kacy S. Yount, Ph.D. (AAI '23)

Co-PI: Xiaojing Zheng, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor,
Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Project Title: Systemic and mucosal correlates of *Chlamydia trachomatis* T cell mediated immunity in humans



Haeryfar, Ninkov, Andrews

Mansour Haeryfar, Ph.D. (AAI '15)
Professor
Univ. of Western Ontario, CAN

Postdoctoral Fellow: Marina Ninkov, Ph.D. (AAI '21)

Co-PI: Tallulah Andrews, Ph.D., Assistant Professor,
Univ. of Western Ontario, CAN

Project Title: Characterization of MRI1-restricted T cells over the course of clinical sepsis from inflammation to immunosuppression

AWARDS



Halkias, Kouame, Fragiadakis

Joanna Halkias, M.D. (AAI '20)

Assistant Professor

Univ. of California, San Francisco

Postdoctoral Fellow: Elaine S. Kouame, Ph.D. (AAI '23)

Co-PI: Gabriela Fragiadakis, Ph.D., Assistant Professor,
Univ. of California, San Francisco

Project Title: Deciphering human early life immune programming through single-cell analysis of immune cell states and interactions across different prenatal exposures



Hinterleitner, Soto, Das

Reinhard Hinterleitner, Ph.D. (AAI '18)

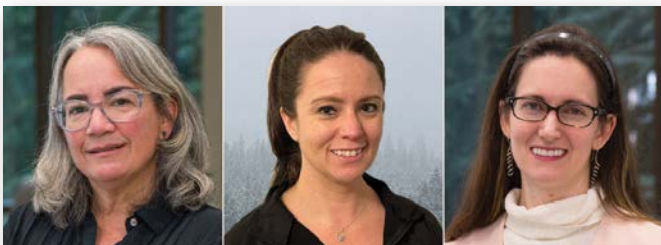
Assistant Professor

Univ. of Pittsburgh

Postdoctoral Fellow: Ariadna Soto, Ph.D. (AAI '23)

Co-PI: Jishnu Das, Ph.D., Assistant Professor,
Univ. of Pittsburgh

Project Title: Determine mechanisms of protist-immune interactions



Hamerman, Orozco, DeBerg

Jessica A. Hamerman, Ph.D. (AAI '05)

Director, Academic Affairs

Benaroya Res. Inst.

Postdoctoral Fellow: Susana L. Orozco, Ph.D. (AAI '23)

Co-PI: Hannah DeBerg, Ph.D., Bioinformatics Group
Manager, *Benaroya Res. Inst.*

Project Title: Inflammatory hemophagocytes differentiate in response to diverse inflammatory stimuli



Sahu, Virupakshappa, Bartee

Avinash D. Sahu, Ph.D. (AAI '23)

Assistant Professor

Univ. of New Mexico

Postdoctoral Fellow: Kushal Virupakshappa, Ph.D. (AAI '24)

Co-PI: Eric Bartee, Ph.D., Associate Professor,
Univ. of New Mexico

Project Title: AI-optimized personalized immunotherapies for addressing tumor heterogeneity

AAI Announces Winter 2024 Travel for Techniques Awardees

AAI is pleased to announce the most recent AAI Travel for Techniques Award recipients, selected from among applicants during the program's Winter 2024 application cycle. The AAI Travel for Techniques Program assists member principal investigators (regular or associate) in their efforts to expand their skill sets to benefit their research. Selected applicants may choose to use the award to travel themselves, assign the award to a trainee in their lab, or assign the award to another lab member. AAI reimburses award recipients as much as \$1,500 in travel expenses incurred on a trip to another laboratory to learn a technique. AAI extends congratulations to:



Shannon E. Dunn, Ph.D. (AAI '18)

Associate Professor, *Univ. of Toronto, CAN*

Destination: The laboratory of Dr. Marc K. Jenkins (AAI '88), *Univ. of Minnesota*

Technique: Tetramer generation and flow cytometry enrichment

Application: To quantify and characterize antigen-specific T helper cells to explore the effect of multiple sclerosis risk factors on adaptive immunity



Wenxia Song, Ph.D. (AAI '98)

Professor, *Univ. of Maryland*

Destination: The laboratory of Dr. Thomas Rudel, *Univ. of Wurzburg, DEU*

Technique: Three-dimensional triple-layer mucosal cell culture model

Application: To study how *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* establishes infection at the human cervix without activating inflammation



AAI Outreach Program Update

The AAI Outreach Program provides career development opportunities for young investigators by supporting podium and poster presentation awards at member-organized immunology meetings throughout the United States and internationally. The program most recently provided sponsorship at the conferences highlighted in this section.

Midwinter Conference of Immunologists

The 62nd Midwinter Conference of Immunologists (MCI) was held January 27–30, 2024, in Pacific Grove, California. AAI supported 15 Young Investigator Awards at MCI for poster and podium presentations.

The awardees for poster presentations were:

- Sheridan Page and Isabelle Meyers, undergraduate students, Davidson Col.
- Elizabeth Turcotte, graduate student, Univ. of California, Berkeley
- K. Maude Ashby, graduate student, Univ. of Minnesota
- Shaina D’Souza, graduate student, Tulane Univ.
- Miguel Mercado, Ph.D. (AAI ’20), postdoctoral fellow, Univ. of Arkansas for Med. Sci.
- Maximilian Heeg, M.D. (AAI ’20), postdoctoral fellow, Univ. of California, San Diego

- Juan Inclan Rico, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, Univ. of Pennsylvania
- Erin Lucas, Ph.D. (AAI ’21), postdoctoral fellow, Univ. of Minnesota
- Laure Le Corre (AAI ’21), graduate student, Univ. de Montréal
- Brenna Remick, graduate student, Univ. of California, Berkeley

The awardees for podium presentations were:

- David Owen, graduate student, Harvard Univ.
- Kristin Witt, graduate student, Univ. of California, Berkeley
- Anna-Maria Globig (AAI ’22), graduate student, Salk Inst. for Bio. Sts.
- Stephen O’Flanagan, Ph.D. (AAI ’22), postdoctoral fellow, Univ. of Minnesota
- Steven Erickson, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, Yale Univ.



AAI Young Investigator Awardees at MCI pictured from left. Top row: Juan Inclan Rico, Maximilian Heeg, Sheridan Page, Isabelle Meyers, Elizabeth Turcotte, Laure Le Corre. Bottom row: Erin Lucas, K. Maude Ashby, and Miguel Mercado



At MCI, AAI Young Investigator Awardee Shaina D'Souza



AAI Young Investigator Awardees at MCI pictured from left: Anna-Maria Globig, Kristin Witt, David Owen, Stephen O'Flanagan, and Steven Erickson

American Physician Scientists Association Annual Meeting

The American Physician Scientists Association (APSA) Annual Meeting was held April 5-7, 2024, in Chicago, Illinois and was organized in part by the Association of American Physicians (AAP) and The American Society of Clinical Investigation (ASCI). AAI supported three Young Investigator Awards at the APSA meeting.

The awardees were:

- Preethi Periyakoil, graduate student, Weill Cornell Med. Col.
- Lee Serpas, graduate student, Univ. of California, San Diego
- Clara Si, graduate student, Vanderbilt Univ.



At APSA, Young Investigator Awardees pictured from left: Preethi Periyakoil, Lee Serpas, and Clara Si

Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases (CRWAD) and American Association of Veterinary Immunologists (AAVI) Symposium

The Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases (CRWAD) and American Association of Veterinary Immunologists (AAVI) Symposium was held January 20-24, 2024, in Chicago, Illinois. AAI supported seven Young Investigator Awards selected by AAVI members for poster and podium presentations.

The awardees for podium presentations were:

- Akanksha Hada, graduate student, Univ. of Maryland
- Melanie Whitmore, graduate student, Oklahoma State Univ.
- Bradley Ramirez, graduate student, Texas A&M Univ.
- Camille Holmes, graduate student, Cornell Univ.
- Madison Myers, graduate student, Michigan State Univ.

The awardees for poster presentations were:

- Karina Hissen, graduate student, Texas A&M Univ.
- Jinjing Liu, graduate student, Cornell Univ.



At AAVI, Laura Miller, AAVI President with AAI Young Investigator Awardees pictured from left: Bradley Ramirez, Melanie Whitmore, and Madison Myers

AAI Journals Partner with Oxford University Press

On May 9, 2024, AAI announced a publishing partnership with the prestigious Oxford University Press (OUP). Beginning in January 2025, OUP will publish the AAI journals, *The Journal of Immunology* (*The JI*) and *ImmunoHorizons*. Under the terms of the partnership, AAI will retain full ownership and editorial control of its journals.

Immunologists around the world have relied on AAI's prestigious journals to stay abreast of groundbreaking research in the field. By partnering with OUP, AAI is taking a significant step forward to amplify the reach and impact of these vital publications.

As a non-profit division of the University of Oxford, OUP is dedicated to making research accessible globally. OUP has been publishing journals for more than a century and, as the world's largest university press, has more than 500 years of publishing expertise. OUP combines the reach of a major university publisher with a commitment to affordability and accessibility. By harnessing OUP's reputation and extensive network, AAI's important scientific research will be available to a significantly larger audience through existing subscription agreements, spanning more than 1,000 academic institutions worldwide. Their expertise in online discoverability will

ensure that AAI's groundbreaking research is highly visible and easily accessible to the immunology community.

The JI has been a trusted companion to immunologists worldwide for over a century. *The JI* publishes influential findings across the spectrum of experimental immunology, from the intricacies of innate and adaptive immunity to the complexities of inflammation, host defense, and clinical immunology. *ImmunoHorizons* is a fully open-access online publication highlighting critical advancements in all areas of immunology research and immunology education.

The publishing partnership heralds a new era of benefits for both the association and the broader immunology community. Authors contributing to *The JI* and *ImmunoHorizons* will experience a more efficient article submission process, expedited publication timelines, and access to valuable author services such as professional language editing. As AAI enters into this new era, the steadfast commitment to stringent editorial standards and scientific integrity that has distinguished *The JI* and *ImmunoHorizons* will continue for many years to come. New details about features and benefits to authors will be announced in the coming months.

Predatory Publishers: Author Beware!

By Adriana D. Benavides, Associate Managing Editor, AAI Publications



As part of its ongoing commitment to members and the larger immunology community in maintaining the highest standards in scholarly publishing, AAI will present a series of articles about the nefarious practices of predatory publishers—how to spot them and why they can be damaging to a scholarly reputation. AAI is the owner and publisher of *The Journal of Immunology* and *ImmunoHorizons*.

Recently, AAI has become aware that a fictitious 'Amy Jones' at Directive Publications

Box 1:**Red Flags of a predatory journal**

- Steals the name of a reputable journal by slightly altering the journal title
- The physical address of the publisher is not consistent with contact information or is non-existent
- The promise of rapid publication that is too good to be true
- Promise to publish all articles submitted
- There is no option to withdraw an article from submission
- Inadequate or no line of communication with the publisher/editors
- Inadequate (or lack of) peer review
- Published articles are not copyedited (have many grammatical errors)
- Published articles are out of the scope of the journal topic
- Journal metrics cannot be verified
- Questionable editorial board (or their credentials)
- The journal website does not give editorial policies
- The journal does not clearly outline publication fees
- Publication includes violation of copyright and/or publishing ethics
- The journal is not indexed in databases
- Open Access—The journal is not registered in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

is sending emails to solicit manuscript submissions. There have also been emails with an invitation to join an editorial board. These messages have caused confusion and prompted questions from members. Please be aware that Directive Publications **does not** represent *The Journal of Immunology*, nor does the company represent, or have any other affiliation with AAI. For more information, visit the AAI journals' Predatory Publishing FAQs website: journals.aai.org/pages/faq.

Scientists are subject to a barrage of daily emails; among them are promotions offering deep discounts to publish in journals or offers to serve on editorial boards. At some point, it is fair to pause and ask, "Is this email legit?"

With the recent proliferation of new journals hungry for content, predatory publishers are finding creative ways to mimic legitimate author-outreach efforts by using language in their communications and on their websites that can be misleading to the untrained eye.

Knowing the tell-tale signs of a predatory journal can save you from falling victim to their false promises (**Box 1**). A predatory journal either has questionable publishing practices or misrepresents its practices (1). They aim to profit by exploiting authors under the veil of standard publishing models, such as open access, but ultimately, this is done at the authors' financial expense. In their communications, predatory publishers aim to get you to quickly click on an email without thinking about the legitimacy of their offer. They want to get you excited about getting your work noticed and published fast, which can be the bait eager trainees take. Authors are encouraged to vet potential journals of interest (**Box 1**), with the first step being to look up the journal, independently from any links provided, and assess the published articles. Pay close attention to the name of the journal because predatory publishers often impersonate legitimate journal titles but omit specific words (e.g., "The").

The consequences of publishing in a predatory journal vary—from being unable to readily find your publication (i.e., limited dissemination of your research), to being unaware of publication fees, to losing credibility because your name is associated with a predatory journal.

AAI recommends tools and resources such as ThinkCheckSubmit.org (2), the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) (3), and the RESCUE consortium (4), to help determine if a publisher is legitimate. Additionally, lists and search tools to find credible journals for publishing your work are available: JANE (Journal/Article Name Estimator) (5), the Clarivate Master Journal List (6), SPI-Hub (7), and others (8–14).

Now is the time to become an informed author and take a more active role in finding the best home for your research so that the entire scientific community can benefit. Still have questions? Please contact us at InfoJl@aai.org.

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- (4) www.stoppredatorypractice.com
- (5) jane.biosemantics.org
- (6) mjl.clarivate.com/home
- (7) spi-hub.app.vumc.org
- (8) Scopus Journal Comparison: [Welcome \(elsevier.com\)](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/elsevier)
- (9) Elsevier Journal Finder: journalfinder.elsevier.com
- (10) Taylor & Francis Journal Suggester: authorservices.taylorandfrancis.com/publishing-your-research/choosing-a-journal/journal-suggester
- (11) Wiley Journal Finder: journalfinder.wiley.com/search?type=match
- (12) Cabells Journalytics: cabells.com
- (13) Journal Evaluation Tool: "Journal Evaluation Tool" by Shilpa Rele, Marie Kennedy et al. (lmu.edu)
- (14) Sage Journal Recommender: journal-recommender.sagepub.com

AAI announces new partnership with Oxford University Press (OUP)

Beginning in January 2025, AAI will partner with OUP to produce *The Journal of Immunology* and *ImmunoHorizons*. This partnership will broaden the reach of AAI's journals, making the high-quality research accessible to more than 1,000 academic institutions through existing subscription agreements.



Additional author benefits include:

- Format-free initial submissions
- Faster times from acceptance to publication
- Professional language editing service available
- Video, graphical abstract, and scientific illustration services available
- Author sharing link: a free-access article permalink, for authors to share their work with colleagues
- Free resources on SEO (search engine optimization) and social media best practices
- Real-time article metrics help demonstrate the reach and impact of their work to funders

Learn more >



Or visit journals.aai.org

Submit your research now!

IMMUNOLOGY2024™ Highlights



President Akiko Iwasaki and Minority Affairs Committee Chair Luis Montaner present AAI Young Scholars Awards



President Akiko Iwasaki presents Gary Koretzky with AAI Lifetime Achievement Award



Attendees enjoy IMMUNOLOGY2024™ Opening Night Welcome Reception



Attendee asks a question during a session at IMMUNOLOGY2024™



Attendees read about the history of immunology in Chicago at the AAI history exhibit

IMMUNOLOGY2024™

THE 107TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF IMMUNOLOGISTS



IMMUNOLOGY2024™ attendees enjoy speaking with exhibitors



IMMUNOLOGY2024™ poster presenter discusses research with peers



Attendees meet to collaborate at the AAI booth



AAI staff discuss ways to engage and assist AAI members at the AAI booth



Attendees listen to presentations during IMMUNOLOGY2024™ session



True Blue Band performs at IMMUNOLOGY2024™ Gala



Attendees network and enjoy the Gala to close out IMMUNOLOGY2024™

IMMUNOLOGY2025™

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF IMMUNOLOGISTS

HONOLULU, HAWAII, USA • MAY 3 – 7, 2025

IMMUNOLOGY2025.AAI.ORG

Call for 2025 Award Nominations

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

Nominations are invited for the following AAI Career Awards. These awards honor immunologists of extraordinary scientific achievement and promise.

AAI Members! Don't miss the opportunity to nominate a worthy colleague for awards that are among the leading professional honors presented annually to immunologists!

AAI-BioLegend Herzenberg Award

Established to honor the memory of AAI member Leonard A. Herzenberg, Ph.D., this award recognizes an individual who has made exemplary research contributions to the field of B cell biology. The award recipient will receive a \$5,000 cash award, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting. The recipient will present their research in an award lecture.

AAI Excellence in Mentoring Award

This award recognizes a senior scientist who has significantly influenced the professional development and careers of a new generation. AAI honors the award recipient's contributions to the profession through outstanding mentoring. The award includes a plaque, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting. This award is presented at an awards presentation program at the AAI annual meeting.

AAI-Steinman Award for Human Immunology Research

This award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the understanding of immune processes underlying human disease pathogenesis, prevention, or therapy. The award recipient will receive a \$5,000 cash award, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting. The recipient will present their research in an award lecture.

AAI-Thermo Fisher Meritorious Career Award

This award recognizes a mid-career scientist for outstanding research contributions to the field of immunology. The award recipient will receive a \$10,000 cash award, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting for presentation of their research in an award lecture.

AAI-BD Biosciences Investigator Award

This award recognizes an early-career investigator who has made outstanding contributions to the field of immunology. The awardee will receive a \$5,000 cash prize, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting for presentation of their research in an award lecture.

AAI Lancefield Mid-Career Achievement Award

This award recognizes an outstanding mid-career woman investigator for research and leadership within the field of immunology. The awardee will receive a \$5,000 cash award, meeting registration, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting for presentation of their research in an award lecture.

For complete AAI Career Award nomination details, as well as information on applying for AAI Travel Awards and Grants, visit www.AAI.org/Awards.



The 2025 AAI Awards will be presented in conjunction with **IMMUNOLOGY2025™** May 3–7, 2025 • Honolulu, HI
Questions? Contact AAI at 301-634-7178 or awards@aai.org

Keeping it Modern: The Evolving Visual Identity of AAI

The original paste-up design of the old AAI logo
AAI Archives, UMBC

With the unveiling of the new American Association of Immunologists logo at IMMUNOLOGY2024™, the old logo that had represented AAI for 37 years was quietly retired. The design that had graced the covers of AAI publications from *The Journal of Immunology* to the *AAI Newsletter* and nearly every communication, print or digital, was showing its age. Our new logo was the result of much consideration and discussion with members, but where did the old one come from? A peek into the AAI archives reveals its origin, as well as the development of the visual identity of AAI in its first century.

Modern Type

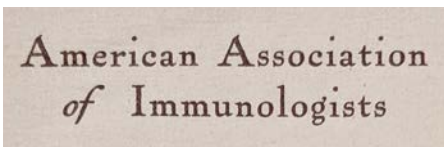
In the early days of AAI, there was no logo, but the styling of the association's name changed frequently. The two places it would most commonly be seen would be on letterhead and on the program of the Annual Meeting.

The American Association of
Immunologists

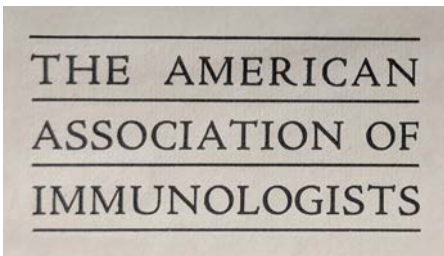
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF
IMMUNOLOGISTS

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF IMMUNOLOGISTS

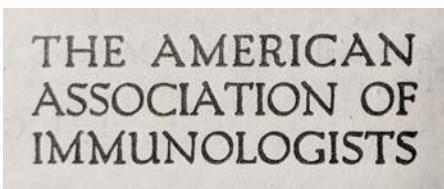
From top, the first AAI letterhead, and updates from 1916 and 1921
AAI Archives, UMBC



◀ 1914
Pabst



◀ 1916
Cloister Oldstyle



◀ 1925
Packard Old Style

From top, the programs of the First Annual Meeting, 1914; Third Annual Meeting, 1916; Twelfth Annual Meeting, 1925
AAI Archives, Rockville

Just as one chooses a font for a document today, a designer in 1913 could select from an array of metal typefaces at the printshop. For the program of the first Annual Meeting—which fit on a single tri-folded sheet of paper—the organization’s name was set in the Lanston Type Company’s “Pabst,” the same typeface used by the Pabst Brewing Company for their advertising. Designed by Frederic W. Goudy in 1902, the font conveyed a classic, elegant, and specifically American impression for the new professional society.¹

Two years later, the program for the third Annual Meeting showed off a very up-to-date look: the association’s name was set in “Cloister Oldstyle,” a brand-new font from LTC, considered by one prominent type designer to be “excellent, in fact, almost beyond criticism.”² For the twelfth Annual Meeting, the program switched to “Packard Old Style,” another recently released font, this time associated with the advertising from the Packard Motor Company.³

These design choices show how the early AAI leadership wanted to present the fledgling society as a modern, forward-looking organization. Immunology was a young science with enormous potential, and medical science in general was still establishing itself as a respectable and evidence-based field. When the first AAI members held the meeting program in their hands, it looked as cutting-edge as the science it described.

A Growing Association

For the first seven decades of AAI’s existence, it was a completely member-run organization. When Henry Metzger (AAI 1965, president 1991–92) was elected Secretary-Treasurer in 1970, the only person on staff was the secretary Blanche Reines, who worked out of the small AAI office at the FASEB building in Bethesda, Maryland.⁴ But in 1986, Metzger

stepped down and Reines retired after 21 years. To fill this void, Joseph F. Saunders (AAI 1991, honorary) was hired as the first Executive Director of AAI.⁵ Saunders immediately began revamping the association and streamlining communications with members.

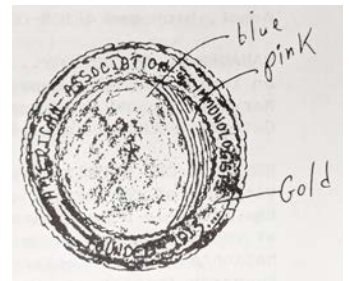
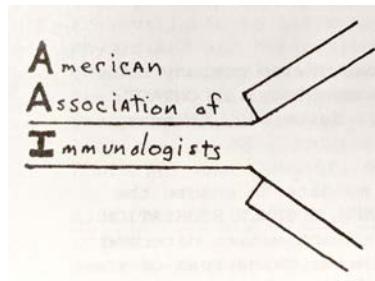
The 75th anniversary of the founding of AAI was fast approaching, and Saunders had two major priorities for the landmark year: compiling a history of the organization and designing the first AAI logo. He used his column in the *AAI Newsletter* to provide previews of the history article that would eventually get published as a supplement to *The Journal of Immunology*. In the August 1986 issue of the *Newsletter*, Saunders floated the idea of an association logo. “Why?” he asked: “How many Associations, Societies and Organizations are there *without* a LOGO? Not many!”⁶

With the approval of then-president William Paul (AAI 1967, president 1985–86), Saunders solicited the membership for ideas and designs to represent “AAI and its role in immunologic science” and “encompass immunology in the biologic sphere in which it is manifest.” The basic format he provided as an example, including the name and founding year encircling a blank space, would already look familiar to anyone who has seen the now-retired logo.

Several members submitted their designs; they appeared in the November issue that same year. Two themes dominated: a stylized “AAI” and various representations of antibodies some of which were better suited to an organizational logo than others. Unfortunately, upon review by the Council, “none were considered to be independently expressive and typical of the association and its role in the vast domain of immunologic science.”⁷



Joseph Saunders and Henry Metzger
AAI Archives, UMBC



▲ The template Saunders provided as inspiration
AAI Archives, UMBC



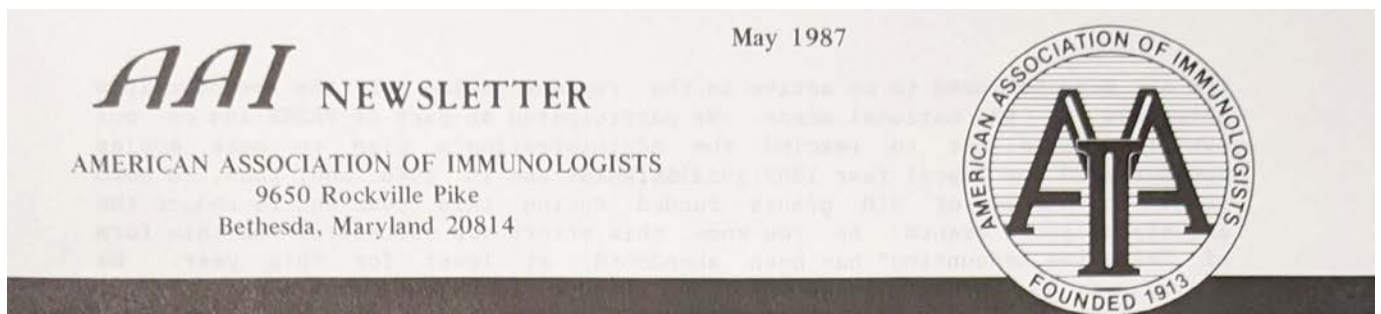
Rejected logo submissions ▶
AAI Archives, UMBC

A Logo at Last

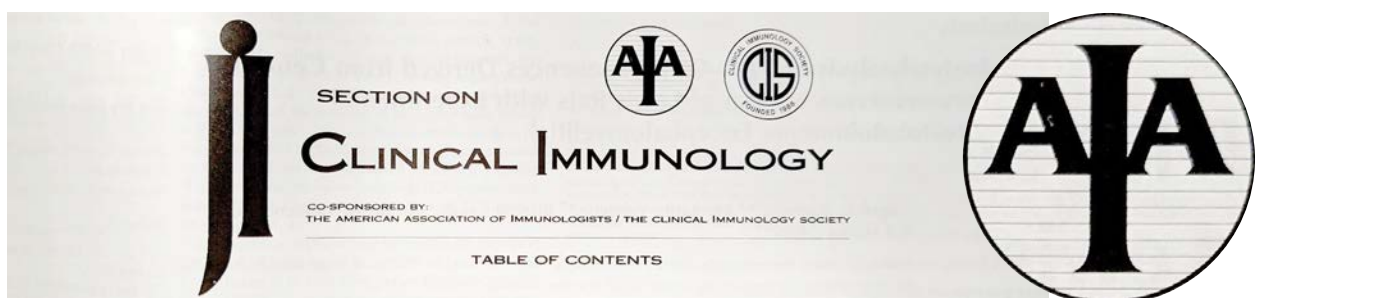
From there, Saunders took matters into his own hands. Using one of the submissions as inspiration, he came up with a design which combined the letters of AAI with a basic diagram of an antibody. Saunders finalized the logo in pen and paste-up lettering, and it was officially adopted by Council on March 29, 1987, at the Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.⁸

The logo immediately began appearing on all publications and communications, finally giving AAI a consistent visual identity. Letterhead, the cover of *The JI*, the annual meeting program—anywhere AAI went, it was at last represented by a consistent brand.

A few years later, however, a rogue logo found its way into the pages of *The JI*. 1992 saw the introduction of the new Clinical Immunology section of the journal, co-sponsored by AAI and the Clinical Immunology Society, and in 1994, that section was given a new contents page. For reasons that remain mysterious, an off-brand AAI logo appeared on the section table of contents page of Vol. 153, No. 1 alongside the correct CIS logo. It retained the basic layout of the actual logo, but without the design elements that made the antibody shape clear. Somehow, it remained there—and nowhere else—through June of 1997, only quietly vanishing once Frank Fitch (AAI 1961, president 1992-93) began his term as Editor-in-Chief of *The JI*.



The first appearance of the old logo in the *AAI Newsletter*
AAI Archives, Rockville



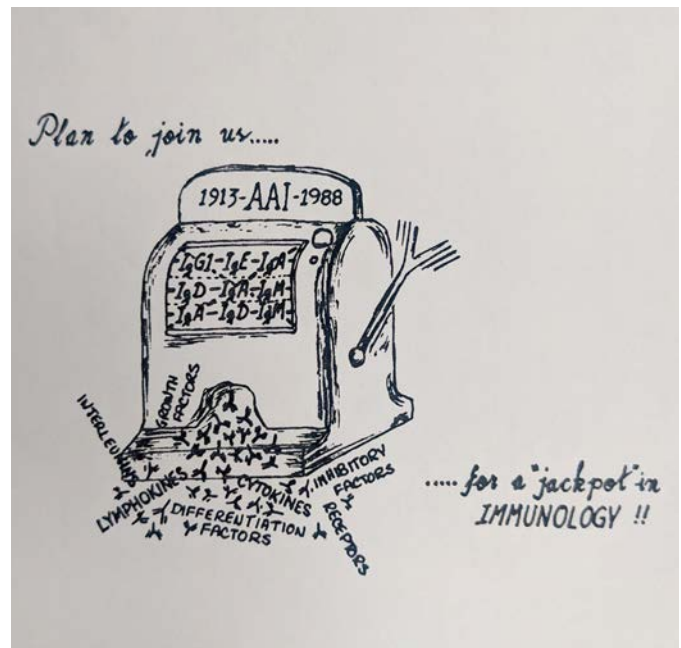
The mysterious off-brand logo in the pages of *The JI*
AAI Archives, Rockville

The New Brand Identity

After nearly four decades of use, the 1987 logo was due for replacement. AAI had grown into a more public-facing organization and needed a brand identity that reflected the core values of progress, unity, and inclusivity within the immunology and scientific communities.

This time, much more thought and consideration went into the creation of the AAI look. Many members and AAI leaders provided their opinions on how the values of the organization could be visually represented. Finally, after months of collaboration with branding consultants, a design firm and staff, Akiko Iwasaki (AAI 2000, president 2023–24) unveiled the logo to cheers and applause during her opening remarks in Chicago. Accompanied by a musical fanfare, the new design spun onto the projection screens and at the same moment appeared on the AAI website.

By the end of IMMUNOLOGY2024™, the new branding was already representing AAI’s future. It was a far cry from the much more informal days when the *Newsletter* would occasionally be illustrated by a whimsical doodle from the Executive Director, instead reflecting the sophistication of the field today.



A Saunders illustration for the 1988 Annual Meeting
AAI Archives, Rockville



Akiko Awasaki presenting the new logo at IMMUNOLOGY2024™
AAI

References

- 1 Luc Devroye, “Type Design Information Page: Pabst Old Style” On Snot and Fonts, luc.devroye.org/fonts-23169.html
- 2 Juliet Shen, “Searching for Morris Fuller Benton: Discovering the Designer Through His Typefaces,” Masters Thesis, Department of Typography and Graphic Communication, University of Reading, 2006, 35.
- 3 “Packard Old Style Pro,” Red Rooster Type Collection, roosterfonts.com/fonts/packard-old-style-pro
- 4 Metzger interview, 22.
- 5 Saunders’s official title was Executive Officer until 1988.
- 6 “An Association Logo?” *AAI Newsletter*, August 1986, 13.
- 7 “An Association Logo.” *AAI Newsletter*, November 1986, 11.
- 8 Joseph F. Saunders, Julius M. Cruse, Sheldon G. Cohen, and Robert E. Lewis Jr., “The AAI. 1913 to 1988, in the First Century of Immunology,” *The Journal of Immunology*, supplement, 1988, S44.



**SAVE
THE DATE**

WWW.AAI.ORG/FUTUREMEETINGS



IMMUNOLOGY2025™

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF IMMUNOLOGISTS



**HONOLULU, HAWAII, USA
MAY 3 – 7, 2025**



Non-AAI Grants and Awards

Visit www.aai.org/GrantsAwardsDeadlines for links to non-AAI grant and award program listings and deadlines.

AAI Grants and Awards

September 18

The AAI Lancefield Mid-Career Achievement Award

- **Prize/Award:** Recognizes and further encourages the research and leadership achievements of women in immunology. Annually honors one outstanding mid-career investigator for research and leadership within the field. The award recipient will receive a \$5,000 cash award, complimentary AAI annual meeting registration, travel support to present their research in an award lecture during the AAI annual meeting, and an invitation to participate as a table leaders during the Careers in Science Roundtables sessions.
- **Eligibility:** Regular AAI members are invited to submit nominations for exceptional investigators who are regular AAI members who identify as women, engaged in active research as a principal investigator (or equivalent role), within at least seven but no more than 15 years of starting their first independent faculty/scientist position at the time of the award being granted.
- **Details:** www.aai.org/Lancefield
- **Contact:** awards@aai.org

September 18

AAI Career Awards

- **Prizes/Awards:** Recognizing investigators over various career stages, multiple awards honoring scientific achievement in immunology (including achievement specifically related to human immunology), distinguished service to AAI and the field, and excellence in mentoring the next generation of scientists; included are awards conferring prizes ranging from \$2,000 to \$10,000. The awards are:
 - AAI Excellence in Mentoring Award
 - AAI-Steinman Award for Human Immunology Research and Lecture

September 18

AAI ASPIRE Awards

- **Prize/Award:** The AAI ASPIRE Award recognizes up to six outstanding early career investigators for research accomplishments and professional promise in the field of immunology. The purpose of this award is to encourage and foster the development of talented early career AAI member scientists to continue advancing their research activities and scientific contributions in the field of immunology. Additionally, this award aims to enhance the careers of early stage investigators by providing support to disseminate their research via podium presentations at the AAI annual meeting. Recipients will receive complimentary meeting registration, a \$2,000 cash award, and travel support to the AAI annual meeting for presentation of their research and the award presentation.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must be Regular AAI members in good standing who have received an advanced degree (Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent) within the last 10 years (2025 applicants must have received their degree on or after January 1, 2015) or are within 10 years of the end of post-graduate clinical training, whichever date is later at the time of application. Applicants must be independent research scientists (PIs); postdoctoral fellows are not eligible.
- **Details:** www.aai.org/Awards/Career/AAI-ASPIRE-Award
- **Contact:** awards@aai.org

- AAI-BioLegend Herzenberg Award and Lecture
- AAI-Thermo Fisher Meritorious Career Award and Lecture
- AAI-BD Biosciences Investigator Award and Lecture
- AAI ASPIRE Awards for Early Career Investigators
- AAI Lancefield Mid-Career Achievement Award
- **Eligibility:** Any AAI member in good standing nominated by another AAI member in good standing. The AAI ASPIRE Awards accept self-nominations.
- **Details:** www.aai.org/CareerAwards
- **Contact:** (301) 634-7178; awards@aai.org

NEW!

The AAI ASPIRE Award

Encouraging and
supporting early
career investigators



AWARD OVERVIEW

The American Association of Immunologists is pleased to invite applications for a new awards program launched last year for early career investigators: The AAI ASPIRE Award.

Purpose

The AAI ASPIRE Award encourages and fosters the development of talented early career AAI member scientists through support to advance their research activities and scientific contributions in immunology—including the opportunity and travel support to disseminate their research in a special symposium at the AAI annual meeting.

The ASPIRE Award annually recognizes up to six outstanding early career investigators for research accomplishments and professional promise in the field.

Eligibility

Principal investigators who are Regular AAI members within 10 years of their advanced degree (Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent) or the end of postgraduate clinical training (whichever date is later at the time of application) are eligible to apply.

Awardee Support

Recipients of the ASPIRE Award will receive:

- a \$2,000 cash award
- complimentary AAI annual meeting registration
- travel support to the AAI annual meeting for presentation of their research in a symposium preceded by the award presentation.

For More Information

- For more information, please visit www.aai.org/ASPIRE.
- Direct any inquiries to awards@aai.org.



The American Association of Immunologists annually honors the research achievements and professional promise of over 1,000 scientists through fellowships, career awards, and travel grants. To learn about all AAI awards and grants, visit www.aai.org/Awards.



MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar for These Important Dates!

Please note that the meetings listed on these pages were still scheduled at press time, but cancellations may occur. Please check an individual meeting's website to confirm that it is still scheduled.

2024

September 1–4

7th European Congress of Immunology (ECI): Conquering Challenges with Immunology
Dublin, Ireland
eci2024.org

September 2–6

19th European Meeting on Complement in Human Diseases
Lübeck, Germany
www.emchd2024.org

September 17–19

NEUTROPHIL 2024
München, Germany
theneutrophil.com

October 20–23

International Cytokine & Interferon Society (ICIS) Annual Meeting 2024
Seoul, Korea
cytokinesociety.org/meetings/future-meetings

October 21–25

American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (ASHI) Annual Meeting 2024
Marriott Anaheim, Anaheim, CA
www.ashi-hla.org/page/Meetings

October 22–25

Society for Leukocyte Biology (SLB) 2024
Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center of Michigan State University, Lansing, MI
www.leukocytebiology.org/meetings

October 23–27

American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) Annual Meeting
New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA
www.astmh.org/annual-meeting/past-meetings#Future%20Annual%20Meetings

October 31–November 2

Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS): The National Diversity in STEP Conference
Phoenix, AZ
www.sacnas.org/conference

November 3–6 | Hybrid Meeting

The Obesity Society: Obesity Week 2024
San Antonio, TX
obesityweek.org/attend/future-dates

November 5–9

American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) Annual Meeting 2024
Denver, CO
www.ashg.org/meetings/future-past

November 6–10

Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) Annual Meeting 2024
George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, TX
www.sitcancer.org/2024

November 13–16

ABRCMS 2024: Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists
Pittsburg, PA
abrcms.org

November 16–19

American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) 2024 Annual Meeting
Hyatt Regency Seattle, Seattle, WA
www.acvp.org/page/Future_Meetings

December 7–10

American Society of Hematology (ASH) 66th Annual Meeting and Exposition
San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA
www.hematology.org/meetings/annual-meeting

December 14–18

American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB): Cell Bio 2024—An ASCB|EMBO Meeting
San Diego, CA
www.ascb.org/meetings-events/future-ascb-meetings

2025

February 15–19

Biophysical Society (BPS) Annual Meeting 2025
Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, CA
www.biophysics.org/upcoming-annual-meetings

April 10–13

WCO-IOF-ESCEO 2025: World Congress on Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis, and Musculoskeletal Diseases
Roma Convention Center, Rome, Italy
www.wco-iof-esceo.org

April 14–17

Canadian Society for Immunology (CSI) Annual Conference 2025
Hilton Lac-Leamy, Gatineau, Quebec
www.csi-sci.ca/Scientific_Meeting.html

May 3–7

**IMMUNOLOGY2025™
AAI Annual Meeting**
Honolulu, Hawai'i
www.aai.org/FutureMeetings



June 24–27

Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies (FOCIS) Annual Meeting 2025
Boston Marriott Copley Place, Boston, MA
www.focisnet.org/meetings/focis-2024

September 14–19

International Complement Workshop 2025

Brisbane, Australia

www.complement.org/Events

October 14–18

American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) Annual Meeting 2025

Boston, MA

www.ashg.org/meetings/future-past

October 25–28

American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) 2025 Annual Meeting

Sheraton New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

www.acvp.org/page/Future_Meetings

October 30–November 1

Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS): The National Diversity in STEP Conference

Columbus, OH

www.sacnas.org/conference

November 4–7

The Obesity Society: Obesity Week 2025

Atlanta, GA

obesityweek.org/attend/future-dates

November 9–13

American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) Annual Meeting

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

www.astmh.org/annual-meeting/past-meetings#Future%20Annual%20Meetings

December 6–10

American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB): Cell Bio 2025—An ASCB|EMBO Meeting

Philadelphia, PA

www.ascb.org/meetings-events/future-ascb-meetings

2026

April 15–19

IMMUNOLOGY2026™

AAI Annual Meeting

Boston, Massachusetts

www.aai.org/FutureMeetings

2027

April 30–May 4

IMMUNOLOGY2027™

AAI Annual Meeting

Los Angeles, California

www.aai.org/FutureMeetings

2030

May 6–10

IMMUNOLOGY2030™

AAI Annual Meeting

San Diego, California

www.aai.org/FutureMeetings

Future AAI Annual Meetings

Mark your calendar for the premier annual all-immunology event!



2025

IMMUNOLOGY2025™

**May 3–7, 2025
Honolulu, HI**



2026

IMMUNOLOGY2026™

**April 15–19, 2026
Boston, MA**



2027

IMMUNOLOGY2027™

**April 30–May 4, 2027
Los Angeles, CA**

Want to see all the colors? The choice is black and silver.

Experience the advantages of innovative spectral technology from Sony that gives you the highest flexibility in panel design to enable deep scientific discovery. The ID7000™ Spectral Cell Analyzer now has its perfect complement in the new FP7000 Spectral Cell Sorter. The systems are designed to provide reliable automation and streamlined workflows that enable researchers to obtain results in an unbiased manner and increase operational efficiency, which is key for multi-user laboratories across the world.

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- SFA – Life Sciences Cloud Platform, a flow cytometry data analysis cloud solution for handling high parameter data



- 7 lasers
- 186 detectors
- 24-tube rack
- 96/384 well plates
- SFA Life Sciences Cloud Platform

New

FP7000 Spectral Cell Sorter

This leading-edge innovation from Sony integrates key core technologies in spectral cell analysis and system design to deliver a high-performance spectral cell sorter that is reliable and capable of supporting your high parameter applications.

Key features include:

- Configurable with up to 6 lasers and 182 detectors
- 3 nozzle sizes – 70 µm, 100 µm and 130 µm to sort cells of varying sizes
- 6-way sorting capability at event rates of 25,000 events per second

- 6 lasers
- 182 detectors
- 3 nozzle sizes
- 6-way sorting
- 25k events per second



Learn how the ID7000 and FP7000 can meet the needs of your laboratory in supporting high-parameter research applications.

go.sonybiotechnology.com/FP7000

