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OCTOBER 2024



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IN THIS ISSUE

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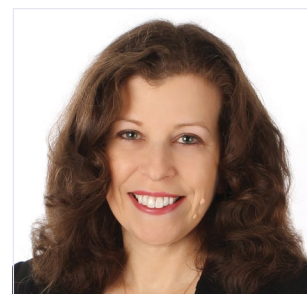
Gail A. Bishop, Ph.D., DFAAI

To see a list of AAI staff, visit

[www.aai.org/staff](http://www.aai.org/staff)

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- 4 Executive Office
- 14 Public Affairs
- 19 Members in the News
- 20 AAI in Action
- 23 Awards
- 25 Outreach
- 27 Education
- 31 In Memoriam
- 37 Grants and Awards Deadlines
- 38 Meetings and Events



**4 Meet New Council Member Dr. Farber**



**27 AAI 2024 Summer Immunology Courses**



**31 In Memoriam: Jonathan Uhr**

## Connect with AAI!

Do you have a news tip for a future issue of the *AAI Newsletter*? Wish to receive AAI alerts? Send us an email! Interested in the latest news from AAI? Keep in touch through our social media channels. Follow us on social media and keep abreast of daily developments in the world of immunology.

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## AAI Council Welcomes Donna Farber



On July 1 of this year, the AAI Council welcomed **Donna L. Farber, Ph.D., DFAAI (AAI '95)** as its newest member following her successful candidacy in the 2024 AAI Election. Dr. Farber is serving a four-year Council term, after which she will be eligible to serve successive one-year terms as AAI Vice President, President, and Past President.

**Dr. Farber** is the George H. Humphreys, II Professor of Surgical Sciences (in Surgery), Columbia University Irving Medical Center (CUIMC), where she is chief of the Division of Surgical Sciences. She also serves as a professor of Microbiology and Immunology at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons (CPS), where she directs the Human Tissue Immunity and Disease Initiative.

The focus of Dr. Farber's research is on immunological memory with a particular emphasis on human immunology. Previous studies in the lab using mouse influenza models led to the identification of lung tissue resident memory T cells and their ability to mediate optimal protective immunity to viral challenge compared to circulating memory T cells. This finding that non-circulating T cells may provide the key to immune protection provided the rationale to investigate tissue T cells in humans where most have focused, by necessity, on characterizing immune responses in blood. Toward this end, Dr. Farber established a tissue resource through a long-standing collaboration with LiveOnNY, the organ procurement organization for the New York Metropolitan area, giving her laboratory access to obtain multiple tissues from human organ donors. This tissue resource began over 14 years ago and has enabled large-scale investigations and high dimensional profiling of immune cells in multiple lymphoid and mucosal tissue sites over the human lifespan. The Farber laboratory has defined tissue resident profiles for T cells and other immune cells and tissue-specific adaptations in mucosal and lymphoid organs. Through studies of samples from infant and pediatric donors, the lab has elucidated the development of tissue residence and functional maturation of  $\alpha\beta$  and  $\gamma\delta$  T cells in mucosal and lymphoid sites and identified how lymphoid structures transiently formed within infant lungs provide an early life adaptation for *in situ* immunity.

Her laboratory's current studies involve dissecting how T and B cell memory is generated to vaccines and viruses across tissues; defining mechanisms for differential aging of immune cells in distinct sites; and extending mechanistic

studies in mouse models to identify mechanisms for *in situ* protection and establish models to recapitulate the sequential acquisition of memory T cells to different viral exposures experienced in humans.

In her 2024 AAI election statement, Dr. Farber asserted that "[o]ne of the most enriching parts of AAI participation is the community and the ability it provides to interact with immunologists at all levels—from trainee to distinguished fellow and beyond." From her initial AAI membership as a postdoctoral fellow and throughout her long involvement in AAI service and participation in the annual meeting, she said, "... AAI has been crucial to my career and growth as an immunologist, [including] through reviewing manuscripts for the *The Journal of Immunology (The JI)* and later serving on its editorial board." Similarly, the annual meeting has "provided an interactive forum to present and hear about cutting edge research in the field ... including through presentations by my trainees at block symposia and poster sessions and interacting with the many wonderful colleagues I have gotten to know over the years."

"This is an incredibly exciting time to be in the field of immunology," she added, "addressing questions with direct relevance to human health and helping educate the public about our field ... [including how] the immune system keeps people healthy, its role in nearly every disease, and the therapeutic potential already realized by vaccines which generate protective immunity and by game-changing immunotherapies in cancer." She cited AAI's important role in helping members navigate the changing dynamics of the scientific enterprise as it becomes more collaborative, leveraging methods and tools from computational biology, mathematics, clinical science, and artificial intelligence and negotiating their impact on experimental design, immune modeling, and analysis of research results—all while preserving opportunities for creativity on the part of individuals and smaller working groups that remain the bedrock of fundamental science and innovations.

Dr. Farber's statement highlighted the commitments that will inform her efforts on Council to help ensure that AAI remains the key advocate and representative for immunologists at all levels. They include supporting AAI advocacy to ensure funding for research and safeguard its future; reinforcing connections to industry colleagues for expanding support for research projects and collaborations with translational implications; and extending AAI's long and crucial support for training and mentoring of early-career immunologists through travel awards, grants, and other existing and new initiatives to promote and ensure a diverse pipeline of scientists for the next generation.

Prior to her election to Council, Farber's AAI service included participation as a member of the Publications Committee and Committee on the Status of Women; chair of the Nominating Committee; and ad hoc reviewer, associate editor, and section editor for *The Journal of Immunology*. She was a 2021 AAI Distinguished Lecturer and has also served at AAI annual meetings as a major symposium chair and speaker, abstract programming chair, block symposium moderator, and table leader for the Committee on the Status of Women Careers Roundtable session.

Dr. Farber's numerous AAI award honors include her election to the 2023 class of Distinguished Fellows of AAI. Among the highest honors bestowed by AAI, election recognizes active, long-term members (25 or more years) for distinguished careers and outstanding scientific contributions as well as their service to AAI and the immunology community. She is also the recipient of the AAI Intersect Fellowship for Computational Scientists and Immunologists and AAI Junior Faculty Travel Grant.

Dr. Farber has served on multiple NIH study sections and special emphasis panels; as an ad hoc member of the NIH Board of Scientific Counselors; and on review panels on behalf of the American Society of Transplantation, Arthritis Foundation, Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF, now Breakthrough T1D), National Science Foundation, and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In addition to leading NIAID/NIH-funded program grants on human immunity and antiviral responses, Dr. Farber is part of the Human Immunology Project Consortium and the NHLBI consortium on human lung aging. Her research has also been supported by the Helmsley Charitable trust, the Chan-Zuckerberg seed network for the Human Cell Atlas, and the U.S. Department of Defense.

Her additional career appointments and honors include: elected fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science; elected member, Henry Kunkel Society; Highly Cited Researcher, Clarivate (Web of Science); Fahey/Rose Founders Lecture Award, Clinical Immunology Society; Mentor of the Year Award, Irving Institute for Clinical and Translational

Research and Columbia University Irving Medical Center Office of Academic Affairs; Dean's Distinguished Lecture in the Basic Sciences, Columbia University; Eijkmann Lecture, University of Utrecht; Charles Orosz Memorial Lecture, Chicago, IL; Mary Jane Kugel Award, JDRF; Bernice Nobel Memorial Lecture, SUNY Buffalo; Regents Fellowship, University of California; Kirin Graduate Fellowship, University of California; elected member, Phi Beta Kappa; and Alumni Fellowship, University of Michigan.

Dr. Farber's editorial board appointments, in addition to her service on behalf of *The JI*, include current and previous service on behalf of the *Annual Review of Immunology*, *Clinical Immunology*, *Clinical and Vaccine Immunology*, *Faculty of 1000*, *Frontiers in Immune Memory*, *Journal of Experimental Medicine*, and *Mucosal Immunology*. She has served as an ad hoc reviewer for numerous additional journals including *American Journal of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine*, *American Journal of Transplantation*, *Blood*, *Cell*, *Cell Reports*, *Clinical Immunology*, *Diabetes*, *eLife*, *European Journal of Immunology*, *Gastroenterology*, *Immunology*, *Immunity*, *Journal of Experimental Medicine*, *Journal of Leukocyte Biology*, *Molecular and Cell Biology*, *Mucosal Immunology*, *Nature*, *Nature Biotechnology*, *Nature Communications*, *Nature Immunology*, *Nature Medicine*, *Science*, *Science Immunology*, *Science Translational Medicine*, and *Transplantation*.

Dr. Farber received her undergraduate degree in microbiology (with highest distinction) from the University of Michigan, and her Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She completed postdoctoral training fellowships in immunology, as an HHMI/Yale School of Medicine fellow, and in immunology and signal transduction as an EMBO Fellow at the Pasteur Institute.

Prior to joining Columbia University as a professor in 2010, Dr. Farber held successive appointments as an assistant, associate, and full professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, including in the Department of Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics, Department of Surgery, and Department of Microbiology and Immunology.



Donna Farber (front row, middle) pictured with lab members—Back row (from left): Tommy Guan, Stuart Weisberg, Alexey Koshkin, Yosuke Sakamoto, Junichi Yoshikawa, Brea Hampton Brown, Rebecca Guyer. Middle row: Alex Yang, Kranthi Tanagala, Erich Zhang, Julien Gras, Daniel Caron, Steven Wells, Isaac Jensen, Joshua Gray, Peter Szabo. Front row: YoonSeung Lee, Basak Ural, Dr. Farber, Claudia Aiello, Laura Byrne, Tolani Aliyu, Julia Davis-Porada, Joana de Barros Martins.

## AAI Leadership and Volunteers

AAI is pleased to recognize those individuals who are serving the organization as leaders and volunteers in 2024–2025.

### 2024–2025 AAI Council

AAI is led by a volunteer Council composed of eight scientists elected by voting AAI members. Forward-looking in their determination to answer the significant questions facing scientists, Council members are charged to speak on behalf of the AAI membership and act in the best interests of AAI. These leaders of AAI are recognized experts in their specific fields and experienced administrators.

The Council consists of four officers, a president, vice president, secretary-treasurer, and past president, and four additional councilors. In addition, the Council has four *ex officio* non-voting members, the chairs of the Publications and Program Committees, the editor-in-chief of *The Journal of Immunology*, and the Chief Executive Officer of the association.

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**Donna L. Farber, Ph.D., DFAAI, AAI '95**  
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Immunology*, 2023–2028  
Professor of Microbiology and  
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Science Research, Holden Comprehensive  
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## 2024–2025 AAI Committees and Chairs

The 12 standing committees of AAI, along with ad hoc committees, help fulfill the AAI mission of advancing research in immunology and related disciplines, fostering the interchange of ideas and information among investigators, and promoting public understanding of immunology and its importance to human health.

AAI committees are served by appointed members and, in the case of five—Awards, Finance, Nominating\*, Program, and Publications—by a combination of elected and appointed members. Duties of each committee are those specifically authorized under the bylaws, established by other rules of AAI, and assigned by action of the AAI Council. In advance of the Council's spring and fall meetings, each committee chair is obligated to report on the committee's ongoing, planned, and proposed future activities.

\* *The Nominating Committee is composed entirely of elected members.*

Collectively, AAI committee members work together to:

- promote immunology research and advance the efforts of those who carry it out
- contribute to the professional development of AAI member scientists and trainees
- safeguard and responsibly allocate the resources of AAI
- advocate for the immunological community on public policy issues that affect the conduct and funding of research, and
- educate the public and lawmakers about the importance of supporting immunological discovery and its groundbreaking contributions to confronting and countering disease.

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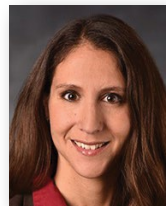
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Professor  
*Geffen Sch. of Med., UCLA*

**Laura Santambrogio, M.D., Ph.D. ('25)**  
Associate Director for Precision  
Immunology, Englander Inst. for  
Precision Med.  
*Weill Cornell Med.*

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Pasare, Ph.D.**  
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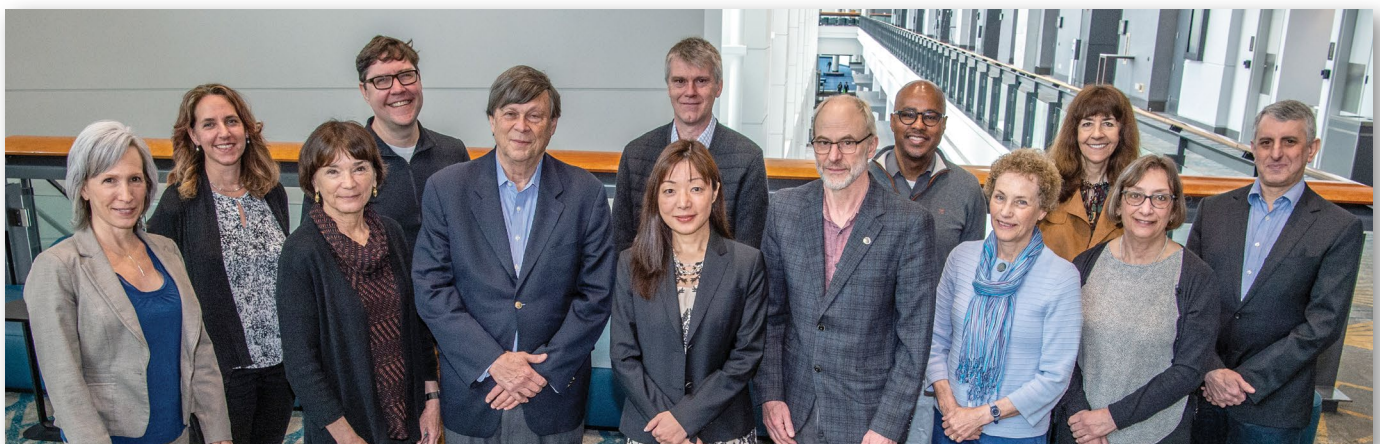
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AAI leadership gathered after the Council meeting at IMMUNOLOGY2024™. From left to right: Loretta L. Doan, Susan M. Kaech, Joan Goverman, Daniel J. Campbell, Mark M. Davis, Akiko Iwasaki, Ulrich H. von Andrian, Stephen Jameson, Avery August, Gail A. Bishop, Maria-Luisa Alegre, Cathryn R. Nagler, Mark H. Kaplan.

## House and Senate Committees Approve FY 2025 NIH Funding Bills

On July 10, the House Appropriations Committee approved its Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) Appropriations bill for fiscal year (FY) 2025. The bill includes \$48.6 billion for NIH [including \$500 million for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)], and dramatically changes the structure of NIH by consolidating and reducing the number of NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs) from 27 to 15 (see, “AAI Provides Feedback to Chair. McMorris Rodgers on Her Framework for NIH Reform” below). The House committee approved the bill by a 31–25 party-line vote, with all Republicans voting in favor of passage. Several weeks later, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its FY 2025 Labor-HHS appropriations bill, by a vote of 25–3, in strong bipartisan fashion. The bill includes \$50.35 billion for NIH (including \$1.5 billion for ARPA-H) and does not include provisions to reorganize the agency. (To better understand how each bill would impact the NIH base budget, which excludes funding for ARPA-H, see Table 1 below.)

Prior to House Appropriations Committee passage, the bill was approved (by voice vote) by the House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee. In response to the subcommittee’s action, AAI Committee on Public Affairs (CPA) Chair Cherié Butts, Ph.D. (AAI ’01), issued a statement on behalf of AAI (see: [bit.ly/4ekPPjz](https://bit.ly/4ekPPjz)) expressing disappointment with the overall funding level approved for NIH and concern about the reorganization provisions.

The Senate Labor-HHS bill, as approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee, is more favorable to NIH in terms of funding and does not restructure NIH. It includes modest funding increases for most NIH ICs, including a \$130 million

funding increase for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. AAI signed a community letter to key Senate appropriators thanking them for advancing bipartisan legislation to significantly increase NIH funding in FY 2025.

As of the start of FY 2025 on October 1, 2024, none of the full-year annual appropriations bills had been enacted. As a result, Congress approved a continuing resolution (CR) that will fund the federal government at FY 2024 funding levels through December 20, 2024. The CR, which passed the House 341–82 and the Senate 78–18 on September 25, was signed into law by President Biden the following day.

## AAI Provides Feedback to Chair McMorris Rodgers on Her Framework for NIH Reform

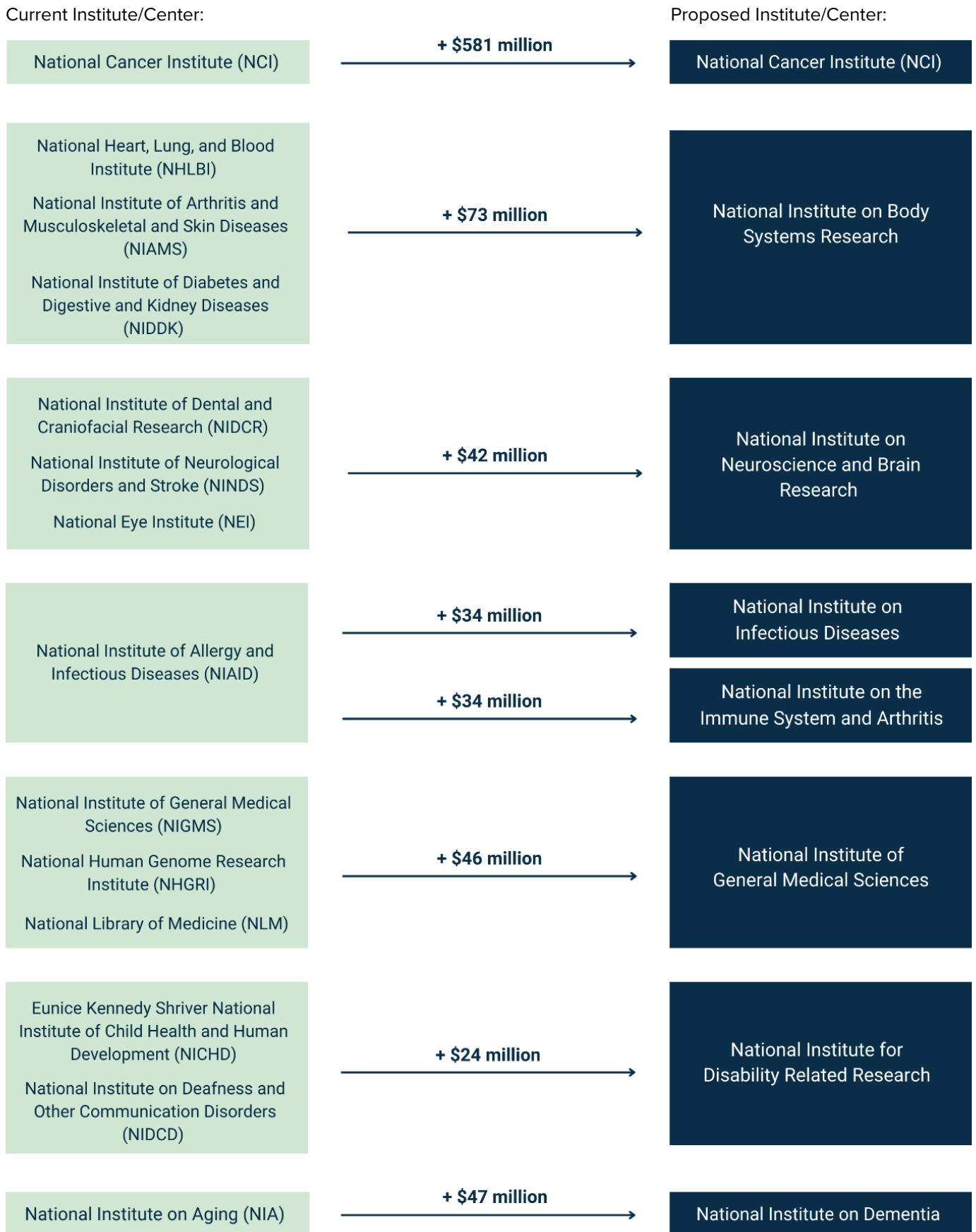
Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA, 5<sup>th</sup>), Chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee (which has oversight authority over NIH), released a framework in mid-June to reform NIH (see: [bit.ly/4gTEXuz](https://bit.ly/4gTEXuz)). The 22-page plan includes a variety of detailed ideas for structural reform, including consolidating the current 27 NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs) into 15 ICs, “to better align the missions of each institute and center and establish more coordinated overarching research goals, agendas, and constituencies.” The same day that Chair McMorris Rodgers released her plan, she coauthored an opinion piece in *STAT+* with House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Robert Aderholt (R-AL, 4<sup>th</sup>), further articulating their shared vision for reforming NIH. AAI CPA Chair Cherié Butts sent a letter (see: [bit.ly/3N9atXU](https://bit.ly/3N9atXU)) to Chair McMorris Rodgers, on behalf of AAI, on August 15 expressing a number of concerns with the framework and a willingness to work with her on any efforts to reform NIH.

Under Chair McMorris Rodgers’s plan (see Figure 1), the National Institute on Allergy and Infectious Diseases would be divided into two new entities: the National Institute on Infectious Diseases and the National Institute on the Immune System and Arthritis. The AAI comments argue that immunology and infectious diseases are “inextricably linked” and that this change is “antithetical to the stated goals of streamlining NIH ICs.” AAI also expressed concerns with plans to significantly narrow the scope of the National Institute on Aging by renaming it the National Institute on Dementia, and to potentially deprive the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) of its independence by making it part of a new National Institute on Innovation and Advanced Research. More broadly, AAI communicated the importance of seeking outside expert input: “[w]hile AAI agrees that optimizing the use of taxpayer dollars is a

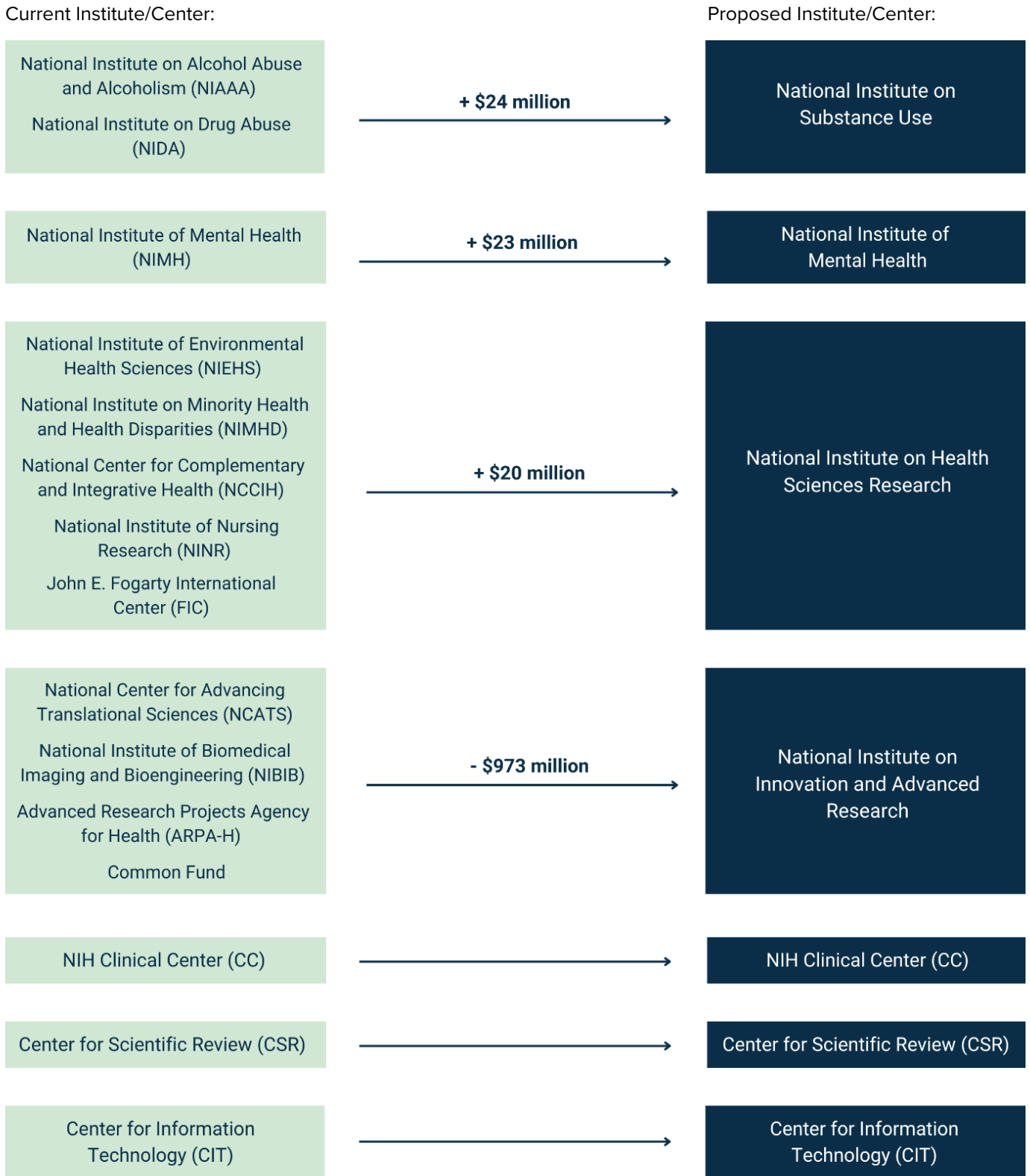
**Table 1.** Overall NIH appropriations, excluding funding provided for ARPA-H

	Funding for NIH Base Budget (Excludes funding for ARPA-H)
Current NIH funding level (FY 2024)	\$47.1 billion
FY 2025 NIH funding level, approved by House Appropriations Committee	\$48.1 billion (+\$1 billion)
FY 2025 NIH funding level, approved by Senate Appropriations Committee	\$48.85 billion (+\$1.8 billion)

**Figure 1.**  
**Chair McMorris Rodgers' NIH Reorganization Plan (adapted from the framework)**



**Figure 1. (continued)**  
**Chair McMorris Rodgers' NIH Reorganization Plan (adapted from the framework)**





priority, any reorganization must be rationally designed and scientifically justified. As a first step, AAI encourages Congress to commission a study by a nonpartisan, expert scientific body, and charge this entity with reviewing NIH's current organizational structure and recommending whether, and how, NIH should be reorganized."

The AAI comments also make the case for continued robust investment in NIH not only to advance human health but to bolster the economy and ensure that America remains a global leader in research and development. To help stabilize and strengthen funding for NIH, AAI encourages Congress to "consider reauthorizing and reinvesting in the NIH Innovation Account," a source of supplemental NIH funding created through the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act that has enabled NIH to invest in specific short-term programs, like the National Cancer Moonshot, without taking support away from core funding for NIH ICs.

AAI looks forward to continuing to work with Chair McMorris Rodgers on any efforts to reform NIH. Because any major change will need support in the Senate, in particular from the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee (which has oversight authority over NIH), AAI plans to engage with key leaders in that chamber as well.

## AAI Endorses Chair Sanders's Long COVID Research Moonshot Act

In early August, Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, introduced the Long COVID Research Moonshot Act, which would establish a new Long COVID Research Program within NIH. The bill would provide NIH with \$1 billion per year, for ten years, in mandatory spending (not subject to the annual appropriations process) to address the Long COVID crisis. AAI supports this legislation and communicated its endorsement in a letter, sent by CPA Chair Cherié Butts, Ph.D. (AAI '01), to Senator Sanders in late August.

The legislation requires NIH to develop a comprehensive research plan to "identify current research opportunities, and priorities for Long COVID research; evaluate progress against strategic priorities, and goals; make recommendations for coordinating research across NIH; and include goals and objectives for the Program's research activities." It also instructs NIH to fund Long COVID surveillance, to establish a Long COVID research advisory board, and to create new grant mechanisms to fund and accelerate clinical trials.

The bill is supported by more than 55 other organizations, including many leading Long COVID advocacy groups.

AAI looks forward to working with Senator Sanders, the bill's cosponsors, and others in Congress to advance meaningful legislation to address the Long COVID crisis.

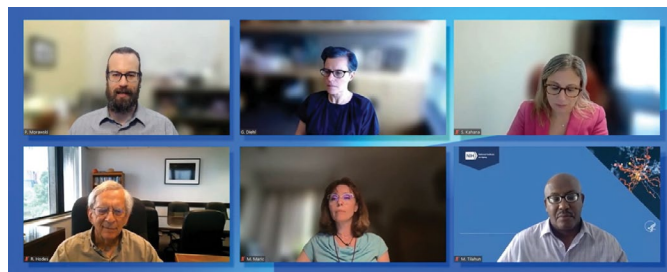
## Now Available! AAI Webinar Featuring NIA Director Richard Hodes

Earlier this summer, AAI hosted a free webinar sponsored by the AAI Committee on Public Affairs (CPA), entitled "Better Know an NIH Institute: Funding and Other Opportunities at the National Institute on Aging." The webinar featured Richard Hodes, M.D., DFAAI (AAI '75), Director of the National Institute on Aging (NIA), and other key staff from NIA, and was co-chaired by then-CPA Chair Gretchen Diehl, Ph.D. (AAI '12), and CPA member Peter Morawski, Ph.D. (AAI '11).

Dr. Hodes kicked off the webinar with an overview of NIA's mission and updated the audience on fiscal year 2024 budget and appropriations, including current paylines. He also described NIA's involvement in the UNITE Initiative, NIH's effort to address structural racism in biomedical research, and new programs to train clinical scientists in aging research.

Dr. Hodes was followed by Shoshana Kahana, Ph.D., the Deputy Director of the NIA Office of Strategic Extramural Programs, who highlighted various training and career development opportunities available for the next generation of researchers on aging. Immunology-related projects, funding opportunities, and webinars/workshops that are ongoing at NIA were then highlighted by the next two speakers, Mulualem Tilahun, D.V.M., Ph.D. (AAI '07), Program Officer with the Aging Physiology Branch in NIA's Division of Aging Biology and Maja Maric, Ph.D., Program Officer with the Neurodegeneration Branch in NIA's Division of Neuroscience. Both described the NIA immunology portfolio, which includes projects related to innate immunity and adaptive immunity in the brain and understanding how the immune system behaves during aging and during neurodegeneration, including in diseases like Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

The webinar concluded with a robust Q&A session, moderated by Dr. Morawski. To view a free recording of the webinar, please visit [virtual.aai.org](https://virtual.aai.org).



## NIH Issues Request for Information Seeking Input on Implementation of Recommendations for NIH-supported Postdoctoral Training

In 2022, the Advisory Committee to the NIH Director (ACD) was directed to form a working group (WG) on "Re-envisioning NIH-Supported Postdoctoral Training." Its charge was to evaluate whether the evidence confirms the perceived shortage of PhDs seeking postdoctoral fellowships,

examine the scope and factors influencing the shortage, consider ways to increase support and retention of postdocs in the U.S., and develop recommendations for enhancing and re-envisioning the postdoctoral experience. The WG released an initial Request for Information (RFI) in February 2023 to gather feedback on the current challenges and suggestions for improvement; responses informed the development of the final recommendations. Read AAI's response to the initial RFI here: [bit.ly/4esctqp](https://bit.ly/4esctqp).

The ACD WG released its final recommendations in December 2023. The six overall recommendations are listed below and can be read in the final report ([bit.ly/3zHB5fC](https://bit.ly/3zHB5fC)).

1. "Increase compensation annually adjusted to inflation, with a minimum \$70,000 NRSA postdoctoral stipend in 2024.
2. Create and expand mechanisms to support the full talent pool of postdoctoral scholars.
3. Facilitate the transition of postdoctoral scholars into their next career stage, including roles beyond academic faculty.
4. Promote training and professional development of postdoctoral scholars and their mentors.
5. Support safe and diverse perspectives and research environments within institutional research programs.
6. Improve means to measure and share postdoctoral scholars' career progression."

NIH Director Monica Bertagnolli, M.D., officially accepted the recommendations in April of this year, simultaneously announcing that NIH will increase Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) pay levels for

FY 2024 as follows: an 8% increase for postdoctoral scholars (new pay levels starting at \$61,008, increasing based on years of experience) and a 4% increase for predoctoral scholars (new pay level of \$28,224). Eligible recipients will also receive an additional \$500 for childcare and \$200 for training-related expenses.

The follow up RFI released by NIH in July 2024 seeks information specifically about the implementation of three recommendations:

- "Recommendation 1.3: Limit the total number of years a person can be supported by NIH funds in a postdoctoral position to no more than 5 years."
- "Recommendation 2.2: Revise the K99/R00 mechanism to focus on ideas and creativity over productivity (*by limiting eligibility window to within first 2 years of postdoctoral experience*)."
- "Recommendation 4: Promote training and professional development of postdoctoral scholars and their mentors."

AAI has been following this issue closely, and further explored this topic at IMMUNOLOGY2023™ at a session entitled, "My Lab is Recruiting Postdocs: Policy Approaches to Address the Needs of Today's Biomedical Research Workforce."

AAI will submit comments to this follow up RFI in advance of the October 23, 2024, deadline. AAI welcomes feedback from members and will consider any input received in the AAI response. If you would like to share your thoughts, please email AAI Senior Science Policy Analyst Emily Kansler, Ph.D. ([ekansler@aai.org](mailto:ekansler@aai.org)). NIH is particularly interested in hearing from graduate students, postdocs, early career researchers, and faculty involved in education/career development programs. Comments must be submitted electronically at [bit.ly/4duEyuL](https://bit.ly/4duEyuL).

## Bjorkman, Garcia, and Wilson Awarded Inaugural Emory Max Cooper Prize in Immunology

**Pamela J. Bjorkman, Ph.D (AAI '95), K. Christopher Garcia, Ph.D. (AAI '18), and Ian A. Wilson, Ph.D. (AAI '14)** have received the inaugural Emory Max Cooper Prize in Immunology.



Dr. Bjorkman is the David Baltimore Professor of Biology and Biological Engineering and a Merkin Institute Professor at the California Institute of Technology. This award recognizes her discovery of key details about how T cells recognize antigens and eliminate virally infected cells and tumor cells. Her research investigates the three-dimensional structure and function of molecules involved in cell surface interactions of the immune system. To learn more about her research, visit [www.bbe.caltech.edu/people/pamela-j-bjorkman](http://www.bbe.caltech.edu/people/pamela-j-bjorkman).



Dr. Garcia is the Younger Family Professor and professor of structural biology at Stanford University. He is recognized for his investigation of the three-dimensional structures of immune cell surface receptors that interact with cytokines and modulate the immune system. Understanding the mechanics of this process has led to new therapeutics, including therapies being tested on patients with cancer. For more about his research, visit [profiles.stanford.edu/chris-garcia](http://profiles.stanford.edu/chris-garcia).



Dr. Wilson is the Hansen Professor of Structural Biology at The Scripps Research Institute. He was selected for enhancing understanding, at the molecular level, of how antibodies bind to and interact with key targets on pathogens. This knowledge is essential to developing new vaccines and other therapies. Find out more about his research at [www.scripps.edu/faculty/wilson](http://www.scripps.edu/faculty/wilson).

The Max Cooper Prize has been established by the Emory University School of Medicine as an annual award to honor **Max D. Cooper, M.D. (AAI '66, president 1988–89)**, whose discovery of B cells and T cells revolutionized the understanding of the adaptive immune system. He was awarded the Lasker Basic Medical Research Award for his work in 2019. Dr. Cooper is a Georgia Research Alliance Eminent



Scholar and professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Emory University School of Medicine and a member of the Emory Vaccine Center, Center for AIDS Research and Winship Cancer Institute. He served as AAI President from 1988 to 1989, received the AAI Lifetime Achievement Award in 2000, and was named a Distinguished Fellow of AAI in 2019.

The annual \$100,000 award will be shared equally among recipients.

Read the full announcement at [bit.ly/4gNDoOV](http://bit.ly/4gNDoOV) and learn about the establishment of the Emory Max Cooper Prize in Immunology at [bit.ly/3NwKt9j](http://bit.ly/3NwKt9j). Find out more about Dr. Cooper, including his AAI oral history interview, at [bit.ly/3TU0h9C](http://bit.ly/3TU0h9C).

## Michelson Donates \$120 Million to UCLA to Establish Immunology Institute



**Gary Michelson (AAI '21)** and his wife Alya Michelson have committed to a donation of \$120 million to help UCLA launch the California Institute for Immunology and Immunotherapy, a public-private partnership to spur breakthrough discoveries in the prevention and curing of diseases.

Dr. Michelson is a spine surgeon and prolific inventor who holds nearly 1,000 individual patents. His gift, distributed via the Michelson Medical Research Foundation, will fund the establishment of two research entities within the institute, one focused on rapid vaccine development and the other on harnessing the microbiome to advance human health. The microbiome research will be conducted in collaboration with the new UCLA Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center, placing it among the largest microbiome research enterprises in the world.

The gift will also fund a \$20 million endowment to provide research grants to young scientists using novel processes to advance immunotherapy research, human immunology, and vaccine discovery.

For more information about the Michelson Medical Research Foundation and the full announcement of the donation, visit [bit.ly/3XTYP8q](http://bit.ly/3XTYP8q).

## Immunology Explained: AAI Provides Immunology Resources for the Public

In July, AAI launched a major update to the Immunology Explained website ([www.immunologyexplained.org](http://www.immunologyexplained.org)), adding two new topic sections and an ongoing blog series to this resource that helps the public understand the immune system. Adding to the “Immune System and Aging” section aimed at Generation X, the site now features sections on “Understanding your Child’s Immune System” and “Living With an Autoimmune Disease,” both geared toward a Millennial audience.

The microsite explains the complexities of immunology in clear language so that members of the public can both discover the core principles of the immune system and

advocate for themselves in clinical settings. Parents can learn about why vaccines are safe and effective for their children, or why their children might have food allergies. People with autoimmune diseases can find out why their immune system is attacking their own cells.

As part of the public awareness work launched by AAI in 2022 under the leadership of Gary Koretzky, Immunology Explained helps advance one of AAI’s core strategic priorities of enhancing public understanding of immunology. The content on Immunology Explained was developed by the members of the AAI Public Communications Committee and draws upon the expertise of many AAI members. If you would like to contribute a blog post explaining a topic in immunology to a general readership, please contact [communications@aai.org](mailto:communications@aai.org) for guidelines.



## AAI Represented in Dublin at ECI 2024

AAI received a warm welcome in Dublin, Ireland, at ECI 2024, the 7<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Immunology. AAI President Stephen Jameson and Amanda Lund co-chaired the very well-attended AAI symposium “Immune responses at barrier tissues,” featuring presentations by Jameson, Shruti Naik, and De’Broski Herbert.

The AAI booth in the exhibit hall experienced significant traffic, with attendees expressing interest in membership, *The Journal of Immunology* and *ImmunoHorizons*, IMMUNOLOGY2025™ in Honolulu, Hawai’i, and limited edition AAI socks being raffled to 30 lucky winners.

A highlight of the event was the 16 AAI travel grant award winners gathering at the AAI booth for group photographs.



## Reduced Author Fees in AAI Journals Starting October 1, 2024

As part of the publishing partnership with Oxford University Press (OUP), the AAI journals are excited to announce significantly reduced author fees, with further discounts for AAI members. These reduced fees will make *The Journal of Immunology* and *ImmunoHorizons* more accessible to a broader range of authors and will encourage more submissions. Under the new structure, there are no additional fees for color figures or page charges. The flat fees (below) cover the entire submission.

Additionally, authors based in one of the nations included OUP’s Developing Countries Initiative will have their author fee waived when submitting to *ImmunoHorizons*. See [bit.ly/3TV1Ni](https://bit.ly/3TV1Ni) for details and a list of qualifying nations.

Starting with articles submitted on or after October 1, 2024, the new fee structure will be as follows:

### ***The Journal of Immunology*—Standard License**

- AAI Member: \$1,500
- Nonmember: \$1,875

### ***The Journal of Immunology*—Open Access license**

- AAI Member: \$2,800
- Nonmember: \$3,000

(Note that the fee for the Open Access license is *not* in addition to the Standard license fee.)

### ***ImmunoHorizons*—Open Access license**

- AAI Member: \$1,360
- Nonmember: \$1,700

For any questions regarding these changes, please contact [infoji@aai.org](mailto:infoji@aai.org) or [infoih@aai.org](mailto:infoih@aai.org).

# IMMUNOLOGY2025™

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF IMMUNOLOGISTS

## Call for 2025 Award Applications

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 19, 2024

More than half of members who submit abstracts receive travel grants or awards! Don't miss out—join AAI and submit your abstract for IMMUNOLOGY2025™ to be eligible for one of the many awards offered!

### Lefrançois-BioLegend Memorial Award

Established to honor the memory of AAI member Dr. Leo Lefrançois, this award is intended to advance the career of a trainee who attends the AAI annual meeting and presents an outstanding abstract specifically in the area of mucosal immunology. The award recipient will receive a \$1,000 cash award and a certificate during an awards presentation program at the AAI annual meeting. *This award is generously supported through a grant from BioLegend and donations from friends and colleagues of Dr. Lefrançois.*

### AAI Trainee Poster Awards

These awards provide a \$400 cash reward to AAI trainee members whose first-author abstracts submitted to the AAI annual meeting are selected for poster sessions only and found to be exceptional by the AAI Abstract Programming Chairs. Selection is based on the originality and significance of the research being presented.

### Pfizer-Showell Travel Award

This award recognizes the professional promise of an early career investigator (assistant professor or equivalent) by assisting the award recipient with travel to the AAI annual meeting. Selection is based on career progress and submission of an outstanding abstract selected for podium presentation in a block symposium at the meeting. The award recipient will receive a \$1,500 cash award and a certificate during an awards presentation program at the AAI annual meeting. *This award is supported through an endowment from Henry J. Showell and Pfizer, Inc.*

### AAI-Thermo Fisher Trainee Achievement Awards

These awards recognize up to six promising trainees in the field of immunology. Selection is based on career promise and presentation of an outstanding first-author abstract selected for podium presentation in a block symposium. Awardees will receive a \$1,000 cash award and \$1,250 in travel support. *These awards are generously supported by Thermo Fisher Scientific.*

### AAI Undergraduate Faculty Travel Grants

These grants assist undergraduate faculty in attending the AAI annual meeting. Each grant will also support travel costs for an undergraduate student of the recipient's selection. A grant of \$1,250 is awarded to the undergraduate faculty member, and a grant of \$1,000 is awarded to the selected undergraduate student.

### AAI Early Career Faculty Travel Grants

These grants assist young investigators (assistant professor or equivalent) in attending the AAI annual meeting. Recipients will receive \$1,250 in travel support.

### Chambers-Thermo Fisher Scientific Memorial Award

Established to honor the memory of AAI member Dr. Cynthia Chambers, this award is intended to advance the career of an early career scientist who attends the AAI annual meeting and presents an outstanding abstract specifically in the area of cancer biology. The award recipient will receive a \$1,000 cash award and a certificate during an awards presentation program at the AAI annual meeting. *This award is generously supported through a grant from Thermo Fisher Scientific.*

### Lustgarten-Thermo Fisher Scientific Memorial Award

Established to honor the memory of AAI member Dr. Joseph Lustgarten, this award is intended to advance the career of a mid-career scientist who attends the AAI annual meeting and presents an outstanding abstract specifically in the area of immune regulation. The award recipient will receive a \$1,250 cash award and a certificate during an awards presentation program at the AAI annual meeting. *This award is generously supported through a grant from Thermo Fisher Scientific.*

### AAI Trainee Abstract Awards

These awards provide a \$600 cash reward to AAI trainee members whose first-author abstracts submitted to the AAI annual meeting are selected for podium presentation in block symposia.

### AAI Laboratory Travel Grants

These grants assist mid-career and senior investigators in attending the AAI annual meeting. Applicants must hold an appointment of associate professor, full professor, or equivalent; have limited research funding; and be a first or last author on one or more abstracts submitted to the annual meeting. Each grant will provide two travel awards of \$1,250 each: one to the PI or laboratory director and another to a member of their lab, chosen by the PI or laboratory director.

### Diversity Travel Awards

These awards provide travel support of \$1,250 to eligible trainees and early-career faculty members who are members of populations reported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to be underrepresented in the U.S. biomedical, clinical, behavioral and social sciences research enterprise.

For complete AAI Travel Award and Grant application details, visit [www.AAI.org/Awards](http://www.AAI.org/Awards).

*The 2025 AAI Awards will be presented in conjunction with*

## IMMUNOLOGY2025™

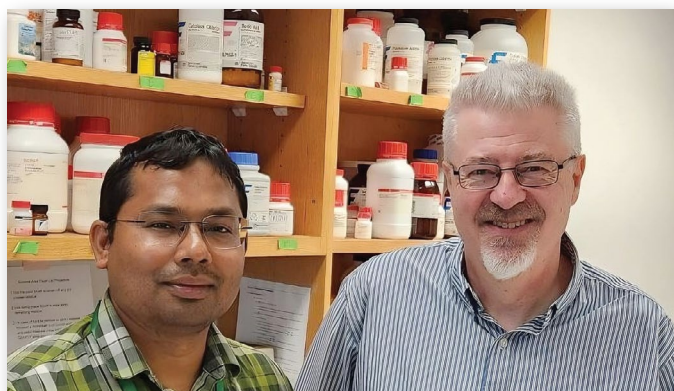
MAY 3 – 7, 2025 | HAWAI'I CONVENTION CENTER | HONOLULU, HI

Questions? Contact AAI at 301-634-7178 or [awards@aai.org](mailto:awards@aai.org)

## AAI Announces Recipients of 2024 Careers in Immunology Fellowships

AAI congratulates members selected to receive AAI *Careers in Immunology Fellowships* in 2024. The program, launched in 2014, provides independent research scientists with fellowships supporting one year of salary for a trainee (predoctoral or postdoctoral) in their labs. Details about this program may be found at [www.aai.org/CIFP](http://www.aai.org/CIFP).

The investigators selected for the 2024 *Careers in Immunology Fellowships* are:



**Kumar and Carbonetti**

**Nicholas H. Carbonetti, Ph.D. (AAI '19)**  
Professor—*Univ. of Maryland Sch. of Med.*

**Trainee:** Amit Kumar, Ph.D. (AAI '24), Postdoctoral Fellow

**Project:** IFN $\lambda$  signaling in neutrophils modulates the pathogenesis of *Bordetella pertussis* infection



**Chandrakasan and Malik**

**Shanmuganathan Chandrakasan, M.D. (AAI '23)**  
Associate Professor—*Emory Univ. Sch. of Med.*

**Trainee:** Sakshi Malik, Ph.D. (AAI '22), Postdoctoral Fellow

**Project:** Investigating acquired humoral immune dysregulation and deficiency in HLH, an extreme hyperinflammatory state

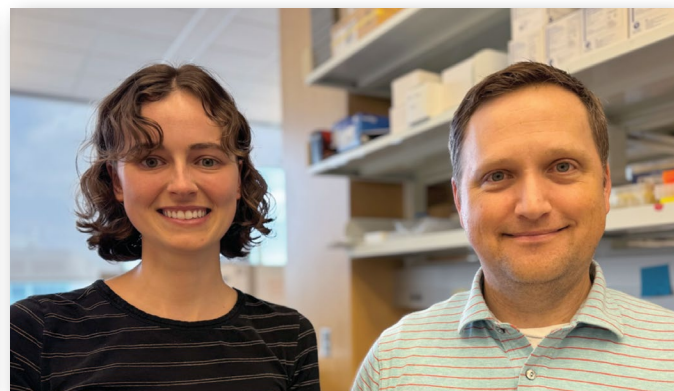


**Harris and Babcock**

**Tajie H. Harris, Ph.D. (AAI '15)**  
Associate Professor—*Univ. of Virginia*

**Trainee:** Isaac W. Babcock (AAI '24), Graduate Student

**Project:** Caspase-1 mediated control of toxoplasmic encephalitis



**McCullough and Mock**

**Jason R. Mock, M.D., Ph.D. (AAI '19)**  
Associate Professor—*Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*

**Trainee:** Morgan J. McCullough (AAI '24), Graduate Student

**Project:** The role of Treg heterogeneity in the resolution of acute lung injury



**Pyram and Santana-Magal**

**Kalyani Pyram, Ph.D. (AAI '17)**

Assistant Professor—*Univ. of Kansas Med. Ctr.*

**Trainee:** Nadine Santana-Magal, Ph.D. (AAI '24),  
Postdoctoral Fellow

**Project:** Metabolic manipulation as a strategy to improve the efficacy of CAR T cells for treating diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) tumors



**Sojka and Tatematsu**

**Dorothy K. Sojka, Ph.D. (AAI '17)**

Assistant Professor—*Loyola Univ. Chicago*

**Trainee:** Bruna K. Tatematsu (AAI '23), Graduate Student

**Project:** Local regulation of uterine tissue-resident NK cells by steroid hormones



**Vijay and Caloba**

**Rahul Vijay, D.V.M., Ph.D. (AAI '22)**

Assistant Professor—*Rosalind Franklin Univ. of Med. and Sci.*

**Trainee:** Carolina Caloba (AAI '22), Graduate Student

**Project:** Role of 4-1BB:4-1BBL axis in anti-*Plasmodium* humoral immunity



## 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.

### ImmunologyLA

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual ImmunologyLA meeting was held on June 28, 2024, at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles, California. AAI supported seven Young Investigator awards for poster and podium presentations at the event.

The awardees for poster presentations were:

- Nour Amwas (AAI '23), graduate student, City of Hope
- Sung Hoon Baik, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, Cedars-Sinai Med. Ctr.
- Nicolas Millet, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, Harbor-UCLA Med. Ctr.
- Yichen Zhu, graduate student, UCLA

The awardees for podium presentations were:

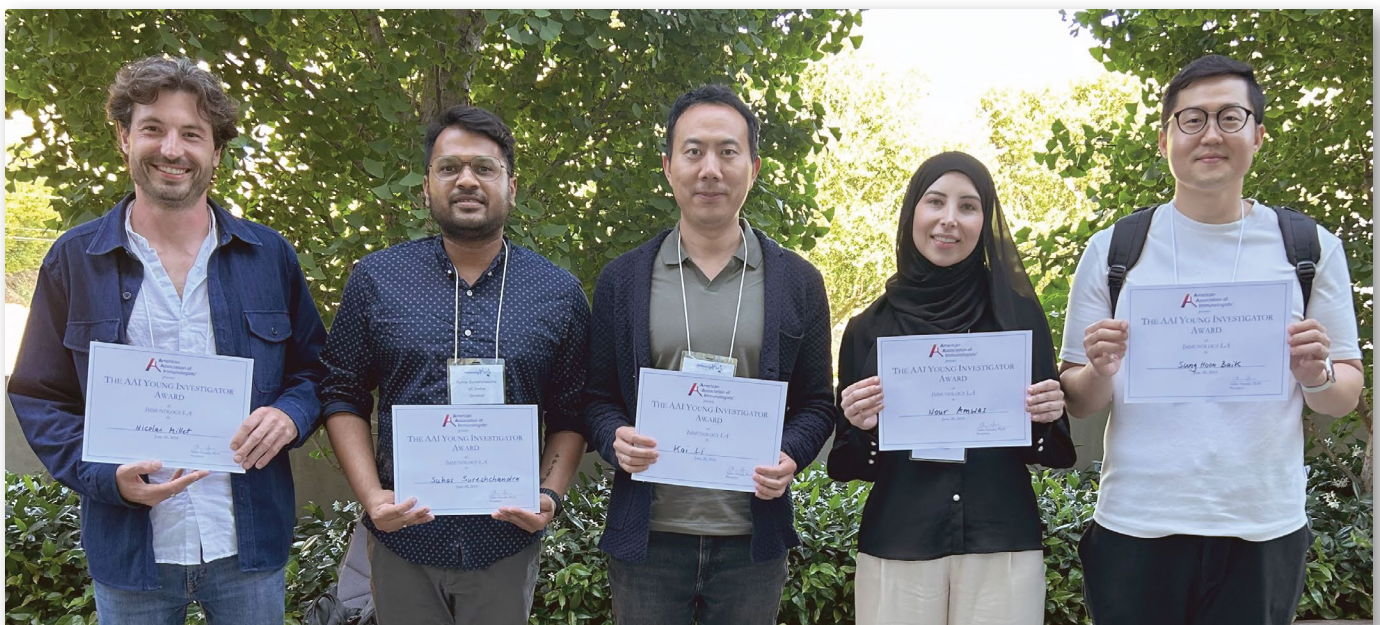
- Ho-Chung Chen (AAI '23), graduate student, UCLA
- Kai Li, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, Cedars-Sinai Med. Ctr.
- Suhas Sureshchandra, Ph.D. (AAI '23), postdoctoral fellow, Univ. of California, Irvine

### ImmunoDiverse Colloquium

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual ImmunoDiverse Colloquium took place on April 18-19, 2024, as a hybrid event hosted by the University of California, San Francisco. AAI provided general meeting support for the event.

### Network of Minority Health Research Investigators (NMRI)

The annual Network of Minority Health Research Investigators (NMRI) took place April 17-19, 2024, hosted by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases at the NIH in Bethesda, Maryland. AAI supported Mulu Tesfay, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, Univ. of Arkansas for Med. Sci., with a travel award to the meeting.



AAI Young Investigator Awardees at the ImmunologyLA Meeting

## Translational Research Cancer Centers Consortium (TRCCC)

The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Translational Research Cancer Centers Consortium (TRCCC) Conference was held February 21-23, 2024, in Seven Springs, Pennsylvania. AAI supported eleven podium presentation awards this year.

The awardees were:

- Angisha Basnet, graduate student, West Virginia Univ.
- Hannah Bumgarner (AAI '23), graduate student, Univ. of Pittsburgh
- Adam Brinkman, graduate student, Roswell Park Comp. Cancer Ctr.
- Joseph Caporale, graduate student, Nationwide Children's Hosp.
- Laura Cordoba Espejo, graduate student, Univ. of Pennsylvania
- Amanda Finck, graduate student, Univ. of Pennsylvania
- Kay Foos, graduate student, Univ. of Pennsylvania
- Yiting Li, graduate student, Univ. of Pittsburgh
- Debasmita Mukherjee, graduate student, The Ohio State Univ.
- Avani Parikh, graduate student, Univ. of Pittsburgh
- Catherine Phelps, graduate student, Univ. of Pittsburgh



AAI Young Investigator Awardees at the Translational Research Cancer Centers Consortium Annual Meeting.

# AAI 2024 Summer Immunology Courses Held in Boston and Los Angeles

## 2024 AAI Advanced Course in Immunology

The 2024 AAI Advanced Course in Immunology drew 267 attendees from the United States and 10 foreign countries to the Westin Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts, July 28–August 2. Wayne M. Yokoyama (AAI '84), professor, Washington University School of Medicine, returned as course director for a sixth year.

Scientists participating as 2024 course faculty, along with the topics they covered, appear at [www.aai.org/Education/Courses/Advanced](http://www.aai.org/Education/Courses/Advanced). One course attendee stated, “This is a very important course and I thank the AAI for offering it! Please keep doing this, as it will shape future immunologists.” Other comments included “Great course with amazing speakers!” and “Great structure for the talks in terms of building on each one as the week progressed.”



Attendees connect with peers in their research area during the networking reception.



Instructor Tajie Harris (AAI '15), at left, University of Virginia, discusses Neuroimmunology with course attendees.

Designed for advanced trainees and scientists who wish to expand or update their understanding of the field, the intensive AAI Advanced Course is taught by world-renowned immunologists, highlighting recent advances in the biology of the immune system and addressing its role in health and disease.

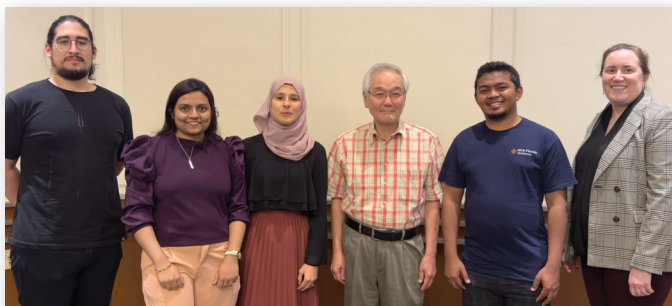


Instructor and AAI Vice President Ulrich H. von Andrian (AAI '97), Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard, opens the course with a lecture on the Anatomy of the Immune Response.



Instructor and AAI Councilor Avery August (AAI '99), at right, Cornell University, answers questions from attendees about T Cell Development.

Overseas attendees at this year’s course included representatives of Canada, Denmark, India, Madagascar, Peru, South Korea, Spain, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom. Among them were four International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS) Scholars, recipients of support from AAI and the IUIS to attend the AAI course:



**AAI-IUIS Scholars: Victor Andres Hernandez-Urbe, Suparna Chakraborty, Wafa Ben Hamouda, Course Director Wayne Yokoyama, Solohery Lalaina Razafimahatratra, and Director of Education and Career Development Mary Litzinger**

- Wafa Ben Hamouda, Graduate Student, Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tunisia
- Suparna Chakraborty, Doctoral Fellow, ICMR NIRBI, India
- Victor Andres Hernandez-Urbe, Immunologist, UPCH, Peru
- Solohery Lalaina Razafimahatratra, Research Engineer, Pasteur Institute of Madagascar

The 2025 AAI Advanced Course will be held July 27–August 1 at The Westin Copley Place in Boston. Details will be published on the AAI website in March 2025 ([www.aai.org/Education/Courses](http://www.aai.org/Education/Courses)).

## 2024 AAI Introductory Course in Immunology

The 2024 AAI Introductory Course in Immunology was held at the UCLA Luskin Conference Center in Los Angeles, July 9–14. The event drew about 200 registrants from the United States and 9 foreign countries. Helen S. Goodridge, Ph.D. (AAI '09), professor, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, served as course director for the sixth year.



**Enjoying networking reception: Helen Goodridge, Course Director, at right, with attendees**

Designed for students new to the discipline of immunology or those seeking more information to complement general biology or science training, the intensive, two-part AAI Introductory Course is taught by world-renowned immunologists, providing a comprehensive overview of the basics of immunology.



**Instructor Juliana Idoyaga, University of California, San Diego, presenting her lecture on Dendritic Cells: The Bridge Between Innate and Adaptive Immunity.**

Scientists participating as 2024 course faculty, along with the topics they covered, appear at [www.aai.org/Education/Courses/Introductory](http://www.aai.org/Education/Courses/Introductory). Responses to the course survey were favorable. One attendee wrote, “This course was fantastic in the fact that each lecture was presented by an expert in that field.” Another attendee commented, “I really appreciated the diversity of presenters during this course. It is important for the next generation of scientists to have exposure to faculty of varying age, ethnicity, gender, and academia versus industry backgrounds. Thank you for showcasing the diverse panel of instructors.”



**Instructor Stephen De Rosa, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, answers questions from course participants after his lecture on Vaccination.**



**From left: Course Director Helen Goodridge, AAI-IUIS Scholars Levanco Asia, Aicha Assouab, Kesego Tapela, and AAI Director of Education and Career Development Mary Litzinger**

International attendees at this year's course included representatives of Argentina, Canada, Denmark, Ghana, Morocco, South Africa, South Korea, Switzerland, and United Kingdom. Among them were four International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS) Scholars, recipients of support from AAI and the IUIS to attend the AAI course:

- Levanco Keegan Asia, graduate student, North-West University, South Africa
- Aicha Assouab, graduate student, Hassan II University, Morocco
- Luz Maria Palacios, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina
- Kesego Tapela, graduate Student, University of Ghana, Ghana

Participants in the AAI High School Teachers Program are offered the opportunity to attend this intensive introductory course and take part in a research experience with the goal of enhancing their ability to convey the excitement of immunology to their students. This year's Intro Course attendees included three AAI High School Teachers Program participants:

- Fumilayo Adeshakin, Memphis Shelby County School, Memphis, TN
- Brian Dempsey, Acton-Boxborough Regional High School, Acton, MA
- Erin Stamper, The St. Paul's School, Brooklandville, MD

The 2025 AAI Introductory Course will be held July 8–13, at the UCLA Luskin Conference Center in Los Angeles, California. Details will be published on the AAI website in March 2025 ([www.aai.org/Education/Courses](http://www.aai.org/Education/Courses)).

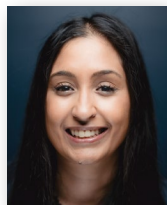


**From left: Course Director Helen Goodridge, High School Teachers Program Participants Brian Dempsey, Funmilayo Adeshakin, Erin Stamper, and AAI Director of Education and Career Development Mary Litzinger**

## AAI Education Committee Highlight: Teaching Tools

*The Immunology Teaching Interest Group (ITIG) was created by the AAI Education Committee as an informal group composed of past speakers and attendees of the ITIG sessions, including current immunology educators spanning a range of institutions and levels. It serves as a resource for novel teaching tools and practices that can be implemented in courses to enhance immunology education. Because of the great interest in this topic, the AAI Newsletter features “Teaching Tools” articles highlighting ITIG presentations.*

### Cross-disciplinary and cross-institutional student collaboration for undergraduate immunologists



**Jasty Singh, Ph.D. (AAI '19)**  
Associate Professor, Teaching Stream & Associate Chair, Undergraduate Studies, Department of Immunology, *Univ. of Toronto*



**Gabrielle Lam Ph.D., P.Eng.**  
Assistant Professor of Teaching, Department of Materials Engineering & School of Biomedical Engineering; Director, Undergraduate, School of Biomedical Engineering, *Univ. of British Columbia*

Immunology is a cross-disciplinary field, existing at the interface of biology, engineering and medicine. A crucial skill for immunologists to develop is their ability to collaborate with others with different expertise, such as biomedical engineers and statisticians. Undergraduate students at most institutions have few formal opportunities to engage in these collaborations. Most team-based projects allow students to work with fellow immunology or biology peers; however, the opportunity to do so with students in other fields is rare<sup>1</sup>. Even fewer opportunities exist to collaborate with students from other academic institutions.

Recognizing this gap, we developed a cross-disciplinary, cross-institutional collaborative group project between two undergraduate courses, IMM360 (Scientific Methods and Research in Immunology, University of Toronto) and BMEG372 (Biomedical Materials and Drug Delivery, University of British Columbia). Virtual project teams (5–6 students) were created with relatively equal representation of students from both courses. Students completed a multi-phased collaborative immunoengineering-based group project from September–December in 2022 and 2023. Here is a subset of activities as part of the group project:

**Activity 1 | Meeting the Team.** The first activity was launched at the outset of the collaboration. To empower students to build relationships, student groups worked together to create a team contract and group resumé that captured what they wanted to get out of the project, their current knowledge in their respective discipline(s), previous work experiences (course-relevant or otherwise), and any notable accomplishments/hobbies they were proud of.

The assignment goal was to have students appreciate the wealth of diversity that existed as part of their team, to set them up for collaborating effectively.

**Activity 2 | The Assignment.** Students were assigned a published research paper in the field of immunoengineering. For their assignment, students needed to:

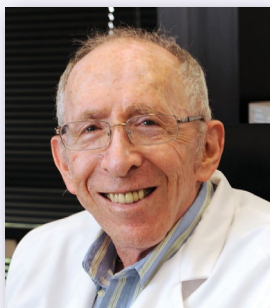
1. understand the research paper and provide a critique. This required a thorough understanding of the research question, drug delivery system, methods used, study design, and statistical approaches. Students were also provided the raw data associated with the publication, providing them an opportunity to reanalyze the authors' data. Through this process, students uncovered issues with data/methods reporting and reproducibility.
2. propose follow-up studies as an extension of the authors' work, with proposed studies reflecting elements of both drug delivery design and immunology. Each proposed study required a strong rationale, including justification of the group's choice of drug delivery system, methodology, sampling strategy and analysis/statistical methods. This component of the team's effort was the most collaborative in nature, bringing together both engineering and immunology expertise.

**Activity 3 | Evaluating Team Success.** At various points throughout the term, students were asked to evaluate their peers and themselves through an online teamwork and behavioral assessment platform, ITP Metrics<sup>2</sup>. These evaluations offered students the opportunity to reflect on their contributions, and to respect the opinions of their peers for enhancement of overall team health.

Based on anecdotal observations and student feedback from course evaluations, students appreciated the cross-disciplinary nature of the collaborative group project and the opportunity to engage with their peers professionally. We hope that learnings from this work will inform an effort to weave cross-disciplinary collaboration into undergraduate/graduate education at other institutions.

#### References

- 1 Aagaard-Hansen, J., 2007. The challenges of cross-disciplinary research. *Social epistemology*, 21(4), pp.425–438.
- 2 [www.itpmetrics.com](http://www.itpmetrics.com)



## Jonathan W. Uhr, M.D., (AAI '58)

September 8, 1927–February 15, 2024

*AAI extends condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Jonathan W. Uhr, M.D. (AAI '58, president 1983–84), a renowned immunologist and AAI member for over six decades who died at 96 on February 15, 2024. Dr. Uhr's work transformed the field's understanding of how antibodies work, made possible the early detection of cancer cells, and set the groundwork for the virtual elimination of Rh disease. He was professor emeritus at the Cancer Immunobiology Center at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, where he had performed research since 1972.*

*Uhr enrolled at Cornell University at age 16, but the very next year joined the Navy five months before the end of World War Two. He returned to his studies and graduated in 1948. He received his M.D. at New York University in 1952 and became chief resident at Mt. Sinai Hospital. A fellowship with Alwin M. Pappenheimer Jr. (AAI 1938, president 1954–55) brought him into laboratory work, and another with Frank Macfarlane Burnett (AAI 1961) solidified his lasting interest in immunology. Uhr was at the NYU Medical School for ten years before moving to UT Southwestern.*

*In addition to serving as AAI president and on the AAI Council, Uhr's active AAI involvement included service as chair of the Nominating Committee, as member of the Financial Planning Committee and of the Organizing Committee of the First International Congress of Immunology, and as associate editor for The Journal of Immunology. He also served as an AAI delegate to the IUIS General Assembly and as AAI representative on both the IUIS Council and the FASEB Board.*

*The following tribute was published by UT Southwestern Medical Center and is reprinted with the kind permission of that institution.*

Jonathan W. Uhr, M.D., Professor Emeritus of Immunology at UT Southwestern Medical Center, who discovered how antibodies are made and developed a technique that led to the early detection of cancer cells, died February 15. He was 96.

A member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Uhr was recruited to UT Southwestern in 1972 by Donald Seldin, M.D., then Chairman of Internal Medicine, to be Chair and Professor of Microbiology, a department that Dr. Uhr built into one of the best in the world. He was a pioneer in the investigation of dormant cancer cells and circulating tumor cells and played a key role in the science behind the development of RhoGam, a medicine that prevents Rh incompatibility from developing during pregnancy.

“Under Dr. Uhr’s leadership, the Department of Microbiology gained an international reputation in immunology research, and he was instrumental in recruiting some of the finest scientists in the country to UT Southwestern,” said *W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D.*, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Provost, and Dean, UT Southwestern Medical School and holder of the Atticus James Gill, M.D. Chair in Medical Science. “His legacy of discovery and commitment to mentoring the next generation of researchers will live on in the halls and labs of our institution.”

Much of Dr. Uhr’s research focused on early diagnosis and treatment of cancer, a disease that took the lives of both of his parents. His efforts led to a commercialized test to detect circulating tumor cells in the human bloodstream that was routinely used in clinical laboratories. The Cleveland Clinic ranked the technology as the top medical innovation for 2009.

His later work involved combining that knowledge with advanced imaging to more precisely identify cancer cells.

Dr. Uhr joined UT Southwestern in 1972 as Chair and Professor of Microbiology and served for 25 years before becoming Professor at UTSW’s Cancer Immunobiology Center to continue his research.

“Jonathan Uhr was a force at UT Southwestern. He hired a number of outstanding microbiologists and immunologists and built a department from scratch,” said Lora Hooper, Ph.D., Chair and Professor of Immunology, Professor of Microbiology and in the Center for the Genetics of Host Defense, and a Nancy Cain and Jeffrey A. Marcus Scholar in Medical Research, in Honor of Dr. Bill S. Vowell. “In his own research, he made far-reaching contributions to the understanding of immunity and cancer cells. I am honored to hold the Jonathan W. Uhr, M.D. Distinguished Chair in Immunology and hope to honor Jon’s legacy by continuing to grow and enhance the immunology research community here at UT Southwestern.”



Dr. Uhr served as President of the American Association of Immunologists from 1983–1984. He also was a member of the Scientific Review Board for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute from 1980–1989; a member of the U.S.-Japan Panel of the Cooperative Program in Immunology from 1981–1986; a member of the Scripps Clinic

Scientific Review board from 1983–1987; and a member of the Howard Hughes Medical Advisory Board from 1993–1997.

In 1997, he stepped down as Chair of Microbiology to become Professor at UTSW's Cancer Immunobiology Center, where his research continued. He was named Professor Emeritus in October 2010.

“Dr. Uhr’s legacy and history of impactful science, service, and leadership will live on, particularly in the Department of Microbiology at UT Southwestern,” said Julie Pfeiffer, Ph.D., Interim Chair and Professor of Microbiology.

He was honored with the Abbott-American Society for Microbiology Lifetime Achievement Award in 1999.

Born in New York, Dr. Uhr grew up in New Jersey. He said he was inspired to pursue a career in medicine and research by his father, who was a pediatrician. At age 17, he began a 16-month stint in the U.S. Navy before heading to college. He earned his undergraduate degree from Cornell University in 1948 and his medical degree in 1952 from New York University (NYU) School of Medicine. He completed residencies in immunology and internal medicine at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York and fellowships in immunology at the Hall Institute in Melbourne, Australia, and NYU School of Medicine.

Before joining UT Southwestern, Dr. Uhr was Director of the Irvington House Institute for Rheumatic Fever and Allied Diseases and Professor of Internal Medicine at NYU Medical School.

During his career, Dr. Uhr mentored countless researchers and looked for ways to encourage younger generations to take an interest in science. He was an avid tennis player. He also loved traveling and was a fan of country and classical music as well as the Dallas Cowboys. After retiring, he signed up for tap dancing lessons.

In a 2013 oral history project for The American Association of Immunologists, Dr. Uhr told the interviewer that he was proud of all he had accomplished but that he made sure to keep his life in balance. “I’ve always had a lot of fun,” he said. “You can work hard and still have fun if you’re adventuresome, and I’ve always been adventuresome.”

He is survived by his wife, Ginger Uhr, formerly Ginger Lanclos of Port Arthur, Texas; two daughters, Sarita Uhr and Jacqueline Guise; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Feb. 18, in Birmingham, Michigan at the Ira Kaufman Chapel. Those who wish to further honor Dr. Uhr may make a contribution to UT Southwestern Medical Center – Texas, Office of Development & Alumni Relations, and request funds be dedicated in memory of the Jonathan W. Uhr, M.D. Distinguished Chair in Immunology: [engage.utsouthwestern.edu/donate-now](https://engage.utsouthwestern.edu/donate-now).

*The Washington Post published an obituary for Dr. Uhr as well:* [www.washingtonpost.com/obituaries/2024/02/21/jonathan-uhr-immunologist-dead](https://www.washingtonpost.com/obituaries/2024/02/21/jonathan-uhr-immunologist-dead)

*Watch the AAI oral history interview with Dr. Uhr here:* [www.aai.org/About/History/Past-Presidents-and-Officers/JonathanWUhr](https://www.aai.org/About/History/Past-Presidents-and-Officers/JonathanWUhr)



**Elizabeth D. “Betsy” Mellins, M.D., DFAAI (AAI ’84)**

**December 16, 1951–March 24, 2024**

*AAI extends condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Elizabeth D. “Betsy” Mellins, M.D. (AAI 1984), a Distinguished Fellow of the American Association of Immunologists who died at 72 on March 24, 2024. Dr. Mellins was professor of pediatrics and a member of the Interdisciplinary Program in Immunology at Stanford University.*

*Mellins made major contributions to understanding the basic and clinical biology of major histocompatibility complex class II (MHCII) glycoproteins, supported by laboratory investigations into fundamental antigen presentation mechanisms and clinical studies of immune mechanisms relevant for rheumatic diseases with a particular focus on diseases that affect children.*

*Mellins served AAI as a member of the Clinical Immunology Committee and the Education Committee, and as an Abstract Programming Chair. She also directed the AAI Advanced Course in Immunology from 2002 to 2004, for which she was recognized with the Distinguished Service Award in 2005. Mellins was named a Distinguished Fellow of AAI in 2019.*

*The following tribute was written by Dr. Mellin’s friends and colleagues Peter Cresswell, Lisa K. Denzin, Paul A. Roche, Laura Santambrogio, and Lawrence J. Stern.*



Elizabeth (Betsy) Mellins, Professor of Pediatrics and member of the Interdisciplinary Program in Immunology at Stanford University, and a Distinguished Fellow of the American Association of Immunologists, died on March 24, 2024. Betsy made major contributions to understanding the basic and clinical biology of major histocompatibility complex class II (MHCII) glycoproteins, supported by laboratory investigations into fundamental antigen presentation mechanisms and clinical studies of immune mechanisms relevant for rheumatic diseases with a particular focus on diseases that affect children.

Betsy Mellins grew up in Manhasset, New York, and went to Cornell University in 1969, majoring in political science in a time of considerable campus unrest. She did a post-baccalaureate year at MIT studying biomedical science and then entered Harvard Medical School, graduating in 1978. In 1981, Betsy entered a fellowship in Pediatric Rheumatology at the University of Washington in Seattle, where she joined Don Pious's lab. Pious had recently mapped the human MHCII region on chromosome 6p and isolated a set of ethylmethanesulfonate (EMS)-induced mutant B cell lines carrying point mutations in this region and exhibiting alterations in MHCII expression and serological reactivity. Betsy studied antigen presentation function in these lines, initially with Pious and later in her independent lab at the University of Pennsylvania. These studies identified many of the players in MHCII antigen presentation pathways and established much of the cell biology and biochemistry at the center of our current understanding of this system.

The mutant cell lines displayed the typical complement of class II MHC glycoproteins HLA-DR, -DQ, and -DP, and were fully functional in presenting pre-processed peptides to CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells. However, they were unable to process protein antigens for presentation. In one set of lines, mutations were found in HLA-DM, an MHC-encoded protein that was predicted to have structural homology with classical MHCII proteins. Biochemical experiments with recombinant HLA-DM revealed its function as an MHCII peptide editing enzyme, catalyzing peptide association and dissociation reactions, and in particular its ability to remove fragments of the invariant chain chaperone known to occupy the peptide binding site of nascent MHCII proteins. Typically, the invariant chain fragments are removed during MHCII maturation and replaced with a diverse set of peptides derived from exogenous and endogenous proteins. But in the mutant cell line deficient in HLA-DM function, the invariant chain fragments were not removed, trapping MHCII proteins as the processing intermediates, shown by crystal structure analysis of HLA-DR isolated from mutant cells. Another mutant cell line harbored a mutation that introduced a glycosylation site into the HLA-DR1  $\alpha$ 2 domain at a position later shown to interfere with HLA-DM interaction, again resulting in constitutive occupancy with a nested set of invariant chain peptides. These studies were instrumental in identifying HLA-DM as a key player in MHCII antigen presentation.

Betsy's subsequent work mapped the interaction of HLA-DM with MHCII proteins and with HLA-DO, another non-peptide-binding MHCII homolog. In a series of papers from her laboratory and with collaborators, she showed how these interactions determined the MHCII immunopeptidome, i.e., the set of peptides carried by MHCII molecules to the cell surface for presentation to CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells. Biophysical and biochemical studies showed that HLA-DO adopts a conformation characteristic of MHCII proteins at an intermediate step in the HLA-DM exchange reaction, acting as a pH-dependent, tight-binding competitive inhibitor of HLA-DM. To understand how this impacted cellular antigen presentation, Betsy developed a set of cell lines with titrated levels of HLA-DM and HLA-DO and characterized the resultant immunopeptidomes by mass spectrometry. The balance of HLA-DM and HLA-DO tuned the level and intracellular location of peptide editing. These studies provided a foundation for understanding the differential expression of HLA-DM and HLA-DO in different immune cell types and developmental states, explained alterations in CD4<sup>+</sup> T cell response and autoimmune disease susceptibility in HLA-DO deficient mice, and highlighted the importance of peptide editing in regulating adaptive immune responses.

For many autoimmune diseases, the dominant genetic associations are allelic variations in MHC genes. But why particular HLA alleles are associated with susceptibility to or protection from certain autoimmune diseases remains an outstanding question in MHC biology, a gap in understanding that Betsy seemed to take personally. She showed that MHCII proteins and their allelic variants differed in the degree to which they were susceptible to HLA-DM editing. For example, HLA-DQ2 is relatively resistant to HLA-DM editing due to a single residue deletion in the MHCII-DM interaction site. This deletion allows HLA-DQ2 to present weakly associating peptides that would otherwise be removed, including one derived from  $\alpha$ 2-gliadin, a known T cell epitope in celiac disease. Similar effects are known for an epitope derived from glutamate decarboxylase presented by HLA-DR4 and associated with type 1 diabetes. These studies revealed a novel mechanism for HLA-disease association and prompted ongoing research in several laboratories into the relationship between immunopeptidome complexity and autoimmunity.

Alongside her basic research program, Betsy was highly active in pediatric rheumatology clinical research. Betsy trained as a pediatrician, and helping children with rheumatic diseases was a central theme of her career. Reports of a dangerous inflammatory response to anakinra, tocilizumab, and biologicals targeting IL-1 and IL-6 caught her attention. These therapeutics have recently become the first-line treatment for the treatment of systemic juvenile arthritis (sJIA) and its adult-onset analog Still's disease, transforming the clinical management of these devastating diseases. However, a subset of rheumatic disease patients developed severe life-threatening pulmonary inflammation in response to treatment. The inflammatory response had similarities to drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS),

## IN MEMORIAM

a rare HLA-linked type 4 hypersensitivity induced by exposure to certain drugs. As part of a consortium of physicians and scientists investigating the genetics of childhood arthritis, Betsy showed that the disease was closely linked to HLA-DRB1\*15 alleles and was leading efforts to include HLA screening in the clinical management of sJIA in vulnerable children.

Betsy's rigorous approach to experimental immunology and her passion for bringing insights from basic molecular and cellular studies into clinical practice were an inspiration to generations of researchers and physicians. She was the founder and first chair of CARRA, the Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance, an investigator-led collaborative research network dedicated to informing clinical practice with advances in basic research and empowering patients with rheumatic disease to participate in research and contribute to finding a cure. CARRA grants, registries, biorepository, and partnering with other organizations have transformed pediatric rheumatology.

Her kindness, empathy, and generosity will be missed by all who were fortunate to have known her. Betsy is survived by

her husband Paul Mendelman, MD, children Lisa and Jeff, stepson Adam, and two grandchildren, all but Adam shown in this photo from the Claremont Hotel in Berkeley in July 2023.



### R. Michael Williams, M.D., Ph.D. (AAI '76)

November 6, 1946–July 18, 2024

*AAI extends condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Robert Michael Williams, M.D., Ph.D. (AAI 1976), an immunologist and oncologist who died on July 18, 2024, at the age of 78. Dr. Williams was the chairman and chief executive officer of the Northern California Cancer Center and Northern California Cancer Research Foundation, which he founded in 2011.*

*Williams graduated from Yale College in 1969 and in received his M.D. from Harvard Medical School and concurrently received his Ph.D. in immunology from Harvard Graduate School. There he studied genetic control of thymus-derived cell function, as well as specific and nonspecific antitumor immunity under Nobel laureate Dr. Baruj Benacerraf (AAI 1957, president 1973–74).*

*The following tribute was provided by Dr. Williams's loved ones.*

Dr. Robert Michael Williams passed away untimely on July 18, 2024. Instead of winning the Nobel Prize for his lifetime work, he died unexpectedly.

He is one of those unsung heroes, well known in the scientific community, without whom the modern world would not exist as we know it. To summarize a fulfilling, exciting and productive life of a gifted humanitarian who shared his profound talent and intellectual achievements unselfishly with family, friends, colleagues and patients requires a proper biographical text. He was a rare individual with laudable accomplishments who, without being pretentious, carried himself with precise dignity and professionalism with a profound knowledge of immunology and the biology of cancer.

Dr. Williams was the proud and only child of Mr. Robert Arvel Williams and Mrs. Eva Mae Williams. Dr. Williams was profoundly affected by his father's death when he was thirteen years old. When he learned of his father's terminal illness with lung cancer, this insight forged his future work in immunology, genetics and cancer. Dr. Williams remembered, "I would have given anything to spend more time with my father, but it was too late. He had crossed the Rubicon." He made it a goal to figure out why his father died and thought of what he could have done to have a little more time with his father.

Dr. Williams was an excellent student with the gift of intelligence, a well formulated philosophy, and the social consciousness that made him capable of interacting with people in a meaningful fashion. He graduated *magna*

*cum laude* from Yale College in 1969 with a B.A. in Culture and Behavior and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He graduated from Yale University in 1970 with an M.S. degree in Microbiology (Molecular Biology & Biophysics) and was trained by Dr. Byron Waksman who became like a father to him. He graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard Medical School in 1974 with an M.D. degree, and was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha. That same year, he graduated from Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences with a Ph.D. in immunology.

His predoctoral training was at Harvard with the Nobel laureate Dr. Baruj Benacerraf, who was a tremendous influence in terms of experimental projects as well as being a personal friend. Dr. Williams and Dr. Benacerraf collaborated on thirteen papers which became the basis for the Nobel committee to award the Nobel Prize to Dr. Benacerraf in 1980.

Postdoctoral education formed the basis for the Dr. Williams's clinical practice as an oncologist. He was a Clinical Fellow in Medicine with Dr. Eugene Braunwald at Harvard. His Clinical Oncology training was at Dana Farber Cancer Institute at Harvard with Dr. Emil T. Frei III whose use of combination chemotherapy helped make certain cancers curable for the first time. Another influence was Dr. Edmond Yunis, whose research includes the genetic mapping of human major histocompatibility complex. They enjoyed a bright camaraderie from the time they met at Harvard until Dr. Yunis's death in 2023. Dr. Williams became an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard before he finished his training, and later became the youngest Chief of Medical Oncology in the country. He co-founded Cancer Treatment Centers of America, which was sold to City of Hope in 2022.

His medical education by leading physicians of the era gave Dr. Williams the understanding and knowledge of caring for patients who are ill, frightened, anxious and compromised on many levels. He treated each patient as a human being and he treated all human beings as equals in life. His premise in his clinical practice was that all cancers are curable if you define cure as no detectable active cancer cells on a PET/CT scan done repeatedly or if you define cure as not dying directly from cancer. His analysis and approach were very successful with respect to outcome for his patients.

Dr. Williams authored over 100 scientific research papers, with his most recent publication in 2019. His publications were a remarkably important series of clinically relevant articles from an accomplished researcher who now devoted professional energies to patient diagnosis, care and treatment. He believed in immunotherapy and CAR T therapy before it was fashionable, getting his Ph.D. on mouse IR (immune response). With one of his best friends, Dr. Daniel Singer, he conceived of an immunogenetic theory for overall survival: patients with the highest number of Natural Killer (NK) cells and IgG levels could survive viruses like HIV, cancer and aging.

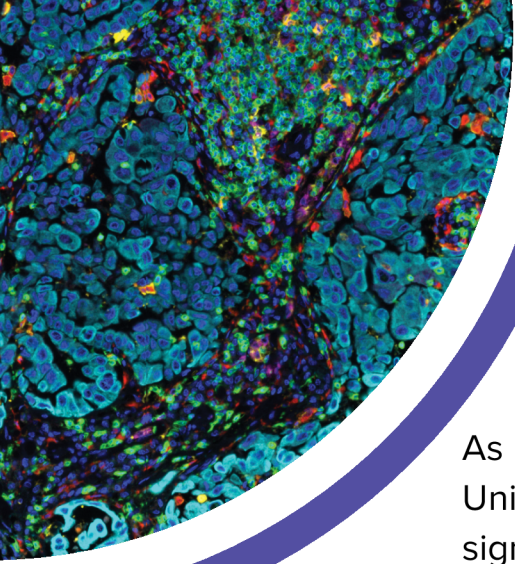
Dr. Williams trained future luminaries like Dr. James Hildreth in his lab at Harvard and they remained lifelong friends. Dr. Williams and Dr. Singer had already thought of how one's

immune response genes could affect aging, viral disease, autoimmunity and cancer. Tolerance to self antigens, if broad enough, could leave "holes" allowing the immune system to overlook viruses like HIV or cancers. He collected data showing that patients who lived the longest, whether they had cancer or not, were the ones with the most robust immune system: the highest IgG level, and the greatest number of natural killer cells. He founded a biotech company, Immunogenetics, to exploit this observation.

He studied T cell involvement in Type 1 diabetes mellitus, experimental autoimmune encephalitis (Dr. Byron Waksman's favorite experimental model), chronic active hepatitis (Dr. Edmond Yunis), and T cell suppression by HIV. He was always open to novel ideas and wrote pioneering papers on circadian rhythms in natural killer cells, dietary effects on T cells and NK cells and psychological stress and natural killer cell activity (psychoneuroimmunology). It is fair to say that the work of Dr. Williams was fundamental in enabling the current revolution in immuno-oncology. CAR T therapy, chimeric antigen receptor T cell treatment, is a direct result of his work in Dr. Benacerraf's lab showing the involvement of MHC genes on T cells that engage tumor antigens.

Dr. Williams was known affectionately by his respectful and appreciative patients as "Doc Mike." His patients knew they could count on him. Dr. Williams is one of the very few oncologists who was still treating patients with metastatic Stage IV disease decades later and had many Stage IV cancer patients in complete remission. A colleague could ask a question, then receive a didactic lecture and then current references for them to read. He was so current in his studies and evolving medical information that when it came time for his renewal of medical oncology board certification, he passed without studying.

Dr. Williams will be sadly missed by all those privileged to have known him. The sadness is tempered by memories of his humor, joy of living, vital energy in all his endeavors and his basic decency. He is survived by his beloved wife of twenty-six years, Ellen Williams (as he affectionately called her, "Ellen, my sweetheart Ellen") and his beloved daughters, Lizzi, Mandee, Mel, and Kim. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to First Baptist Church of Augusta, 310 Pearl Street, Augusta, Arkansas 72006.



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As part of our publishing partnership with Oxford University Press, AAI Journals are excited to announce significantly reduced author fees starting with articles submitted on or after October 1, 2024.

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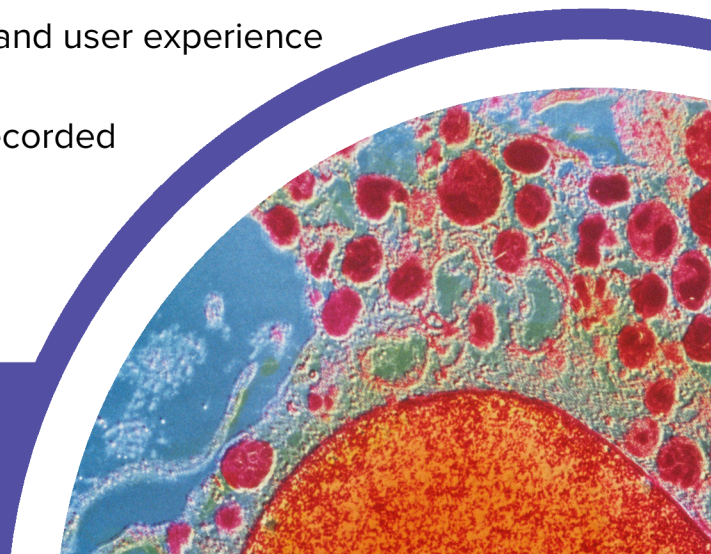


## AAI JOURNALS HAVE TRANSITIONED TO SCHOLARONE FOR MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSIONS

*The Journal of Immunology* and *ImmunoHorizons* transitioned from eJournalPress (eJP) to ScholarOne. Here's what you should know:

- Submit your new article for peer review to the new journal websites.
- Manuscripts that were previously submitted before October 1 will remain in the eJP system.
- ScholarOne will offer improved features and user experience for manuscript submissions and reviews.
- Training sessions will be provided and recorded for those unable to attend live.

**JOURNALS.AAI.ORG**



## GRANTS AND AWARDS DEADLINES

### Non-AAI Grants and Awards

Visit the AAI website at [www.aai.org/GrantsAwardsDeadlines](http://www.aai.org/GrantsAwardsDeadlines) for links to non-AAI grant and award program listings and deadlines.

## AAI Grants and Awards

November 19

### AAI Travel Awards to IMMUNOLOGY2025™, Honolulu, HI

- **Prize/Award:** Awards in 11 categories recognizing the promise and bolstering the professional development of investigators of all career stages through support for travel to the AAI annual meeting
- **Eligibility:** AAI members in good standing who meet specific conditions for each award (see program details at link below)
- **Details:** [www.aai.org/Awards/Travel](http://www.aai.org/Awards/Travel)
- **Contact:** [awards@aai.org](mailto:awards@aai.org)

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MAY 3 – 7, 2025 | HAWAI'I CONVENTION CENTER | HONOLULU, HI

## IMPORTANT DATES

### AWARDS (Please note that dates are earlier this year)

Travel Awards Applications Due . . . . . November 19, 2024

### ABSTRACT SUBMISSION (Please note that dates are earlier this year)

Abstract Submission Closes . . . . . November 19, 2024

Late-Breaking Abstract Submission Opens . . . January 7, 2025

Late-Breaking Abstract Submission Closes . . . January 21, 2025

### REGISTRATION

Registration Opens . . . . . December 10, 2024

Early Registration Discount Ends . . . . . April 4, 2024

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\*Hilton Hawaiian Village discounted rate ends March 31, 2025



## 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

**October 20–23**

**International Cytokine & Interferon Society (ICIS) Annual Meeting 2024**

Seoul, Korea

[cytokinesociety.org/meetings/future-meetings](http://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](http://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](http://www.leukocytebiology.org/meetings)

**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](http://www.sacnas.org/conference)

**November 3–6 | Hybrid Meeting**

**The Obesity Society: Obesity Week 2024**

San Antonio, TX

[obesityweek.org/attend/future-dates](http://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](http://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](http://www.sitcancer.org/2024)

**November 13–16**

**ABRCMS 2024: Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists**

Pittsburgh, PA

[abrcms.org](http://abrcms.org)

**November 13–17**

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

New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA

[www.astmh.org/annual-meeting](http://www.astmh.org/annual-meeting)

**November 16–19**

**American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) 2024 Annual Meeting**

Hyatt Regency Seattle, Seattle, WA

[www.acvp.org/page/Future\\_Meetings](http://www.acvp.org/page/Future_Meetings)

**December 7–10**

**American Society of Hematology (ASH) 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition**

San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA

[www.hematology.org/meetings/annual-meeting](http://www.hematology.org/meetings/annual-meeting)

**December 11–15**

**American Geophysical Union (AGU) Annual Meeting**

Washington, DC

[www.agu.org/Plan-for-a-Meeting/AGUMeetings](http://www.agu.org/Plan-for-a-Meeting/AGUMeetings)

**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](http://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](http://www.biophysics.org/upcoming-annual-meetings)

**April 4–5**

**Updates in Primary Immunodeficiency 2025**

InterContinental Hotel & Conference Center, Cleveland, OH

[www.clevelandclinicmeded.com/live/courses/immunodeficiency](http://www.clevelandclinicmeded.com/live/courses/immunodeficiency)

**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](http://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](http://www.csi-sci.ca/Scientific_Meeting.html)

**May 3–7**

**IMMUNOLOGY2025™  
AAI Annual Meeting**

Honolulu, Hawai'i

[www.immunology2025.org](http://www.immunology2025.org)

**June 24–27**

**Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies (FOCIS) Annual Meeting 2025**

Boston Marriott Copley Place, Boston, MA

[www.focisnet.org/meetings/focis-2024](http://www.focisnet.org/meetings/focis-2024)



**September 14–19**

**International Complement Workshop 2025**

Brisbane, Australia

[www.complement.org/Events](http://www.complement.org/Events)

**October 14–18**

**American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) Annual Meeting 2025**

Boston, MA

[www.ashg.org/meetings/future-past](http://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](http://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](http://www.sacnas.org/conference)

**November 4–7**

**The Obesity Society: Obesity Week 2025**

Atlanta, GA

[obesityweek.org/attend/future-dates](http://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](http://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](http://www.ascb.org/meetings-events/future-ascb-meetings)

**December 15–19**

**American Geophysical Union (AGU) Annual Meeting**

New Orleans, LA

[www.agu.org/Plan-for-a-Meeting/AGUMeetings](http://www.agu.org/Plan-for-a-Meeting/AGUMeetings)

**2026**

April 15–19

**IMMUNOLOGY2026™**

**AAI Annual Meeting**

Boston, Massachusetts

[www.aai.org/FutureMeetings](http://www.aai.org/FutureMeetings)

**2027**

April 30–May 4

**IMMUNOLOGY2027™**

**AAI Annual Meeting**

Los Angeles, California

[www.aai.org/FutureMeetings](http://www.aai.org/FutureMeetings)

**2030**

May 6–10

**IMMUNOLOGY2030™**

**AAI Annual Meeting**

San Diego, California

[www.aai.org/FutureMeetings](http://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**

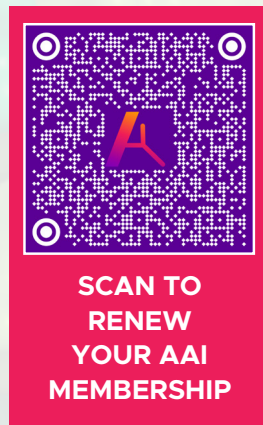


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