iSLB

SOCIETY FOR LEUKOCYTE BIOLOGY

2022

Vol 3

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETY FOR LEUKOCYTE BIOLOGY

IN THIS ISSUE

From the President…

By David Underhill

David Underhill, *SLB President*

We're all excited to be transitioning back to "in-person" meetings, and the Annual Society for Leukocyte Biology meeting in Hawaii in October was a great success. Be sure to check out the highlights included in this issue, and congratulations to all the award winners! Members had an outstanding opportunity to meet, spend time together, share scientific ideas and developments, and build new collaborations. Efforts arranging the 2023 meeting in Athens, Georgia in late September are in full swing. It is shaping up to be an outstanding program, and the beautiful venue is poised to offer an exceptionally affordable conference for PIs and trainees alike. Be sure to add it to your calendars, and we'll look forward to seeing you there!

Big changes are afoot at the Journal of Leukocyte Biology, with an exciting new partnership between JLB and Oxford University Press being put in place. This strategic move to a new publishing partner gives us great confidence in the continued health and growth of the journal in the coming years. This change also coincides with an upcoming transition in editor-in-chief from Luis Montaner (thank you for years of outstanding service!) to Michael Schnoor, who has recently been acting as a Senior Associate Editor. Luis and Michael are working closely together to prepare for the transition and share outstanding enthusiasm and commitment to JLB. As part of their continued development of the journal, you will see a newly revised Editorial Board coming into place in January 2023. For all these developments, be sure to bookmark the JLB home page and check in often. And, as always, consider your society's journal when you think about where to publish.

SLB strives to develop innovative ways to develop our community, and an exciting example this year has been the launch of a new reviewer training program. The initial efforts have gone well, and we look forward to more trainees signing up as the course evolves in preparing the next generation of reviewers. Be sure to keep an eye on the SLB home page for ongoing information!

SLB continues be an inclusive global community of immunologists, and the society offers outstanding opportunities for all members. Be sure to check out our new EASE travel grants, a new effort aimed at ensuring equitable access to our meetings, along with the other merit-based award programs. And in support of the exciting meetings and ongoing activities of the SLB, be sure renew your 2023 membership! We look forward to your ongoing participation!

Host Your Own Session at SLB 2023!

Call for Proposals: SLB 2023 Special Interest Group Satellites

SLB is pleased to provide a platform for society members to organize their own 2023 session. These Special Interest Group Satellites (SIGs) will be held on Wednesday, September 27th, 2023 in association with the annual meeting.

Learn more and submit your proposal

JLB Author Interview:

Elke Muntjewerff

The Anti-inflammatory Peptide Catestatin Blocks Chemotaxis

By: Alan Hsu

Elke is a PostDoc in the lab of Gustaf Christoffersson at Uppsala University in Sweden. She recently published a paper in JLB based on her work. Login to JLB using your SLB member credentials and view the article.

Q: Where did your journey in science begin?

A: I have always been fascinated by how the immune system is able to protect us from so many diseases. That is why I enrolled in the biomedical science bachelor, followed by a master in infection & immunology.

Q: How did you choose your current research topic and interest?

A: This paper gave me the opportunity to visit the Christoffersson lab in Sweden. Here, I realized that the lab is very supportive with lots of research possibilities. After completing my PhD, I was seeking a PostDoc position focused on immunology. Since Dr. Christoffersson is also into catestatin, I am now able to explore the role of catestatin in inflammation further in his lab.

Q: Could you use a few lay sentences to summarize your findings in this paper?

A: The peptide catestatin plays an important role in controlling immune cell migration in inflammation. We show that the presence of catestatin results in immune cell migration (e.g., macrophages, monocytes and neutrophils) towards the inflamed part of the body, however, when catestatin is combined with other inflammatory messengers, it blocks the migration of immune cells towards the inflamed body part. In chronic inflammation the latter mechanism might help reduce the constant attraction of immune cells, that do more damage than good in this situation. Recently, a summary was published in the Fair Journal.

Q: What were some memorable moments during this research?

A: To check my in vitro findings in vivo, I travelled to the Christofferson lab. To see the attachment of immune cells to the vessel wall happening while I was at the microscope with Dr. Christoffersson was very exciting!

Q: What was the biggest hurdle or challenge associated with this story?

A: It's a relatively new field, only a few groups are working on the effects of catestatin and its prohormone chromogranin A. As a result, there are not many tools to study catestatin and its tricky to convince scientists of the findings. Therefore, we felt the need to show the effects of catestatin in four different migration models.

Q: Besides your PI is there anyone that helped you in your career path?

A: My PhD supervisors, Prof. Geert van den Bogaart, Dr. Gustaf Christoffersson and Dr. Sushil Mahata have been great mentors. I especially appreciate the guidance and encouragement from Prof. Geert van den Bogaart.

Q: What is your advice for incoming Ph.D. Students who want to pursue a career in science and perhaps your field?

A: Talk to the people in your lab and in the department, go to meetings, conferences and courses to network, and learn more about research outside your field as well.

Q: Tell us something interesting outside of being a scientist about yourself.

A: I love spending time with friends and family, hiking and basically anything that is active. I also like travelling and taking time after a conference to explore the country and culture. This has allowed me to explore the south of India, California and Europe.

Q: What's next for you?

A: For the next two years, I will be working in the Christoffersson group focusing on nerve-immune interactions in the pancreas. Afterwards, I hope to get a more senior position and pursue my career in science further.

JLB is Moving!

Look for JLB's new website, available now, with new content coming in January 2023!

JLB Online

https://academic.oup.com/jleukbio

Publication Committee Corner

By Jean Scholz

With JLB's move to Oxford University Press in January 2023 (see the new JLB website with OUP at https://academic.oup.com/jleukbio) we will finalize timelines for member-driven topical issues on Neuroimmune Communication in Autoimmunity & Inflammation (Girdhari Lal, Guest Editor) and Mast Cell Activation (Nicholas Pullen, Guest Editor). Details will be provided in upcoming calls for papers, but meanwhile, consider research or review manuscripts your lab or your collaborators may wish to submit! And remember that one of the many benefits of SLB membership is reduced publication fees for articles published in JLB.

The committee is wrapping up a busy year that included launch of the mentored portion of the Reviewer Training initiative and progress toward a methods-focused special issue on flow cytometry. Please share your input or ideas for the Publication Committee involving these or any other areas in the annual member survey. We also encourage you to reach out to any of us at any time! We are Peter Keyel (incoming Chair), Abdul Basit, Girdhari Lal, Darren Lee, Tamás Röszer, Jean Scholz (outgoing Chair), Andrew Taylor, and Vidula Vachharajani. Sergio Catz is Council Liaison, and Senior Associate Editor Véronique Witko-Sarsat oversees SLB member-driven topical issues.

JLB Author Interview:

Alakesh

Sterile Inflammation Alters Neutrophil Kinetics in Mice

By: Alan Hsu

Alakesh is a PhD candidate in the lab of Siddharth Jhunjhunwala at the Indian Institute of Science in India. Alakesh recently published a paper in JLB. Login to JLB using your SLB member credentials and view the article.

Q: Where did your journey in science begin?

A: During my bachelors, I got an opportunity for a research internship in Stockholm University, Sweden. This was my first independent research. I designed plasmid sequences for CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing. I enjoyed the entire process – from designing the constructs, testing, and learning from discussions with peers. By the end, I was convinced I would continue working in science.

Q: How did you choose your current research topic and interest?

A: I was introduced to immunology and biomaterials during my bachelors. While perusing the current research in the field, I came across several articles studying biomaterial-immune cell interaction with an emphasis on engineering material properties to mitigate immune response. However, very few studies seemed to be looking at the biomaterial-immune cell interaction from the other direction, which was to determine how the immune cells were being affected. Dr. Siddharth Jhunjhunwala's lab at IISc was answering this question, which grabbed my attention and I applied to the interdisciplinary PhD program at IISc and fortunately got selected! Since then, my interest in this area has only grown and we have been approaching this problem using different methods (https://jhunjhunwalalab.in).

Q: In a few lay sentences, can you summarize your findings?

A: Neutrophils are recruited to injured sites to remove damaged cells and pathogens (bacteria, viruses, and fungi). We wanted to determine how long do neutrophils stay at sites of injury or inflammation. To answer this question, we tagged neutrophils such that we could track them, and determined that these cells have a residence time of 10 hours at the injured site, which is twice as more than non-injured tissue site. We also found that if the damage is massive, more neutrophils are needed, which makes the bone marrow to start releasing immature neutrophils in the circulation. This process is called "emergency granulopoiesis". Immature neutrophils cannot function as efficiently as mature neutrophils, and we are currently exploring the effect of the increased number of these cells in circulation.

Q: What were some memorable moments during this research?

A: There were a lot of exciting moments but the best one was during the peer review process. In our study, we developed a mathematical model which was fitted to our experimental data to give us kinetic parameters like bone marrow maturation time, half-life in blood, etc. We were requested by the reviewers to verify the model by experimentally testing the middle time points. While the result may have been expected, I was elated when the experimental values matched the predicted ones!

Q: What was the biggest hurdle or challenge with this story?

A: Neutrophils are challenging to work with a very short life span and can get activated *ex vivo*. All our animal experiments last 2-3 weeks and we need a team to do as many assays as possible once we isolate neutrophils. Planning the experiments and coordinating time with multiple individuals with assays was the biggest challenge. Performing these experiments in the middle of the pandemic was another challenge. There were times when we had to terminate experiments midway.

Q: Besides your PI is there anyone that helped with your path?

A: My father is an agricultural scientist and my role model. His work has helped thousands of farmers in India to safeguard their crops in adverse climatic conditions. His research has impacted millions of lives and has motivated me to become a scientist as well. In the future, I also wish to develop immunomodulatory technologies which can help in treating diseases.

Q: What is your advice for incoming Ph.D. Students who want to pursue a career in science and perhaps your field?

A: Make yourself and your growth a priority. Find opportunities for growth even in disappointments. Research is an ongoing and endless pursuit, in the process, you should also progress parallelly. The product of a Ph.D. is not the thesis, it is you!

Q: Tell us something interesting, outside of being a scientist, about yourself.

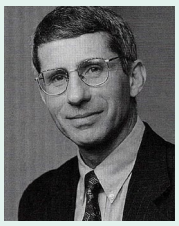
A: I enjoy running, hiking, playing badminton, and spending time with friends and family when not in lab. I am also up for adventure sports!

Q: What's next for you?

A: I would like to pursue postdoctoral training at the intersection of systems immunology and materials engineering. Eventually, I want to come back to India and work on clinically relevant immunology questions and advance Indian science.

Blast from the past....

Diving into the society archives can be great fun! Recently, we discovered the 1997 program book when SLB met for the 32nd annual meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. Guess who the keynote speaker was? **"A.S. Fauci, speaking on "Host Factors in the Pathogenesis of HIV".** See the 1997 program book with abstracts and more great SLB history in the archives only available to SLB members.



A Conversation with Thirumala-Devi Kanneganti

By Albert Sek

Dr. Kanneganti is the 2017 recipient of the Dolph O. Adams Award, which recognizes junior/mid-career faculty for excellence in host defense and inflammation research. We caught up with her recently to learn more about her current research interests, her journey and where the inflammation field is headed.

Q: *Can you tell us about your current research interests?*

A: I have been fascinated by the innate immune sensors, inflammasomes, and inflammatory cell death pathways that play critical roles in infectious, inflammatory, and neurodegenerative diseases and cancer. Innate immunity is the first line of defense against infections and endogenous danger signals. It alerts our immune system to threats and induces a series of responses including cell death to control pathogen invasion, remove infected cells, promote inflammation, and generate adaptive immune responses.

Identifying innate sensor(s) that detect pathogen- or damage-associated molecular patterns (PAMPs/DAMPs) and assemble multi-protein complexes called inflammasomes has been a key focus for my lab. As a member of the inflammasome field from its early days, my lab has had the opportunity to contribute fundamental discoveries elucidating the function of several innate sensors and inflammasomes and establishing their relevance to infection, inflammatory diseases, cancers, and beyond. The more immersed we become in the field, the more we perceive infection as a multifaceted, dynamic process that does not rely on a single sensor-PAMP/DAMP interaction. Understanding the synergistic interactions of the components of the innate immune system and cell death pathways, is our current interest and priority.

Based on decades of observations from several groups highlighting molecular interactions and crosstalk, combined with compelling genetic evidence, we identified a unique innate immune inflammatory cell death pathway, PANoptosis, that is mediated by PANoptosomes (multifaceted macromolecular complexes that regulate PANoptosis). Our current studies are further elucidating the regulation of PANoptosis, the formation of PANoptosomes, and their relevance in health and disease. As an example, we recently found that the synergistic activity of TNF and IFN-γ during disease causes severe outcomes via PANoptosis, inducing further cytokine release, tissue damage, and death and establishing a distinct mechanistic basis of cytokine storm. We also found that ZBP1-mediated PANoptosis plays a critical role in several infections. This pathway can be activated by IFN and the nuclear export inhibitor KPT-330 to drastically suppress tumor growth in a mouse model, providing novel therapeutic targets for cancer treatment.

Overall, the conceptual advancement and framework from our studies connecting innate immune signaling pathways with cell death regulators allow us to further explore the significance of innate immune-mediated cell death in various physiological and pathological settings. Our goal is to bridge the major gaps between the historically divided research areas of pathogens (microbiology), innate immunity, and cell death. We are also seeking to understand innate immune-mediated cell death from a holistic viewpoint to inform the development of therapeutic strategies, including treatments for infections, inflammatory diseases, and cancers (immunotherapies).

Q: *How did you enter the field of inflammasome and inflammation research?*

A: My journey to studying inflammasomes and inflammation followed a somewhat surprising path. As a child growing up in a small town in India, I was enthralled by microbes and how they cause disease. After completing my master's degree in microbiology, I started working in a virology lab for my doctorate degree, studying plant viral and fungal diseases, as well as their diagnosis and treatment. I continued working on plant innate immunity and cell death as a postdoctoral fellow.

Plants are equipped with innate immune sensors called NLRs that induce cell death to defend against infection. Mammalian NLRs were discovered based on their structural similarity to plant NLRs. When mammalian NLRs were beginning to be characterized, I saw an exciting opportunity to apply the knowledge I had gained over a decade studying plant innate immunity and cell death to explore mammalian NLRs.

The mammalian NLR field was in its infancy at that time, and not much was known. It was a thrilling time to join the field and apply all my plant knowledge to a new system. In 2006, our studies provided the first genetic evidence for the role of the innate immune receptor NLRP3 in microbial-mediated inflammasome activation. Since then, we have worked to establish several *in vivo* models of infectious and inflammatory diseases and contribute to the field's understanding of the importance of the NLRP3 inflammasome and other NLR proteins in intestinal inflammation, neuroinflammation, cancer, and metabolic diseases. Our work also defined key components and regulatory mechanisms of inflammasome pathways and discovered new biological and physiological functions that have helped identify therapeutic targets.

Q: *What excites you about the field of inflammation, and where do you see the field going in the next few years?*

A: The most exciting aspect of the field to me is the vast untapped potential for harnessing the power of innate immunity, inflammatory responses, and their interconnectedness with cell death pathways to improve therapeutic strategies. I am also excited by the current research landscape that is accelerating discoveries in the field. New technologies, such as CRISPR-Cas9, single cell analysis, cryo-EM, advanced imaging capabilities, and bioinformatics, are becoming more accessible, making the potential for scientific discovery truly outstanding. Additionally, the recent global pandemic has shined fresh light on the need to understand the fundamental processes of innate immunity that are intrinsically linked to infection and inflammation. I believe that this combination of technological advances and renewed interest in the topic provides an unprecedented environment for rapid advancement.

Looking forward, several big questions remain to be answered in the field. We still know very little about how innate immunity works as a complete system and how it is connected to adaptive immunity. In the coming years I expect research to focus on:

- Leveraging new tools and improving techniques to answer fundamental questions in innate immunity , inflammation, and cell death
- Collaborating to integrate diverse disciplines, such as immunology, structural biology, chemical biology, genetics, and bioinformatics
- Identifying new sensors of pathogens, PAMPs, DAMPs, and homeostatic alterations that drive inflammatory cell death pathways, such as PANoptosis
- Improving understanding of sensor specificity and its physiological relevance across diverse cell types with differing expression profiles
- Identifying the full range of innate immune proteins involved in cell death-inducing complexes like inflammasomes and PANoptosomes
- Characterizing the molecular mechanisms involved in the regulatory processes, downstream signaling pathways, and cytokines and alarmins released as a result of innate sensing
- Filling the gaps between innate immunity, cell death, adaptive immunity, and diseases
- Developing new therapeutics for diseases ranging from infection and inflammatory disorders to cancer

Q: *What are some challenges in inflammation research?*

A: As with any research area, several challenges exist in the study of innate immunity and inflammation. Examples include:

- **Compensatory mechanisms and redundancies in molecular pathways**: As we have learned more about inflammatory mechanisms, the importance of significant crosstalk within infection, innate immunity, and inflammatory cell death processes has become increasingly apparent. This interconnection often makes it difficult to identify specific cause-effect relationships and to differentiate crosstalk from distinct, independent mechanisms. A prime example is our work distinguishing PANoptosis from traditional cell death pathways. Also, the innate immune system contains many back-up and fail-safe processes, where one protein can perform the functions of another in its absence. This can make it difficult to identify redundancies that exist.
- **Heterogeneity between cell types and individuals**: The identification of cell type-specific processes is vastly understudied and can complicate the interpretation of results. Additionally, we know that innate immunity and inflammatory responses depend on the underlying conditions present in an individual, and identifying factors that contribute to this heterogeneity remains difficult.
- **Experimental design challenges**: Differences in protocols, lack of authenticated data on the gene and protein expression profiles of components of innate immunity and cell death pathways across cell types and organisms, a shortage of specific authenticated antibodies that can recognize these individual components and issues with reproducibility across *in vivo* models render analysis of protein- and domain-level interactions incredibly difficult. For example, the key inflammasome/PANoptosome component, ASC, is absent in some cell types and cell lines. Its absence leads to phenotypic differences in cell death outcomes that result in different conclusions being reached when immune cells vs epithelial cells vs cancer cells are studied. This can cause misleading results when only cell types lacking a critical component are evaluated.
- **Translation**: Perhaps the biggest and most important challenge is translating what we learn in isolated cells to comprehend whole-body phenomena. This is critical to improve understanding of phenotypic functions at the molecular, cellular, and organismal level and inform therapeutic advances.

Q: *What has shaped your successes in your career? What advice would you offer to the next generation of scientists?*

A: I believe that passion, focus, and a high standard for data reproducibility using approaches that provide multiple lines of evidence to support conclusions have shaped my career trajectory. Additionally, my continued curiosity about disease and its genetic, molecular, and cellular basis is a driving force. I wake up each day excited to ask and try to answer fundamental questions about innate immunity, inflammation, and cell death, and I try to share this excitement with my lab members and others.

To the next generation of scientists, I would say:

- No one knows everything, and that's ok. Always continue learning and advancing your knowledge in your research area. This will allow you to develop informed questions and hypotheses to test.
- Learn how to prioritize your questions and develop rigorous complementary approaches.
- Pay attention to the details and cultivate skills to make comprehensive observations. Many important breakthroughs came from scientists making careful observations, which goes beyond simply looking and collecting data. Careful observation requires rigorous questioning and re-questioning at every step of a project and in each experiment to fully consider all aspects of the observed activity, forming the fundamental basis for discovery.
- Learn as many techniques as possible, and gain exposure to multiple research areas.
- Don't be afraid to move into a new field or research area if that is where the data take you.
- Do not get discouraged by negative data, which are just as important as positive results that align with your hypothesis. Negative data are critically important to move the field forward.
- Be passionate and persevere!

SLB 2022 select recordings, abstracts and more available…

A Glimpse from SLB 2022

By George Karagiannis and Caitlin Gillis

The SLB Annual Meeting "*Leukocytes on the wave of Translating Medicine"* was the highly anticipated SLB event of 2022. Who wouldn't want to combine the excellent science of SLB with the pleasure of the Hilton Waikoloa Village, in the exotic setting of Hawai'i? As we recover from the hangover of CoVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions, everyone was enthusiastic to move away from digital conference formats and enjoy face-to-face meetings again. Most importantly, we welcomed the opportunity to meet with fellow scientists, old collaborators and new friends to discuss our research after a long year of hard work.

The first day of the conference coincided with an artistic early-morning performance from the local dolphin residents. After enjoying the show, participants could grab delicious breakfast snacks and then follow the serpentine paths to the Grand Promenade. The first day was devoted to Special Interest Group satellite meetings, which covered specialized topics both cutting-edge (single cell expression profiling) and niche (inflammatory cell death, alcohol-mediated damage and disease). Discussions were rich and dynamic, setting a high standard for the ensuing plenary and poster sessions throughout the meeting itself.

As the Members in Transition and Training Committee (MTTC), our group has worked for many years to create and promote training opportunities for junior members of the society. During the 2022 annual meeting, many of us got the chance to shake hands and connect in person, perhaps for the first time. We opened the meeting with a series of Poster Flash Talks, chaired by Kate Martin and Archana Gopalakrishnan, which provided a fantastic showcase of the excellent science being done by graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the SLB community. We were pleased to see that the session was highly interactive and well received. Together with the lunchtime and breakfast poster sessions these forums provide invaluable opportunities to create connections, discuss ideas, and find new inspiration for research progress, especially for our junior members.

Once more, the SLB rose to its reputation and continued its legacy of supporting investigators at all career stages. Selected graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, early- and mid-career investigators were nominated for excellence in science and their fascinating presentations filled several sessions covering diverse aspects of leukocyte biology. Through a user-friendly polling system, the audience participated in the evaluation process, and the highest-ranked individuals were recognized with a prize at the meeting's closing ceremony. Equally, we were delighted to hear that the society's journal JLB has been progressively increasing its global reach, reflected in an increased impact factor, which mirrors the ongoing support and trust in high quality science it receives from the SLB community.

Poster flash Talk Awardees with MTTC Co-Chair Katherine Martin (left), Lillian Arzola Martinez, Timothy Borgogna, and Chanel Ghesquire

The dedicated networking event for members in transition and training organized by the MTTC brought together participants under the auspices of great science and common interests - including those who had just left the poolside! This session gave the opportunity for new members to join the ranks of the MTTC and allowed us to get feedback on the programming for 2023, and the future*. Many of the attendees were grateful for the opportunity to meet like-minded researchers at similar career stages, and we will endeavor to continue these dedicated sessions at future events, both online and in person.

Every SLB meeting begins and finishes with passion and enthusiasm, a pattern that reflects the lifelong research journey of established investigators invited to give inspirational keynote lectures. We heard the groundbreaking science of Dr. Robert Clarke, who explored the intricacies and challenges of hematopoietic stem cell mobilization after chemotherapy. Dr. Clarke dissected a key clinical problem and revealed a real translational research perspective on the future of bone marrow transplantation. On a more somber note, the Joost Oppenheim Memorial Lecture recognized the life and eminent contributions of the Journal of Leukocyte Biology's past editor-in-chief, presented by Luis Montaner. Finally, we were moved by the touching vignettes and career perspectives given by Charles "Cash" McCall, the 2021 Legacy Awardee.

Fun in the sun with cupcakes at the MTTC Networking event

What are the most valued memories one can take from the 2022 SLB meeting? Those picturesque volcanic landscapes? Or perhaps the unforgettable sunsets across the endless seascape? Or even, the wealth of legends and lore deeply rooted in this land and its people? All of the above can provide inspiration and motivation for our forthcoming 2023 endeavors, especially when combined with the wonderful people that make up the society, and are themselves the heart of these events.

Learn more about MTTC, what we do, and consider joining!

See the SLB 2022 slideshow for a pictorial review of the event!

FASEB Corner

SLB joined the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology in 2019. FASEB Corner is a regular feature providing updates on recent initiatives that demonstrate the Federation's dedication to its member societies.

Advocating for Animal Research – In September, FASEB hosted its first Animal Research Capitol Hill Day to highlight the value of federally funded research with animals. In partnership with the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC), the event matched volunteers from FASEB member societies with veterinary expects from AAVMC to communicate with key Congressional leaders and their staff about the role of animal research in improving quality of life for humans and animals alike. Participants held 16 meetings with lawmakers and Capitol Hill staff who serve on pertinent House and Senate committees or represent a state with a Nonhuman Primate Research Center. One of the goals of the Hill Day was to establish relationships with Congressional offices and encourage improved language related to animal research in the fiscal year 2024 appropriations bills. Strengthening animal research advocacy remains a key part of FASEB's science policy efforts. A current list of resources on this topic is available on the FASEB website.

Science Policy Symposium (SPC) Explores Master's Degrees in the STEM Workforce – The goal of the annual SPC Symposium is to discuss a topic of interest and identify future policy and advocacy strategies for FASEB to build upon in the future. As part of FASEB's commitment to promoting a diverse workforce of highly skilled scientists, the 2022 Symposium focused on policy and advocacy areas related to supporting master's students and degree recipients. The first keynote was presented by Mike Yamaner, Project Officer for the Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics who shared the latest data on students enrolled in biology and biomedical science master's programs. Enyu Zhou, PhD, Senior Analyst and Julia Kent, PhD, Vice President of Best Practices and Strategic Initiatives, Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) gave an additional keynote entitled, "Making the Case for Master's Education: Contexts and Strategies for the Biological and Biomedical Sciences." Participants in the symposium also participated in breakout sessions to discuss various questions related to master's degrees, focusing on how FASEB can strengthen support for master's students. A summary of the symposium was recently shared with SPC members and the FASEB Board.

Preparing for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Data Management and Sharing Policy – All researchers seeking funding from NIH will be required to comply with the agency's Data Management and Sharing Policy, which takes effect on January 25, 2023. In preparation, FASEB continued to highlight and advance a culture of data sharing and reuse through DataWorks! Salons, interactive and engaging online conversation spaces that enable researchers to exchange ideas and design effective practices for data sharing and reuse in their labs. Discussions explored digitizing labs through the use of e-notebooks and other tools, identifying desirable characteristics when selecting a repository, and budgeting for data management. The DataWorks! initiative website features highlights from the recent salons.

Engaging in Conversations About Promoting Open Science – FASEB partnered with other leading societies in the Alliance for Open Scholarship (All4OS) to advance open science principles. The alliance is a diverse group of professional societies and associations committed to accelerating the transition to a more open, equitable, and sustainable ecosystem by developing discipline-specific guidance on key topics such as data management plans, incentives for open science, adoption of FAIR and CARE data sharing principles, and improving public trust in science. All4OS members will share annual public updates on specific actions and progress in service of better facilitating open research and scholarship within and across their disciplines. FASEB staff also continued to engage with a large variety of stakeholders, including society member publishers, boards, and policy and advocacy teams in response to the August 25 White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) memo, "Ensuring Free, Immediate, and Equitable Access to Federally Funded Research." SLB members who have questions about the All4OS initiative or the OSTP memo can contact Darla Henderson, FASEB Director of Open Science and Research Integrity.

SLB @ Neutro2022

SLB and JLB were pleased to participate in Neutro2022 by supporting several trainee awards. Look for the 2023 issue of JLB highlighting some of the research presented at the event.

From left to right: Marion Brunck, Julio Castañeda, Eduardo Vadillo, Jacqueline Howells, Yunyun Shen, Lou Martha Wackerbarth, Omar Rafael Alemán Muñoz, Michael Schnoor, Eileen Uribe, Carlos Rosales, José Antonio Enciso.

iSLB

Society for Leukocyte Biology
10770 Columbia Pike
Suite 300
Silver Spring, MD 20901

www.leukocytebiology.org

contacts:
Membership
Meetings
Administrative Office

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REMINDERS

- SLB is currently **accepting volunteers for all Committees**. All members, including Postdocs and Trainees are encouraged to apply. Contact us
- The **Annual Member survey** has launched and we want to hear from YOU! Respond by Jan 6th and be entered into a prize drawing!
- Webinars are a great way to share your science. **Plan your own webinar in 2023** and SLB will host it for you! FREE for members, you pick the theme, invite your speakers, and SLB will do the rest!
- Sign-up for the **Reviewer Training Program** and start the new year off with a new skill! Learn more

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!