



Louis B Justement, PhD

EDUCATION

1980, BA (Microbiology), Miami University, Oxford, OH; 1982, MS (Microbiology), Ohio State University, Columbus, OH; 1985, PhD (Microbiology), Ohio State University, Columbus, OH; 1985-1990, Postdoctoral Fellow, Departments of Medicine and Pediatrics, National Jewish Medical and Research Center, Denver, CO.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Texas Medical Branch: 1990-1995, Assistant Professor; 1995-1996, Associate Professor; 1996-2000, Adjunct Associate Professor.
University of Alabama at Birmingham: 1996-2001, Associate Professor; 2001-Present, Professor of Microbiology; 2006-2018, Associate Director, Medical Scientist Training Program, University of Alabama School of Medicine; 2014-Present, Director, Undergraduate Immunology Program; 2015-Present, Director, GBS Immunology Graduate Theme.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

SOCIETIES:

Society for Leukocyte Biology (SLB): 1986-Present, Member; 1996-1997, Member, Nominating Committee; 1998, Chair Nominating Committee; 2010-2016, Member, Professional Development Committee; 2012, Member Publication Committee; 2013-2016, Chair, Publication Committee; 2016-2020, Member, Council; 2019-2020, Program Co-Chair, Annual Meeting.

American Association of Immunologists (AAI): 1991-Present, Member,; 2000-2004, Member, Program Committee; 2006-2012, Member, Public Affairs Committee; 2000-2016, Member, Executive Board, Experimental Biology (AAI Representative); 2000-2005, Member Program Committee, Experimental Biology (AAI Representative).

Society for Experimental Biology (SEBM): 1994-Present, Member; 2016-Present, Member and Co-Chair, Membership Committee; 2020-Present, Member, Nominating Committee; 2020-Present, Member, Program Committee; 2020-2024, Member, Council.

Association of Medical School Microbiology and Immunology Chairs (AMSMIC): 2006-2012, Member, Program Committee for Educational Strategies Workshops,; International Association of Medical Science Educators (IAMSE): 2002-Present, Member: 2003-2012, Member, Publications Committee.

Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB): 2007-Present, Member, Science Policy Committee; 2008-2018 Chair, Training and Career Opportunities Subcommittee; 2016-2018, Member, Public Affairs Committee; 2016-2018, Member, FASEB Board; 2017-2018, Vice President Elect for Science Policy; 2017-Present, Member, Executive Committee; 2018-

2019, Vice President for Science Policy; 2018-2019, Chair, Diversity, equity and Inclusion Task Force; 2019-2020, President Elect; 2019-2020, Chair, Membership Committee; Member, Finance Committee; 2019-2020, Chair Bylaws Review Task Force; 2020-2021, President; 2021-2022, Immediate Past-President; 2021-2022, Chair, Leadership Development Committee.

OTHER:

National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME): 2010-2015, Member, USMLE Step 1 Microbiology Test Material Development Committee; 2016-Present, Member, Step 1 Interdisciplinary Review Committee

Professional Development Hub (pd/hub): 2018-2019, Member, Steering Committee; 2018-2020, Chair Funding Working Group; 2018-2021, Member, Workshop Working Group; 2020-Present, Member Communications Workgroup.

AAMC GREAT Group: 2020-2023, At-Large Member, GREAT Group Steering Committee.

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

I am honored to have the opportunity to run for the office of President-Elect of the Society for Leukocyte Biology (SLB). SLB was the first professional scientific society I joined as a graduate student in the laboratory of Bruce S. Zwillig, my mentor, and a former SLB President. Over the years, I have greatly enjoyed being a member of SLB, getting to know many fellow scientists and trainees, who became friends, colleagues and collaborators. I was also fortunate to have the opportunity to be an active participant in the society, serving as a member and Chair of the Nominating Committee, a member of the Professional Development Committee and finally a member and Chair of the Publication Committee. Most recently, I served as a member of the SLB Council, which provided me with an appreciation of just how great SLB's focus is on supporting trainees, early-stage investigators, and women in science, as well as diversity, equity and inclusion. I also serve as an editorial board member for the Journal of Leukocyte Biology, and I was a Program Co-Chair for the 2020 annual meeting, which was ultimately converted into a highly successful virtual event due to the pandemic.

As I noted above, over the years, I am struck by the fact that SLB is a very collegial society, and it is one that capitalizes on the dedication and input of its members from the most senior, to the most junior. For me, creating and sustaining a welcoming environment that supports the interests and success of each individual member is the most important thing that a scientific society can do, and I can say without question that this is what makes SLB a wonderful society. Going forward, if I am elected to be the next President-Elect, I will continue to focus on many important issues that are crucial for the success of the society and its members. The issues that I believe are of most importance include the following:

- 1) Supporting the career and professional development of our trainees and early-stage investigators (ESI). This has been a long-standing focus of SLB, and the society should continue to find innovative ways to promote trainee and ESI involvement on committees, and in the development of programs that benefit their career advancement. One of the most important things SLB can do is to ensure that we foster the success of the next generation of scientists. This is an issue I am very dedicated to and I have spent the past 15

years focused on career and professional development for trainees in connection with SLB, FASEB, AAMC, pd/hub and other organizations.

- 2) A continued commitment to foster diversity, equity and inclusion in the biomedical sciences. As a society, we can promote programs and initiatives to increase participation of individuals from diverse backgrounds not only as members, but as leaders of SLB. Clearly, this has been a focus of the SLB leadership, and I fully support a continued commitment to welcome individuals from diverse backgrounds and to ensure gender equity in science. Additionally, we need to take a stand against harassment in any form within the society and in the scientific community at-large. Going forward, I hope that SLB, as a member society of FASEB, will be even more active in partnering with the DEI Committee at FASEB, which will be launching a number of exciting and important programs to enhance inclusivity and diversity in science.
- 3) A continued emphasis on recruiting members from the international community and developing new initiatives to increase awareness of SLB globally. A number of initiatives have been launched by Luis Montaner, Editor-in-Chief of JLB, and the editorial board to reach out to scientists across the globe. These efforts had an important impact on increasing awareness of scientists with respect to JLB, but I think that these efforts can be leveraged to increase membership in SLB and to promote the Society's reach internationally.
- 4) The promotion of scientific outreach and sound science policy. Over the past few years, science and the reliance on facts have been under attack. Now more than ever, it is time for SLB and its members to take a stand to support the reliance on data in decision-making, and the importance of science to address serious threats that face the US and the world. It is equally important that we focus our efforts to ensure that the best policies and laws are enacted in order to support the scientific enterprise. Once again, there are efforts that SLB can undertake to address these concerns, but we can also partner with FASEB to speak with one voice in the science policy and legislative arena.

In addition to these critical issues, I will focus on ensuring that SLB continues to grow its membership, that we continue to support the mission of JLB, and that we continue to promote top-notch science and opportunities for collaboration at the annual meetings, which I am sure we all anticipate being in-person going forward.

In closing, I sincerely look forward to having the opportunity to serve as President-Elect of SLB because I am passionate about this society, and it is my intent to share this passion to benefit the society and the success of every member.