



MIMM BITES

A NEWSLETTER OF MCGILL'S MICROBIOLOGY & IMMUNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

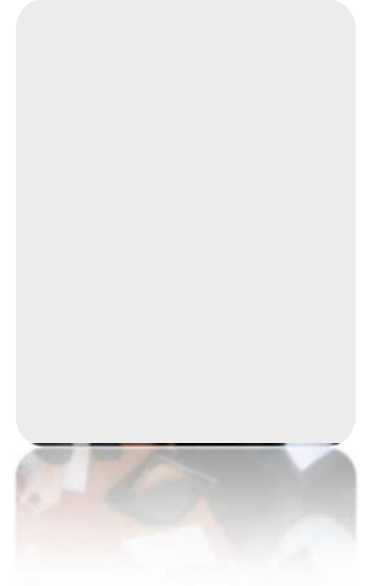
MARCH 2013

Dear Microbiology and Immunology members,

The start of 2013 is turning up to be a very challenging time. The financial situation with looming cuts in the order of \$19.1 million from now until the end of April 2013 is a daunting challenge by itself. We, at MIMM Department have taken a proactive approach, taking this situation as an opportunity to revisit what we do, how we do it and how we can improve it. This exercise requires sharing of facts, engagement in information sessions and taking on a degree of activism to let our community know about the importance of McGill in the local, National and International arenas. In this context, the department has taken a leadership role in outreaching the community through the 13-to-1 campaign, to ask for support to prevent the financial cuts to Quebec universities. 13-to-1 is the return for every \$ the Quebec government spends in McGill. I wish my pension had such a return!!! Certainly, if it had, I would not stop contributing.

We have already obtained over 1400 signature in one week. The goal is to achieve 13,001 signatures in 2 weeks, the time at which the specific cuts are expected to be announced. I would strongly encourage you to sign the 13-to-1 petition (information below).

PICTURE OF THE MONTH
TEACHING RETREAT-MARCH 8



RESEARCH

Publication of the Month

Down Regulation of CTLA-4 by HIV-1 Neff Protein. M. El-Far, C. Isabelle, N. Chomont, M. Bourbonnière, S. Fonseca, P. Ancuta, Y. Peretz, Y. Peretz, Y. Chouikh, R. Halwani, O. Shwartz, J. Madrenas, G. J. Freeman, J-P Routy, E. K. Haddad & R. Sékaly. PLOS one. January 2013. Volume 8 – Issue 1

TEACHING

McGillX



As we all were made aware by an email from Provost Anthony Masi on February 20 that McGill has joined several other leading universities as a member of the edX consortium, founded by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. edX is a not-for-profit enterprise that offers online learning to on-campus students and to millions of people around the globe. This effort will

allow us to provide individuals from around the world with access to world-class educational experiences and will yield valuable insights to help educators better understand how they can leverage IT-enabled technologies to enhance teaching and learning.

MIMM's Teaching Retreat

The Department of Microbiology and Immunology held a productive full day teaching retreat for Faculty on March 8th 2013. The primary purpose of this retreat was to generate a shared vision of the content, skills, values and integration abilities that our students should have upon completion of their BSc. These program outcomes will be finalized in the next few months and will serve as the basis for a process of renewal in our undergraduate curriculum. We hope that members of the Department will continue to be actively involved in this process and we welcome any feedback!

