From the Chair's Desk

WELCOME

Dear MIMM members,

February has been a fantastic month for our department!

We are very happy that three of our members – Irah King, Martin Olivier and Mark Wainberg - have been awarded important prizes (from CIHR, from the Canadian Society of Immunology, and the Canadian Association of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, respectively) for their excellent work in different areas of Infection and Immunity. We are proud of counting them as colleagues and friends in our department.
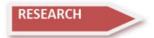
These are just three examples of the vibrant momentum of our department. Together, everyone, in his or her own niche, makes our department a nucleus of excellence, striving to seek, striving to learn and striving to transform the lives of our community and beyond.

Together, we are prepared to confront the challenges ahead. Through internal and external partnerships with our MDTC and through community outreach, we are establishing a vibrant environment to nurture and foster academic excellence. A professional and collegial environment that provides much needed salary awards to support our trainees, that offers additional funding to our investigators for innovative and transformative collaborative projects, that builds on partnerships to ensure access to cutting-edge technology, and that makes us all proud by building a next generation of scholars that surpasses us in achievements. And I dare to be optimistic.

To illustrate this new face of the department, take a look at the new section of the Newsletter, what we call **"FACES OF EXCELLENCE"**. Every month, we will briefly portray a member of the department, starting this month with Samantha Burugu a graduate student in Dr. Gatignol's lab.

Yours in service,

Quim

RESEARCH

Publications of the Month

Olivier M., Van Den Ham K, Shio MT, Kassa FA, Fougeray S. Malarial Pigment Hemozoin and the Innate Inflammatory Response. Front Immunol. 2014 Feb 5;5:25. eCollection 2014