



FROM THE CHAIR'S DESK

Dear MIMM^{ers},

Excellence at MIMM is part of our culture and takes many forms. No better example than this last month. Check it out.

MIMM continues a remarkable record of success at the Annual Undergraduate Research Conference (URC) of the Faculty Science. For the last six years, our nominated students have received awards at this highly competitive meeting. This year it was Erica Ma, working in Dr. Irah King's lab. Erica received the 2nd prize in the Medical Sciences Category. Congratulations to Erica and Irah. You made us all very proud. And the same for all of our students that took part at the URC. Special recognition and thanks to Dr. Herve Le Moual for coordinating MIMM's presence at URC for the last few years.

We just came out of a very successful International Symposium of Human Immunity and the Microbiome, organized with Cell Press and the CIHR Human Immunology Network (CHIN). Over 330 participants came to Montréal to discuss cutting edge discoveries in Human Immunology and the Microbiome. Moreover, the Symposium provided a great opportunity for exposure of our trainees to leaders in the field and to project the exciting work being done here. We are looking to continue our association with Cell Press and periodic organization of this conference. Stay tuned!

Another milestone achieved: *Pubmed* just listed **20 publications from MDTC** (our Microbiome and Disease Tolerance Centre). Congratulations to all involved.

In another vein, Astha Agrawal and Patrick Ritchie finished our 2015 Alumni Survey, a very informative exercise. Among the findings that stand out: over 80% high satisfaction rate for our graduates, and 45% of our graduates end up in academia (a higher than expected outcome). These results give us all a tremendous impetus for the work we do. More extensive report of the results will be presented at a future Town Hall meeting.

Last, but not least, don't forget that recruitment for a new faculty member is underway. Please, attend the seminars and chalk talks by the candidates, and provide me with your feedback. Your input is very important to ensure that we make the best decision in identifying our newest recruit.

Without further due, enjoy this issue of MIMM bites!

Quim





RESEARCH

Publications

1. Ajamian L, Abel K, Rao S, Vyboh K, García-de-Gracia F, Soto-Rifo R, Kulozik AE, Gehring NH, Mouland AJ. **HIV-1 Recruits UPF1 but Excludes UPF2 to Promote Nucleocytoplasmic Export of the Genomic RNA.** *Biomolecules*. 2015 Oct 20;5(4):2808-2839.
2. Brannon JR, Thomassin, JL, Gruenheid, S, Le Moual H. **Antimicrobial Peptide Conformation as a Structural Determinant of Omptin Protease Specificity.** *J. Bacteriol.* 2015 Nov 15;197(22):3583-91. doi: 10.1128/JB.00469-15. Epub 2015 Sep 8.
3. Le Sage V, Cinti A, Valiente-Echeverría F, Mouland A, **Proteomic analysis of HIV-1 Gag interacting partners using proximity-dependent biotinylation.** *Virology*. 2015 Sep 11;531(1):138. doi: 10.1016/j.virol.2015.08.036.
4. Mongeau-Martin G, Ndao M, Libman M, Delage G, Ward BJ. **A family cluster of Chagas disease detected through selective screening of blood donors: A case report and brief review.** *Can J Infect Dis Med Microbiol.* 2015 May-Jun;26(3):157-61. PMID:26236358
5. Mou Z, Li J, Boussoffara T, Kishi H, Hamana H, Ezzati P, Hu C, Yi W, Liu D, Khadem F, Okwor I, Jia P, Shitaoka K, Wang S, Ndao M, Petersen C, Chen J, Rafati S, Louzir H, Muraguchi A, Wilkins JA, Uzonna JE. **Identification of broadly conserved cross-species protective Leishmania antigen and its responding CD4+ T cells.** *Sci Transl Med.* 2015 Oct 21;7(310):310ra167. doi: 10.1126/scitranslmed.aac5477. PMID: 26491077
6. Ricciardi A, Ndao M. **Still hope for schistosomiasis vaccine.** *Hum Vaccin Immunother.* 2015 Oct 3;11(10):2504-8. doi: 10.1080/21645515.2015.1059981. PMID: 26176659
7. Sonzogni-Desautels K, Renteria AE, Camargo FV, Di Lenardo TZ, Mikhail A, Arrowood MJ, Fortin A, Ndao M. **Oleylphosphocholine (OIPC) arrests Cryptosporidium parvum growth in vitro and prevents lethal infection in interferon gamma receptor knock-out mice.** *Front Microbiol.* 2015 Sep 23;6:973. doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2015.00973. eCollection 2015. PMID: 26441906

