



## FROM THE CHAIR'S DESK

Dear MIMM<sup>ers</sup>,

I would like to start this newsletter wishing you all a very Happy 2016! May we see in the year ahead many inspiring academic achievements, exciting discoveries, and invigorating developments.

I believe that the short term looks prosperous. The change in federal government coincides with a much louder talk on commitment to invest in research and innovation. And the opportunities to see some action on this talk are around the corner. Let's hope that we see increased budget allocations to CIHR and allied research agencies and organizations in the new government's budget.

We will be going through the first CIHR Project competition and the second CIHR Foundation competition, as well as a new CFI call (CFI-9) in the coming months. I would like to wish every member of the department participating in these competitions my full support and the best of luck. Let me emphasize the importance of preparing these applications ahead of time, and of going through internal peer review. The latter can be coordinated not only at the faculty level but also at the departmental level. Let me know if you need any help.

Last, we are nearing the end of my first term as Chair of the Department. I would appreciate that you participate in the review process by providing Dr. Mara Ludwig, Vice-Dean of Academic Affairs, your feedback on my leadership at [mara.ludwig@mcgill.ca](mailto:mara.ludwig@mcgill.ca). I truly thank you in advance for doing so. It means a lot to me as we continue to make our Department a reference of academic excellence and administrative fairness and transparency.

Without further due, let 2016 begin!

Yours in service,  
Quim



## RESEARCH

### Publications

1. Alshafiq N, Ding S, Richard J, Markle T, Brassard N, Walker B, Lewis GK, Kaufmann DE, Brockman MA, Finzi A. [Nef proteins from HIV-1 elite controllers are inefficient at preventing ADCC](#). *J Virol*. 2015 Dec 30. pii: JVI.02973-15. [Epub ahead of print]
2. Atayde VD, Aslan H, Townsend S, Hassani K, Kamhawi S, Olivier M. [Exosome Secretion by the Parasitic Protozoan Leishmania within the Sand Fly Midgut](#). *Cell Rep*. 2015 Nov 3;13(5):957-67. doi: 10.1016/j.celrep.2015.09.058. Epub 2015 Oct 22.
3. Ding S, Veillette M, Coutu M1, Prévost J, Scharf L, Bjorkman PJ, Ferrari G, Robinson JE, Stürzel C, Hahn BH, Sauter D, Kirchhoff F, Lewis GK, Pazgier M, Finzi A. [A Highly-Conserved Residue of the HIV-1-gp120 Inner Domain is Important for ADCC Responses Mediated by Anti-Cluster A Antibodies](#). *J Virol*. 2015 Dec 4. pii: JVI.02779-15. [Epub ahead of print]



4. Duerr CU, McCarthy CD, Mindt BC, Rubio M, Meli AP, Pothlichet J, Eva MM, Gauchat JF, Qureshi ST, Mazer BD, Mossman KL, Malo D, Gamero AM, Vidal SM, King IL, Sarfati M, Fritz JH. [Type I interferon restricts type 2 immunopathology through the regulation of group 2 innate lymphoid cells.](#) *Nat Immunol.* 2015 Nov 23. doi: 10.1038/ni.3308. [Epub ahead of print].
5. Lee WS, Richard J, Lichtfuss M, Smith AB 3rd, Park J, Courter JR, Melillo BN, Sodroski JG, Kaufmann DE, Finzi A, Parsons MS, Kent SJ. [Antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity against reactivated HIV-1-infected cells.](#) *J Virol.* 2015 Dec 9. pii: JVI.02717-15. [Epub ahead of print]
6. Memari B, Bouttier M, Dimitrov V, Ouellette M, Behr MA, Fritz JH, White JH. [Engagement of the Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor in Mycobacterium tuberculosis-Infected Macrophages Has Pleiotropic Effects on Innate Immune Signaling.](#) *J Immunol.* 2015 Nov 1;195(9):4479-91. doi: 10.4049/jimmunol.1501141. Epub 2015 Sep 28.
7. Monat C, Cousineau B. [Circularization pathway of a bacterial group II intron.](#) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 2015 Dec 15. pii: gkv1381. [Epub ahead of print]
8. Skeldon AM, Morizot A, Douglas T, Santoro N, Kursawe R, Kozlitina J, Caprio S, Mehal WZ, Saleh M. [Caspase-12, but Not Caspase-11, Inhibits Obesity and Insulin Resistance.](#) *J Immunol.* 2015 Nov 18. pii: 1501529. [Epub ahead of print].
9. Shourian M, Flaczyk A, Angers I, Mindt BC, Fritz JH, Qureshi ST. [The Cnes2 Locus on Mouse Chromosome 17 Regulates Host Defense against Cryptococcal Infection through Pleiotropic Effects on Host Immunity.](#) *Infect Immun.* 2015 Dec;83(12):4541-54. doi: 10.1128/IAI.00697-15. Epub 2015 Sep 14.

## FACES OF EXCELLENCE

### Fanny Guimont-Desrochers, Postdoctoral fellow

*How long have you been with the Department?*

I have been in the Department since April 2014.

*What is your job description?*

I did my bachelor's degree and PhD studies at University of Montreal in Microbiology and Immunology. I worked on the genetic and functional characterization of NK cells and dendritic cells. Afterwards, I spent a year in the USA at the National Institutes of Health to study the role of dietary metabolites in the regulation of immune cells. In 2014, I started my postdoctoral studies at McGill University in Dr Connie Krawczyk's laboratory. My project is focused on the role of Notch receptors on dendritic cell activation and function. I design, perform and analyze experiments. I also train younger lab members on various techniques and give them feedback on their projects.



*What do you look forward to when you come to work every day?*

I look forward to see my colleagues because I really enjoy working with them. I also really like designing new experiments and trying them out. Working in a lab is amazing because you are always busy and never get bored!



# MIMM BITES

A NEWSLETTER OF MCGILL'S MICROBIOLOGY & IMMUNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

JANUARY 2016

## ANNOUNCEMENTS




Please join us in welcoming Steven Sutcliffe, who will be joining the Maurice lab in January 2016. His graduate work will focus on the role of bacteriophages in the gut microbiota.

## UPCOMING

**Department of Microbiology and Immunology  
Infection and Immunity Seminar Series**

**"An Essential DNA-binding Protein Coordinates Chromosome Replication and Segregation in the Model Organism *Caulobacter crescentus*"**



**Host: Dr. Greg Marczynski**  
Thursday, January 21st, 2016  
11:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Duff Amphitheater located at the Duff Medical Building  
3775 University Street  
Broadcasted at the Glen, Room EM0.2225


**Dr. James A. Taylor**  
Research Associate  
University of Ottawa, Dept. Cellular and Molecular Medicine

If you wish to meet with the speaker, please contact Mr Patrick Ritchie at 514 398-7492 or office.microimm@mcgill.ca

Dr. James A. Taylor, Seminar at McGill

**Department of Microbiology and Immunology  
Infection and Immunity Seminar Series**

**"Shaping of host immunity by the commensal microbiota"**



**Host: Dr. Joaquín (Quim) Madrenas**  
Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
11:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Duff Amphitheater located at the Duff Medical Building  
3775 University Street  
Broadcasted at the Glen, Room EM0.2225

**Dr. Dan R. Littman, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Kimmel Professor of Molecular Immunology  
Skirball Institute of Biomolecular Medicine  
New York University School of Medicine  
Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

If you wish to meet with the speaker, please contact Mr Patrick Ritchie at 514 398-7492 or office.microimm@mcgill.ca

### Let's Talk Science

Wednesday January 27<sup>th</sup> | Noon | Sheldon Conference Room

Dr. Martin Richer will be speaking about 'Regulation of CD8 T cell function by inflammatory cues'.



## SERVICES

### Duff Biobar Updates

#### BioBar Hours

The operating hours for the BioBar are the following: between 8-12 and 1-4.

Don't forget the Biobar Stocks Useful Lab Supplies such as: Kleenex; Bleach; Gloves; Paper Towels; Etc. At competitive price! Please visit our website for the **Biobar list of company**. For more information, please visit **Mr. Tom Ringer** (RM-514, 514-398-3920). If you would like to get a list of products available at the BioBar, please contact **Mr. Tom Ringer**.





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JANUARY 2016

You are all encouraged to submit any news, grants, papers, awards, pictures, or items that you want to include to our monthly newsletter. We will be happy to share them with the rest of the department. You can email them to **Mr. Patrick Ritchie**.