REGISTRATION NOW OPEN: Mucosal Immunology Course & Symposium (MICS 2016)!

Registration, housing and abstract submission for the inaugural MICS 2016 are now open! The MICS meeting will be held July 27-30, 2016 at the Westin Harbour Castle in Toronto, Canada. This meeting is the first of its kind, focusing on Microbiota and Mucosal Immunity: Rules of Engagement in Health and Disease which is the critical interface between the field of mucosal immunology and the microbiota.

Scientists are increasingly focused on the fact that imbalances in microbial populations in our bodies often are a leading factor in causing a specific disease. Research into these imbalances may lead to the cure. Microbiota may play a role in auto-immune-type diseases such as diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, fibromyalgia, some cancers and may also aggravate obesity. These topics are just a few areas that will be addressed at the symposium, July 28-30.

The event will commence with a one-day course on July 27, aimed mainly for trainees. The course is based on the Principles of Mucosal Immunology textbook and taught by a faculty team led by Dr. Phillip Smith, one of the textbook editors. A two and a half day interactive symposium will follow, featuring fresh session formats for scientific talks and electronic poster sessions, alongside more traditional presentation formats.

Phillip Smith, MD
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Exciting Plenary Sessions Will Feature Lauded Faculty:

**Thursday, July 28**

- **8:30am – 10:00am** **Influence of the Microbiota on Asthma and Allergies**
  - Benjamin Marsland, PhD, University of Lausanne
  - Cathryn Nagler, PhD, University of Chicago

- **1:30pm – 2:30pm** **Secretory IgA and Regulation of the Mucosal Microbiota**
  - Noah Palm, PhD, Yale University School of Medicine
  - June Round, PhD, The University of Utah

- **4:45pm – 6:15pm** **Microbiota and Gut Immune System Development**
  - Gabriel Nunez, MD, University of Michigan School of Medicine
  - Gérard Eberl, PhD, Institut Pasteur
  - Nadine Cerf-Bensussan, MD, PhD, Institut Imagine

**Friday, July 29**

- **8:30am – 10:00am** **Intestinal Microbiota and IBD**
  - Andrew Gewirtz, PhD, Georgia State University
  - Greg Sonnenberg, PhD, Cornell Medical College
  - Curtis Huttenhower, PhD, Broad Institute

- **1:30pm – 2:30pm** **Mucosal Immunity to Urogenital Tract Microbiota**
  - Supriya Mehta, PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago
  - Scott Hultgren, PhD, Washington University in St. Louis

**Saturday, July 30**

- **8:30am – 10:00am** **Therapeutic Modulation of the Human Gut Microbiota**
  - R. Balfour Sartor, MD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
  - Elena Verdú, MD, PhD, McMaster University
  - Michael Surette, PhD, McMaster University

**Submit Your Science by February 11th!**

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**Important Links:**

- More About MICS
- MICS Course
- MICS Symposium
- Registration
- Housing
- Abstracts

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MICS 2016: Attendees Can Look Forward to the Following Takeaways:

1. Discuss how the mucosal immune system and the microbiota are inextricably linked, requiring investigators to consider the contributions of both the immune system and the microbiota to all mucosal responses and diseases under study.

2. Describe an emerging and promising approach to treat mucosal disease and inflammation involving manipulation of the microbiota through probiotics and prebiotics.

3. Establish new collaborative activities between mucosal immunologists and scientists focused on studies of the microbiota.

4. Enhance the capability of organized medicine to address unmet medical needs related to inflammatory and autoimmune diseases of mucosal tissues.

**Be part of this innovative meeting!**
Calling All Young Professionals:
Serve on the SMI Board!

SMI is pleased to announce a brand new opportunity for young mucosal immunologists: a seat at the SMI leadership table. SMI is seeking applications from young professionals to serve on the Board of Councilors.

Applicants must be:
• Members of SMI
• Principle Investigators (PI) who are between 5-15 years of receiving their doctoral degree
• Working in a field relevant to mucosal immunology

Position Description: Those selected for the role will be expected to:
• Serve as the voice and representation for young professionals in the field
• Participate on board calls and attend meetings
• Work with SMI staff to coordinate a focus group for young professionals during MICS 2016 and ICMI 2017
• Consult with SMI Web and Membership Committees to suggest ways to target young professionals
• Serve 2 year terms

Interested in this exciting leadership opportunity? Submit the following to Lori Rathje, SMI Executive Director, at lrathje@socmucimm.org, by January 31, 2016.

Application Requirements:
• Curriculum vitae (CV)
• Statement answering the following:
  • What would be your contribution to the Board of Councilors?
  • What would be the top two priorities you would focus on in this position?
  • What are two things SMI could bring to its young constituents that it currently does not?
SAVE THE DATE
July 19-22, 2017
Renaissance Hotel, Washington, D.C., United States

ICMI
18th International Congress of Mucosal Immunology
2017
July 19-22, 2017 • Washington D.C.

Co-Chairs:
Brian Kelsall, MD
Marsha Wills-Karp, PhD
Ken Beagley, PhD
Michael McGuckin

Just Announced:
See you in Brisbane in 2019!

Based on your feedback and to follow established geographical rotation guidelines, ICMI 2019 will be held in Brisbane, Australia in July 2019. Lead by Drs. Ken Beagley and Michael McGuckin, SMI will bring the premiere meeting in mucosal immunology to the land down under. Stay tuned for more details!

Featured Papers of the Month
Each month SMI leadership selects innovative and scientifically rigorous papers to prominently feature on its website.

November

December

Upcoming Muculent Meetings:
For more information, visit the Muculent Meetings page on the SMI website.

5th Conference of South African Immunology Society
March 5-9, 2016
Muldersdrift, South Africa

AAI 2016
May 13-17, 2016
Seattle, Washington, USA

SMI Symposium at AAI 2016
Saturday, May 14, 2016 3:45-5:45 pm
Innate Regulation of Th2 Immunity
Seattle, Washington

FOCIS 2016
June 22-25, 2016
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

SMI Symposium at FOCIS 2016
Wednesday, June 22, 2016 12:45 pm-4:45 pm
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Mucosal Immunology Course & Symposium (MICS 2016)
Toronto, Canada

10th European Mucosal Immunology Group Meeting
October 19-21, 2016
Copenhagen, Denmark

AAI 2017
May 12-16, 2017
Washington D.C., USA

ICMI 2017
July 19-22, 2017
Washington D.C., USA

AAI 2018
May 4-8, 2018
Austin, Texas, USA

*Please Note: SMI is in no way affiliated with the event entitled “International Conference on Mucosal Immunology” planned by the OMICS group.