



SAIS NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 1st, 2019

Dear SAIS members,

Below, please find this week's newsletter.

FUNDING CALLS, CONFERENCES, WEBINARS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII-th Conference of the South African Immunology Society - registration & abstract submission now open

Please see more details below.



VIIth Conference of the South African Immunology Society

Abstract Submission & Registration Now Open

www.sais-bookings.co.za

Synergy in Immunology
18 – 20 June 2019
aha Gateway hotel, Umhlanga, Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa
Please join us at one of the most beautiful coastal villages in the world

IMPORTANT DATES
22 February 2019 - Abstract submission closes
10 May 2019 - Early bird registration closes

To register or submit an abstract please visit: www.sais-bookings.co.za

Enquiries: Bridget de Beer conference1@onscreenav.co.za / +27 21 486 9111

Clinical Application of CAR T Cells 2019 - March 14 -15, 2019 - Zuckerman Research Center, New York, USA

Early registration closes on January 31st. Abstract submission deadline is February 15th. Please find more details here: <https://lnkd.in/d6DNDGg>.

Nature Research Awards for Driving Global Impact

The Nature Research Awards for Driving Global Impact, in partnership with Tencent, celebrate early-career researchers, whose work has made, or has the potential to make, a positive impact on society. For applications, please follow the link <https://lnkd.in/dfnTvEy>. Application deadline - February 9th.

ProQuantum Immunoassays Enable Low-Level Cytokine Detection - Webinar - February 12, 2019 - 08:00 AM PST

Learning objectives: - A new immunoassay platform and how it can be a powerful tool for low-level cytokine detection - How it is used in an actual research study on inflammatory disease. For registration, please follow: <https://lnkd.in/dAHy6mG>.

Call for nominations - the Lupus Research Alliance - 2019 Lupus Insight Prize - deadline February 15

Please find more details here: <https://lnkd.in/d3-Txf2>.

FOCIS Asian Advanced Course in Basic and Clinical Immunology - March 26 - 29, 2019 - Jaipur, India

Registration closes on February 28, 2019. Please see more details here: <https://lnkd.in/d6aYH9j>.

34th Congress of the International Society for Advancement of Cytometry (CYTO 2019) - June 22-26 - Vancouver, Canada

Abstract submission deadline - February 4. Please visit the following link for more details: <https://lnkd.in/gYumc36>.

11th International Workshop on HIV and Pediatrics - 19 - 20 July, 2019 - Mexico City, Mexico

Abstract submission deadline - March 29. For more details, please visit <https://lnkd.in/guPC97s>.

Label-free live cell imaging meets Immuno-oncology - free Webinar - Feb 5th, 2019 - 10 AM (CET)

Please follow this link to register - <https://lnkd.in/gtn6t5r>.

16th EuroSciCon Conference on Immunology - March 11-13, 2019 - Amsterdam, Netherlands

Please find more details here: <https://lnkd.in/gUvgasY>.

3rd Workshop on Aids-related Mycosis - 10-12 July, 2019 - Cape Town, SA

Please find more details below:



REGISTRATION & ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN!

3rd WORKSHOP ON AIDS-RELATED MYCOSES

10-12 July 2019
www.aidsmycoses2019.co.za

IDM
INSTITUTE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND MOLECULAR MEDICINE
CAPE TOWN SOUTH AFRICA

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS: <https://www.aidsmycoses2019.co.za/abstracts.php>
TO REGISTER: <https://www.aidsmycoses2019.co.za/registration.php>
ENQUIRIES: Bridget de Beer conference1@onscreenav.co.za / +27 21 486 9111

FOCIS 2019 - June 18-21 - Boston, USA - Abstract Submission Deadline Extended to Monday, February 9, 2019

Please apply here: <https://lnkd.in/dCBSMwP>.

Whitehead Scientific Travel Awards available

Whitehead Scientific is offering travel bursaries to researchers in life sciences. Apply now, if you plan to attend a scientific conference, meeting, course, or overseas lab visit before end June 2019.

Who can apply?

- Full time post graduate students, registered for an MSc or PhD
- Post-docs with less than 2 years post-doc experience
- Applicants must reside in South Africa
- Students must be studying in the field of life sciences

Please follow the link: <https://lnkd.in/d7zkuMk>.

PUBLICATIONS and INTERESTING READS:

Genome-wide CRISPR Screens in T Helper Cells Reveal Pervasive Crosstalk between Activation and Differentiation - open access

<https://lnkd.in/dR822Pq>. <https://lnkd.in/dQY4EXA>.

Human “TH9” cells are a subpopulation of PPAR-γ+ TH2 cells - interesting study (open access)

<https://lnkd.in/dNwxpK9>.

Commensal-specific T cell plasticity promotes rapid tissue adaptation to injury - new study (open access)

<https://lnkd.in/dbjmA9j>.

NIH-Supported Scientists Develop Tool to Measure Success of HIV Cure Strategies - new study

<https://lnkd.in/dVfagzW>.

Investigational monoclonal antibody to treat Ebola is safe in adults - early-stage trial results show promise

<https://lnkd.in/dzX48qA>.

Protein engineering extends the language of immune cells - evolution of signaling molecules opens door to new sepsis therapy approaches

<https://lnkd.in/daZyq6a>.

Zika vaccines should induce responses by CD4+ T cells - new study finds that CD4+ T cells promote humoral immunity and viral control during Zika virus infection (open access)

<https://lnkd.in/dnACx2R>.

Dengue immunity may be protective against symptomatic Zika

<https://lnkd.in/dfjxynq>.

HIV hidden in patients' cells can now be accurately measured

<https://lnkd.in/dmCvUCh>.

Drought in Lesotho heightened HIV risk in girls

Association between severe drought and HIV prevention and care behaviors in Lesotho: A population-based survey 2016–2017. <https://lnkd.in/dQPi3mC>.

The Mononuclear Phagocyte System: The Relationship between Monocytes and Macrophages - new study

<https://lnkd.in/d3gVVaV>.

JOBS and POSITIONS

Doctoral bursary in the Experimental Tuberculosis and Immunology Research group - IDM, UCT - deadline 1st March

Please find more details here: <https://lnkd.in/dia-5ef>.



PhD study in the Institute of Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine, University of Cape Town, South Africa - apply before 7 February 2019.

Please find more details below.



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

Institute of Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine (IDM)

Division of Immunology
Health Science Faculty; Medical School
Anzio road, Observatory 7925 - Cape Town, South Africa
Tel. +27 21 406 6033
Email: reto.guler@uct.ac.za

PhD study in the Institute of Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Purpose

The European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) has awarded a research grant to the coordinator (A/Prof. Reto Guler) of the international consortium "PravaTB" for a 4-year project to evaluate the safety and efficacy of pravastatin to reduce inflammation after tuberculosis treatment. This projects includes the investigation of immunological and blood biomarkers, blood transcriptional and proteomic profiling by ELISA/luminex, RNAseq, mass spectrometry and macrophage assays (phagosomal, autophagy and *ex vivo M. tuberculosis* growth) of study participants. This fellowship aims to recruit a talented candidate to pursue PhD in the research group of A/Prof. Reto Guler starting 21 February 2019.

Conditions

1. Applicants may not previously have held full-time professional or academic posts.
2. No service or services is required in return for the fellowship.
3. The successful incumbent will be required to comply with the University's approved policies, procedures and practices for the doctoral sector.

Value and tenure

1. **The value of the fellowship is R 180'000 per annum with secured funding for 4 years.**
2. The value of the fellowship will increase in the second year and subsequent years.
3. Renewal for the second year and subsequent years will be considered on evidence of satisfactory academic progress.
4. The fellowship is in accordance with the SARS Guidelines is tax-exempt.

Academic Conditions

1. **This fellowship seeks to attract outstanding candidates with a strong work ethics that are self-motivated and driven.**
2. **Ability to work under pressure subject to deadlines and high professional and academic standards.**
3. This fellowship is only available to individuals who have achieved the master degree and graduated in Molecular and Cell Biology, Immunology or Biochemistry.
4. The doctoral research fellow (DRF) will be directly responsible to A/Prof. Reto Guler.
5. Dr. Guler will provide the operational research costs from his EDCTP grant.
6. All necessary equipment and laboratory spaces are in place to meet the demands of the project.
7. The applicant will be required to write SOPs and will be responsible for specimen storage and sample analysis.
8. The applicant will work in close association with the clinical trial group and must be on standby, reachable by WhatsApp Messenger, when valuable specimens arrive in the lab for processing and analyzing.
9. Applicant should be actively involved in research in "Immunology of Infectious Diseases" and have experience and/or **interest in clinical immunology with skills in PBMC isolation, generation of monocyte-derived human macrophages**, molecular biology and standard immunological techniques. As part of their professional development, candidates must participate in weekly departmental activities including Progress Reports and Journal Club presentations.
10. Previous exposure to clinical work and received GCP training is recommended but not necessary.

Application procedure

All applications should include:

1. A letter of motivation stating the applicant's areas of expertise, research interests and experience.
2. A CV including a list of publications and **details of acquired laboratory techniques.**
3. One or two reference letter from academics, who have taught, supervised or worked alongside the applicant.
4. If you do not receive feedback within six weeks of the deadline, please assume that your application has not been successful.

Applications should be directly emailed to Principal Investigator A/Prof. Reto Guler reto.guler@uct.ac.za before 7 February 2018.

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications. The University of Cape Town reserves the right to change the conditions of award or to make no awards at all

"Our mission is to be an outstanding teaching and research university, educating for life and addressing the challenges facing our society"



Master of Medical Sciences in Immunology Program at Harvard Medical School - the application for Fall 2019 is now open!

The mission of the HMS Master of Medical Sciences in Immunology (MMSc IMM) is to provide a solid, instructional and research-based foundation in both Basic and Clinical Immunology. This program serves the needs both of students with a strong undergraduate biology background with an interest in medicine or fundamental research and seeking deeper knowledge of immunology, as well as of academic physicians from a range of specialties who seek an in-depth knowledge of immunology in order to further their professional goals and research expertise. To apply, please follow <https://lnkd.in/daNCXVw>.

WACCBIP PhD Fellowships

The West African Centre for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens (WACCBIP) at the University of Ghana is offering PhD fellowships under the World Bank African Centre's of Excellence (ACE) Impact project. We are looking for aspiring African scientists to work in an environment that supports high caliber research, promotes the development of scientific leadership, and enables networking with other scientists throughout Africa. Deadline for applications is February 15, 2019. Please find more details here: <https://lnkd.in/dfiAfEW>.

MSc opportunity - Antigenic and immunological determinants of acute allergic susceptibility to meat in a uniquely defined cohort in the Eastern Cape

An MSc project (2 years) studying allergic mechanisms at the Red Cross Children's Hospital and Division of Immunology, UCT is available immediately.

The Project - Acute allergic responses to meat may result in the rapid onset of life threatening anaphylaxis. This is associated with a strong IgE driven response to Galactose alpha-1,3-galactose (alpha-Gal). This sensitivity to alpha gal does not appear to derive from prior exposure to alpha-gal from eating meat. Instead sensitization appears to be driven by exposure to alpha gal from large parasites. Ticks are considered the principle source of sensitization however exposure to certain helminths may also result in IgE sensitization to alpha-Gal.

The proposed project will:

- Identify the presence of alpha gal in ticks and helminths endemic to the Eastern Cape.
- Profile the ability of antibody from alpha gal antibody depleted serum of alpha gal allergic and non-allergic individuals to bind to extracts derived from different parasites
- Demonstrate the ability of extracts from different parasite to induce allergic like responses from blood derived from allergic and non-allergic individuals

Interested students should have a BSc(Hons) in a biomedical related subject. Experience in biochemical, cell biology and immunological techniques would be desirable. The project may require the student to spend some time in the laboratories of collaborators in the UK.

Please contact Prof. Michael Levin (Michael.levin@uct.ac.za) for more information.

Thank you to our sponsors for the VII-th Conference of the South African Immunology Society in June 2019.





Thank you to the prize sponsor of the November 2018 Lucky Draw for Paid Up members.



<http://combinedminds.co.za>

Please don't forget to send me any info you may have on funding opportunities, meetings, workshops and/or conferences, so I can post it on the SAIS LinkedIn page. Additionally, if you are recruiting/hiring, I am more than happy to advertise it on LinkedIn and in the newsletter.

Thank you.

Kind regards

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