

SAIS NEWSLETTER – APRIL 10th, 2021

Dear SAIS members

Please find this week's newsletter. I encourage all members to follow SAIS updates on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter to stay up to date with the latest news, events and research.

FUNDING CALLS, CONFERENCES, WEBINARS and ANNOUNCEMENTS



Thursday 29th April 2021 is International Day of Immunology. The day is dedicated to increasing global awareness of the importance of immunology in the fight against infection, autoimmunity and cancer. This year's theme: COVID-19. Reserve the day to discuss immunology with everyone you know! We strongly encourage all members to take action by creating an awareness campaign, organizing an event, reach out to local journalists or express your commitment to improving health for people around the world on social media. Please post your individual or group photos on our social media pages – SAIS LinkedIn, Facebook or Twitter. There is also Day of Immunology Awards up for grab! All National Societies and Regional Federations are eligible to apply. Please read more; <https://iuis.org/events/2021-international-day-of-immunology/>

2-day virtual MasterCourse on Vaccines and Immunology - European Academy of Paediatrics



For more information on registration, please visit: <https://eap-congress.org/mastercourse-programme/>

Live Webinar: “Inborn errors of type I IFN immunity in patients with life-threatening COVID-19” - Monday 19th April 2021

Clinical outcome upon infection with SARS-CoV-2 ranges from silent infection to lethal COVID-19. Dr Zhang and her team have identified autosomal-recessive or autosomal-dominant deficiencies of genes in the type I IFN circuit in 23 patients (3.5%) 17 to 77 years of age. They showed that inborn errors of TLR3- and IRF7-dependent type I IFN immunity can underlie life-threatening COVID-19 pneumonia in patients with no prior severe infection. For more information and registration please visit: <https://iuis.org/webinars/>

International Primary Immunodeficiencies Congress – IPIC 5th Edition – will be held in Vilamoura (Algarve), Portugal, on April 27-29, 2022.

IPIC 5th Edition will bring together clinicians with an interest in primary immunodeficiencies (PIDs)/human inborn errors of immunity alongside leading physicians in the field, patient organisation representatives,

nurses and other interested stakeholders. The Congress will build on our previous events and promises to deliver a diverse and stimulating scientific programme on the state of the art of diagnosis and clinical care of PIDs. For more information, please visit: <https://ipic2021.com/ipic5/>

Novel Concepts in Innate Immunity (Digital) - Wednesday 26th May 2021

For abstract submission and conference registration, please visit: <https://www.innate-immunity-conference.de/>

Upcoming Keystone conferences – Virtual. For more information and registration visit:

<https://virtual.keystonesymposia.org/ks/>



eSymposia
**Cancer Stem Cells:
Advances in Biology and Clinical Translation**
May 19-21, 2021 | 8:00AM EDT | 12:00PM UTC*

Joint with HIV Pathogenesis and Cure
HIV Vaccines
June 1-4, 2021 | Session Times TBD

HIV Pathogenesis and Cure
June 1-4, 2021 | Session Times TBD

FOCIS conference 2021 – Virtual Annual Meeting will be held on June 8 – 11, 2021



For more information, please visit: <https://www.focisnet.org/meetings/focis-2021/>

Intestinal Stem Cell - Niche Interactions in Health and Disease Conference – will be held on 07 October 2021

<https://www.fusion-conferences.com/conference/111>

PUBLICATIONS and INTERESTING READS:

In rare instances, AstraZeneca's Covid-19 vaccine linked to blood clots, regulators say

<https://www.statnews.com/2021/04/07/astrazeneca-covid-19-vaccine-linked-to-blood-clots/>

Post-acute COVID-19 syndrome

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41591-021-01283-z>

Coronapod: the Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID vaccine - what you need to know

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00847-w>

Can the winter flu shot be taken with the COVID vaccine? Experts say yes

<https://www.thesouthafrican.com/lifestyle/health-fitness/covid-19-and-flu-vaccine-shots/>

Assay Detects Antibodies in Asymptomatic COVID Carriers

<https://www.labroots.com/trending/immunology/20050/assay-detects-antibodies-asymptomatic-covid-carriers>

After the WHO report: what's next in the search for COVID's origins

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00877-4>

Mutational fitness landscapes reveal genetic and structural improvement pathways for a vaccine-elicited HIV-1 broadly neutralizing antibody

<https://www.pnas.org/content/118/10/e2011653118>

In-depth: SA at cutting edge of TB Vaccine research

<https://www.spotlightnsp.co.za/2021/03/25/in-depth-sa-at-cutting-edge-of-tb-vaccine-research/>

A myeloid–stromal niche and gp130 rescue in NOD2-driven Crohn's disease

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-03484-5>

Synovial macrophages: from ordinary eaters to extraordinary multitaskers

[https://www.cell.com/trends/immunology/fulltext/S1471-4906\(21\)00050-8?dgcid=raven_jbs_aip_email](https://www.cell.com/trends/immunology/fulltext/S1471-4906(21)00050-8?dgcid=raven_jbs_aip_email)

Drugs that inhibit TMEM16 proteins block SARS-CoV-2 Spike-induced syncytia

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-03491-6>

The structure, function and evolution of a complete human chromosome 8

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-03420-7>

FUNDING CALLS

NHLS Research Trust – Pathology Research Award – April call

The call is now open for applications for the NHLSRT Pathology Research awards, with a **closing date of 30th April 2021**. This is an award open to more senior researchers in the departments of Pathology associated with South African Medical Schools. New guidelines and the proposal template are available on the website: <https://anatomicalpathology.health.wits.ac.za/Grant>.

NRF Postgraduate Student Funding for the 2022 Academic Year

Students must first identify the university where they will be registered for their postgraduate degree before applying to the NRF. Applications for funding in 2022 must be submitted to the university where students intend to register, through the NRF Online Submission System by accessing the link: <https://nrfs submission.nrf.ac.za/>. Universities will set their own internal cut-off dates for applications and applicants must abide by those dates.

JOBS and POSITIONS

Laboratory Manager

Hutchinson Centre Research Institute of South Africa - Cape Town, Western Cape



The purpose of this position is to oversee the laboratory physical space and equipment. The Lab Manager oversees equipment maintenance and smooth functioning of the physical space and building facilities and to manage laboratory projects under the direction of the laboratory management. **Qualifications and experience needed:** BTech, BA or BSc in a related field required, preferably Biomedical Technology or equivalent diploma (Clinical Pathology, Haematology, Microbiology or Immunology). Minimum of ten years of experience in a routine or research laboratory setting; lab management experience. Experience working in a laboratory environment according to Good Clinical Laboratory Practices. For more information, please visit <https://southafrica-fhrcr.icims.com/jobs/search>. Interested candidates should send their full Curriculum Vitae to Bongsi Vilakazi: svilakaz@hcrisa.org.za

Laboratory Technician

Hutchinson Centre Research Institute of South Africa - Cape Town, Western Cape

This position is responsible for monitoring all specimen activities for the laboratory including specimen requests, tracking, receipt, inventory and shipping. This position will also assist with laboratory procurement, inventory management, equipment management and other laboratory work as needed. For more information, please visit <https://southafrica-fhrcr.icims.com/jobs/search>. Interested candidates should send their full Curriculum Vitae to Bongsi Vilakazi: svilakaz@hcrisa.org.za

Regional Medical Liaison

Hutchinson Centre Research Institute of South Africa - Cape Town, Western Cape

The Regional Medical Liaison plays a key role in providing clinical support for clinical research sites (CRSs) implementing vaccine & prevention trials of the HVTN/CoVPN in Southern Africa. The position is based in Southern Africa and is part of the Clinical Development Unit, Leadership Operations Center (LOC) of the HVTN/CoVPN and reports to the Programme Lead/Protocol Team Lead. **Qualifications and experience needed:** A medical doctor (MBChB, MBBS, MD or equivalent degree) with clinical experience in Southern Africa is strongly preferred. Postgraduate education in public health or clinical research or administration. For more information, please visit <https://southafrica-fhrcr.icims.com/jobs/search> Interested candidates should send their full Curriculum Vitae to Bongsi Vilakazi: svilakaz@hcrisa.org.za

Site Liaison Associate

Hutchinson Centre Research Institute of South Africa - Johannesburg , Soweto

The purpose of this position is to assist in the development of sites in the start-up phase, and upon trial implementation, oversee the execution of Good Clinical Practice (GCP) practice of HIV vaccine trials and/or COVID-19 vaccine trails at various Clinical Research Sites (CRSs) in Southern Africa. This position is a trial management resource for CRS staff and other HVTN/CoVPN Leadership Operations Centre (LOC) staff based in South Africa and is a liaison between Southern Africa-based clinical CRS staff and Seattle-based staff. Qualification and experience needed: Degree or equivalent qualification in public health, life sciences or medical field. A minimum of 6 - 8 years of clinical trial monitoring experience, Senior Clinical Research Associate/Lead Clinical Research Associate (SCRA/LCRA) experience in a trial set in Southern Africa and Africa. For more information, please visit <https://southafrica-fhrcr.icims.com/jobs/search> Interested candidates should send their full Curriculum Vitae to Bongsi Vilakazi: svilakaz@hcrisa.org.za

Assistant/Associate or Professor

Tenure-Track Faculty Position(s), Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor - University of Michigan (U-M)



The Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Michigan seeks highly qualified applicants for full-time, tenure-track or tenured positions at all faculty ranks. Please direct all inquiries to Patrina Hardy, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (thardy@med.umich.edu).

Postdoctoral Fellow

Proteomics/Mass Spectrometry - Tulane University School of Medicine (SOM), New Orleans, United States

The Postdoctoral Fellow for the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology will be responsible for developing mass spectrometry-based new technologies and approaches to detect and measure biomarkers associated with cancer, obesity/diabetes and infectious disease, and to employ these methods to analyze samples from animal models of human disease and human subjects to test and validate their performance. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.nature.com/naturecareers/job/postdoctoral-fellowproteomicsmass-spectrometry-tulane-university-school-of-medicine-som-736153#apply>

Postdoctoral Position in Metabolic Regulation and Lipidomics

University of Southern Denmark (SDU), Odense M, Denmark

We are seeking a self-motivated and technically skilled person with a strong background in lipidomics or metabolomics, liquid chromatography and high-resolution mass spectrometry. In-depth understanding of metabolic networks, experience with handling of mice or rats, and experience in data management and multivariate data analysis are preferred. Please see the full call, including how to apply, on www.sdu.dk.

Postdoctoral Training Fellow

Signalling & Cancer Metabolism team - Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) London, United Kingdom

The ICR is committed to attracting, developing and retaining the best minds in the world to join us in our mission – to make the discoveries that defeat cancer. This is an ideal opportunity for a committed and enthusiastic scientist to join a dynamic research team with excellent collaborators and facilities. For more information about our research, please visit <http://www.icr.ac.uk/our-research/researchers-and-teams/dr-george-poulogiannis>. Please direct all informal enquiries to George.Poulogiannis@icr.ac.uk

Postdoctoral Fellow - Research Associate - Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (JHUSOM), JHU Baltimore, United States

Candidates with a doctoral degree (Ph.D. or M.D. or both) and a strong background in cellular/molecular neuroscience or experimental neuropathology are encouraged to apply. Experience with *in vivo* models/procedures, anatomical methods and molecular techniques are essential. To apply please provide a cover letter (with a statement of prior experience and research interests), CV, and contact information for 3 references to Dr Vassilis Koliatsos at koliat@jhmi.edu.

IMPORTANT LINKS

To renew your SAIS Membership please visit: <https://saimmunology.org.za/membership.htm>

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

Thank you.

Kind regards

Clement Adu-Gyamfi