

# Immunology Program Newsletter

The University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and UT MD Anderson Cancer Center

August 2008

<http://gsbs.uth.tmc.edu>

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Dear Immunology Program Members,

The Immunology Program is continuing its long tradition of training graduate students for successful careers in the biomedical sciences and related fields. I am pleased to report that the Program received accolades during its major 5-year review at the GSBS this year, thanks to the excellence and dedication of Program students and faculty. Program students have traveled nationally and internationally to present research, and have published an impressive number of papers in the past year. Immunology students have also captured several competitive awards within and outside the institution. We welcomed two new faculty members to the Program. In addition, several talented new students joined the Program, continuing the upward growth in Program membership in recent years. The Program was delighted to provide three travel awards this year to support and encourage student meeting presentations. I hope you will enjoy the Program updates found within. I wish you all the best of luck in your research during the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

Stephanie S. Watowich, Ph.D.  
Immunology Program Director

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## 2008 Immunology Program Travel Awards

Tae-Kon Kim (*Dr. Krishna Komanduri*)  
Robert Park (*Dr. Larry Kwak*)  
Meenal Sinha (*Dr. Rick Wetzel*)

## 2007-2008 Graduate Student Awards

### **2006-2010 Faculty & Alumni Merit Fellowship Award**

Lenka Hurton (*Dr. Laurence Cooper*)

### **2007 Presidents' Research Scholars**

Athanasia D. Panopoulos (*Dr. Stephanie S. Watowich*)

### **2007 Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Mini Symposium Poster Competition**

Melanie McGill (*Dr. Steve Norris*) - 3rd place

### **2007 Keystone Symposium Scholarship**

Yen-Michael Hsu (*Dr. Xin Lin*)

### **2007 Society of Chinese Bioscientists of America Symposium Competition - Graduate School in Basic Science Research Category**

Yen-Michael Hsu (*Dr. Xin Lin*) - 1st place

(*Professor Alexander Yeu-Ming Wang Memorial Scholarship*)

### **2007 Vivian L. Smith Award for Outstanding Young Immunologists, Center for Cancer Immunology Research, MDACC**

Pornpimon Angkasekwinai (*Dr. Chen Dong*)

Dipyaman Ganguly (*Dr. Michel Gilliet*)

### **2007 Schissler Foundation M. D. Anderson Fellowship in Cancer Research**

Yen-Michael Hsu (*Dr. Xin Lin*)

### **2007 Schissler Foundation Fellowship in Genetics of Human Diseases**

Yen-Michael Hsu (*Dr. Xin Lin*)

### **2008 Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences T32 predoctoral training grant**

Lenka Hurton (*Dr. Laurence Cooper*)

### **2008 Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research, Minority Supplement (NIH)**

Tania Rodriguez (*Dr. Patrick Hwu*)

**2008 UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Center Trainee Recognition Day Competitor**  
Yen-Michael Hsu (*Dr. Xin Lin*) – 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
(Category: Graduate Student Basic Science Research)

Lenka Hurton (*Dr. Laurence Cooper*) – 1st place  
(Category: Graduate Student Clinical/Translational)

**2008 Toshi Nikaidoh Leadership and Service Award**  
Yen-Michael Hsu (*Dr. Xin Lin*)

**2008 Robert W. and Pearl Wallis Knox Charitable Foundation Scholarship**  
Yen-Michael Hsu (*Dr. Xin Lin*)

**2008 NIH-NIAID Keystone Symposia Scholarship**  
Robert Park (*Dr. Larry Kwak*)

**2008 NK and NKT Cell Biology Keystone Symposia Scholarship**  
Eliseo Castillo (*Dr. Kimberly Schluns*)

**2008 Travel award for The NIH National Graduate Student Research Festival**  
Pornpimon Angkasekwinai (*Dr. Chen Dong*)

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### 2007-2008 Student Meeting Presentations

**Pornpimon Angkasekwinai** (*Dr. Chen Dong*)  
Poster, Center for Cancer Immunology Research, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, 2007.

**Pornpimon Angkasekwinai** (*Dr. Chen Dong*)  
Poster, 15th Annual Meeting of The International Cytokine Society, San Francisco, CA, 2007.

**Eliseo Castillo** (*Dr. Kimberly Schluns*)  
International Congress of Immunology, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, 2007.

**Lenka Hurton** (*Dr. Laurence Cooper*)  
Poster, 49th American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting, 2007.

**Tae Kon Kim** (*Dr. Krishna Komanduri*)  
Poster, 49th American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting, 2007.

**Tae Kon Kim** (*Dr. Krishna Komanduri*)  
Poster presentation at MASIR meeting, La Plagne, France, 2008

**Eliseo Castillo** (*Dr. Kimberly Schluns*)  
NK and NKT Cell Biology Keystone Symposia, Keystone, CO, 2008.

**Gustavo Martinez** (*Dr. Chen Dong*)  
Poster and Oral Presentation, RIKEN Research Center for Allergy and Immunology International summer program, Yokohama, Japan, 2008.

**Robert Park** (*Dr. Larry Kwak*)  
Poster, Keystone Symposia Global Health Series, Banff, Alberta, Canada, 2008.

**Tania Rodriguez** (*Dr. Patrick Hwu*)  
Poster, Keystone Symposium in Cancer Immunotherapy, Alberta, Canada, 2007

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### Student Publications (2007-2008)

Nurieva R, Yang XO, **Martinez G**, Zhang Y, **Panopoulos AD**, Ma L, Schluns K, Tian Q, Watowich SS, Jetten AM, Dong C. 2007. Essential autocrine regulation by IL-21 in the generation of inflammatory T cells. *Nature* 448:480-483.

Kile BT, **Panopoulos AD**, Stirzaker RA, Hacking DF, Tahtamouni LH, Willson TA, Mielke LA, Henley KJ, Zhang JG, Wicks IP, Stevenson WS, Nurden P, Watowich SS, Justice MJ. 2007. Mutations in the cofilin partner Aip1/Wdr1 cause autoinflammatory disease and macrothrombocytopenia. *Blood* 10:2371-2380.

Yang XO, **Panopoulos AD**, Nurieva R, Chang SH, Wang D, Watowich SS, Dong C. 2007. STAT3 regulates cytokine-mediated generation of inflammatory helper T cells. *J. Biol. Chem.* 282:9358-9363.

**Angkasekwinai P**, Park H, Wang YH, Wang YH, Chang SH, Corry DB, Liu YJ, Zhu Z, Dong C. 2007. Interleukin 25 promotes the initiation of proallergic type 2 responses. *J. Exp. Med.* 204:1509-1517.

Wang YH, **Angkasekwinai P**, Lu N, Voo KS, Arima K, Hanabuchi S, Hippe A, Corrigan CJ, Dong C, Homey B, Yao Z, Ying S, Huston DP, Liu YJ. 2007. IL-25 augments type 2 immune responses by enhancing the expansion and functions of TSLP-DC activated Th2 memory cells. *J. Exp. Med.* 204:1837-1847

**Van Nguyen T**, Puebla-Osorio N, Pang H, **Dujka ME**, Zhu C. 2007. DNA damage-induced cellular senescence is sufficient to suppress tumorigenesis: A mouse model. *J. Exp. Med.* 204:1453-1461.

Natzke AM, **Shaw JL**, **McKeller MR**, Emo KL, Mullen CA. 2007. Hematopoietic stem cell recipients do not develop post-transplantation immune tolerance to antigens present on minimal residual disease. *Biol.*

Blood Marrow Transplant. 13:34-45.

Connelly MA, Moulton RA, Smith AK, Lindsey DR, **Sinha M**, Wetsel RA, Jagannath C. 2007. Mycobacteria-primed macrophages and dendritic cells induce an up-regulation of complement C5a anaphylatoxin receptor (CD88) in CD3+ murine T cells. *J. Leukoc. Biol.* 81:212-20.

Lande R, **Gregorio J**, Facchinetti V, Chatterjee B, Wang YH, Homey B, Cao W, Wang YH, Su B, Nestle FO, Zal T, Mellman I, Schröder JM, Liu YJ, Gilliet M. 2007. Plasmacytoid dendritic cells sense self-DNA coupled with antimicrobial peptide. *Nature* 449:564-9.

Yang XO, Pappu BP, Nurieva R, Akimzhanov A, Kang HS, Chung Y, Ma L, Shah B, **Panopoulos AD**, Schluns KS, Watowich SS, Tian Q, Jetten AM, Dong C. 2008. T helper 17 lineage differentiation is programmed by orphan nuclear receptors ROR alpha and ROR gamma. *Immunity* 28:29-39.

Pappu BP, **Angkasekwinai P**, Dong C. 2008. Regulatory mechanisms of helper T cell differentiation: new lessons learned from interleukin 17 family cytokines. *Pharmacol. Ther.* 117:374-84.

Campbell-Anson RE, Kentor D, Wang YJ, Bushnell KM, **Li Y**, Vence LM, Radvanyi LG. 2008. A new approach for the large-scale generation of mature dendritic cells from adherent PBMC using roller bottle technology. *J. Immune Based Ther. Vaccines.* 6:1.

**Robertson J**, Wu J, Arends J, Zhou C, Adrogué HE, Chan JT, Lou Y. 2008. Spontaneous recovery from early glomerular inflammation is associated with resistance to anti-GBM glomerulonephritis: tolerance and autoimmune tissue injury. *J. Autoimmun.* 30:246-56.

**Panopoulos AD**, Watowich SS. 2008. Granulocyte colony-stimulating factor: Molecular mechanisms of action during steady state and 'emergency' hematopoiesis. *Cytokine*, 42:277-88

**Park HJ**, S.S. Neelapu. Developing idiotype vaccines for lymphoma: from preclinical studies to phase III clinical trials. *Br J Haematol*, 2008.

Ni X, Richmond HM, Liao XM, Decker WK, **Shiue LH**, Shpall EJ, Duvic M. 2008. Induction of T-Cell Responses against Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphomas Ex Vivo by Autologous Dendritic Cells Transfected with Amplified Tumor mRNA. *J. Invest. Dermatol.*, in press

**Martinez GJ**, Nurieva RI, Yang XO, Dong C. Regulation and Function of Proinflammatory TH17 Cells. *The Year in Immunology*. 2008. In press.

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Mark your calendars for GSBS Recruitment, 2009

Jan 29-31, 2009

Feb 12-14, 2009

Mar 12-14, 2009

Apr 2-4, 2009