The Irish Society for Immunology (ISI) is committed to promoting the public understanding of immunology in Ireland. Each year this society makes an award to an outstanding Irish immunologist in recognition of their major contribution to the understanding of Immunology and health improvement. Thus, a major component of the award ceremony is a public lecture by the awardee on his or her work and how it pertains to health. This year, the ISI will present the award to an outstanding Irish Immunologist working abroad.

The ISI are pleased to announce that this year’s recipient of the award is Professor Adrian Hill, a Wellcome Principal Research Fellow and Professor of Human Genetics and Chairman of the Centre for Clinical Vaccinology and Tropical Medicine at Oxford University.

Professor Hill’s research investigates genetic susceptibility to infectious disease and applies this to vaccine design. He has pioneered new approaches to vaccine development and is currently undertaking clinical trials in Europe and Africa of new tuberculosis, hepatitis and malaria vaccines made by his laboratory in Oxford.

Professor Hill will deliver an ISI/Irish Times/Royal Dublin Society (RDS) Science Today lecture entitled: ”Do It Yourself Vaccine Design” in The Library, RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, on Thursday, 10th May 2007, from 7.30-8.30pm.

This year’s public lecture by Professor Hill will mark the ISI’s contribution to the “Day of Immunology” which was celebrated on 29th April, 2007. This event organized by The European Federation of Immunological Societies (www.efis.org) in an effort to promote the public awareness of immunology both in Europe and globally.
“WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OF THE IMMUNE SYSTEM: HOW YOUR BODY SEEKS AND DESTROYS INVADERS”

The ISI has organised a series of Schools Talks, in association with the RDS, as part of their contribution to the global “Day of Immunology.” These talks are aimed at second level students and hope to stimulate both an interest in and understanding of immunology in these students.

An understanding of immunology in the education system is of vital importance in equipping students with the knowledge to make better health decisions now and later in life. Students will learn of the exciting new research in Ireland and how it may lead to new therapies. Other far reaching effects that may result from such an initiative may include more informative decision making in vaccinating future generations.

We as immunologists should try to inspire young pupils to pursue a life of scientific inquiry as they represent the next generation of researchers. Immunologists who share their expertise in a simple fashion will make a strong impression by bringing awareness and understanding to the students. Introducing the study of immunology to early education will offer opportunities for further study in higher education. Hopefully, some of the brightest students will be inspired to later study immunology.

ISI Schools Talks entitled: “Weapons of mass destruction – how the body seeks and destroys invaders” will be held on Friday, 11th May 2007, from 10.00am to 1.00pm in The Concert Hall, RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Ireland.

For further information on either the ISI Public Lecture Award or ISI Schools Talks, please contact:

Ms. Louise McCormack, Administrator, ISI: louise.mccormack@ucd.ie

Dr Michelle Armstrong, Secretary, ISI: michelle.armstrong@ucd.ie

Prof. Cliona O’Farrelly, President, ISI: glenlodge@eircom.net

Please see page 8 of this issue for a list of speakers at the ISI Schools Talks.
The ISI/UIG joint symposium entitled “Pathogen Interactions with the Immune System” took place in the beautiful environs of Stranmillis College, Belfast on September 21\textsuperscript{st}-22\textsuperscript{nd}, 2006. Much interest has been recently focused on the molecular cross-talk between pathogens and their host cells, as the elucidation of these interactions are vital in our quest to understand the molecular basis of disease.

Excellent presentations were delivered over the two day event. The audience gained a greater understanding of TB pathogenesis (Peter Anderson) and allergies from Pat Holt. The signalling session in particular was very informative – we learned how the vaccinia virus cleverly exploits the host’s immune system. Doug Goldenbock talked of the trials and tribulations on working with hemazoin. The cooperative molecular and cellular networks that regulate toll-like receptor inflammatory responses was discussed by Ian Sabroe. Luke O’ Neill gave us an invaluable insight into the commercialisation route of scientific research.

**PRIZE WINNERS!!**

Best Student Poster Prize: Caroline Sutton (TCD).

Best Student Oral Presentation Prize: Michael Carty (TCD).

Well done to all the prize winners. The dinner was most enjoyable and was a great opportunity to catch up with fellow Immunologists over a good meal and a few drinks. All in all, it was an extremely enjoyable and informative meeting and thanks you all the members of the UIG and ISI committees who made this all possible. Looking forward to seeing you all at the next ISI Annual Meeting on 13-14\textsuperscript{th}, September, in DCU in 2007.

See if can you spot any familiar faces on page 6 of this issue!
ISI ANNUAL MEETING,
DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY,

“IMMUNOREGULATION AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR DISEASE CONTROL”

This year the ISI will hold their annual research meeting in Dublin City University, on 13-14th September, 2007. Substantial student prizes will be offered for “Best Poster” and “Best Oral presentation.” The ISI banquet dinner will be held on Thursday evening in the 1838 restaurant, in Albert College, DCU.

Sessions for the meeting will include:

1. Cytokines and inflammation in disease pathogenesis.
2. Autoimmunity.
4. T- Regulatory cells.

Confirmed speakers:

Rick Bucala (Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, USA).

Evelyn Camon (European Bioinformatics Institute, Cambridge, UK).

Ester de Jong (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands).

Rick Maizels (University of Edinburgh, Scotland).

Kingston Mills (Trinity College, Dublin).

Paul Moynagh (NUI, Maynooth, Co. Kildare).

Caroline Jefferies (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Dublin).

Padraic Fallon (Institute of Molecular Medicine, St James’s Hospital, Trinity College, Dublin).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:
UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Impact of the Environment on Innate Immunity - At the Defence Frontier - The Biology of Innate Immunity
22-27 April 2007, Universitätszentrum Obergurgl, Austria.

4th International Conference Vaccines for Enteric Diseases

Maintaining stem cells and the regulation of their differentiation
27 April 2007, BioPark, Hertfordshire, UK.

International Workshop on Tuberculosis Vaccines
13-17 May 2007, Cuba.

AAI - British Society for Immunology (BSI) Special Symposium:
Signal Transduction in the Immune System
19 May 2007, 12:30PM, Room A201/202, Miami Beach Convention Center, USA.

ESF-Wellcome Trust Conference, Animal Biotechnology and its Applications to Animal and Human Health
14-16 June 2007, Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, Hinxton, UK.
7th Symposium on Fish Immunology  
17-23 June 2007, Stirling, Scotland.

Pattern-recognition receptors in human disease  
8-10 August 2007 Queens College, University of Cambridge, UK.

13th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF IMMUNOLOGY ImmunoRio 2007  
21-25 August 2007, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Cell Adhesion in the Immune system  
29-30 June 2007, Caesar Center of Advanced European Studies and Research, Bonn, Germany.

New Frontiers in Cancer Immunotherapy  

2007 International Congress on Respiratory Viruses  
20-22 July 2007, Cheyenne Mountain Resort, Colorado Springs, USA.

11th European Meeting - Complement in Human Disease  
8-11 September 2007, Cardiff, Wales, UK.

The 50th Anniversary of the Discovery of Interferons  

Malaria Vaccines for the World  
17-19 September 2007, Royal Society of Medicine, London.

1st International Immunonutrition Workshop  
3-5 October 2007, Hotel Abba Acteon, Valencia, Spain.

Cytokines in Health and Disease Fifteenth Annual Conference of The International Cytokine Society  

A NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

Hi all. I hope you enjoyed this edition of the ISI newsletter which is now published three times per year. We are always happy to publish any of your articles you’d like to send to us, as long as it will be of interest to our readers. Those of you attending conferences could write a meeting report and young researchers are encouraged to submit articles highlighting their area of research. Illustrations and cartoons are particularly welcomed. All articles should be emailed to the either the editor, Christine.Loscher@dcu.ie or the assistant editor, Sarah Higgins at shiggin@tcd.ie. We look forward to hearing from you all soon.

Also accompanying this issue of the Newsletter:

– Photos from the ISI/UIG Joint Meeting, 2006.

– Details for the Immunology Postgraduate Masterclass, which will be held in NUIM on July 16th, 2007 with Phil Hodgkin.

– Details for the ISI School’s Talks which will be held in the RDS from 10.00am – 1.00pm on 11th May, 2007.

– The current ISI Membership form for anyone who would like to join the society.
Some faces from the ISI-UGI conference, Belfast 2006
The Immunology Postgraduate Masterclass aims to give early stage researchers a chance to build professional networks that will help support their career progression and to provide a relaxed academic forum to present their data and to learn from an outstanding immunologist.

This year’s masterclass will be led by Professor Phil Hodgkin, Head of the Immunology Division of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Victoria, Australia.

Abstracts for poster presentations are invited from postgraduate students. Abstracts should be written in Times New Roman font size 12 and should include a title, a complete list of authors and their affiliations and a summary of the research that does not exceed 250 words. Please send abstracts by e-mail to Loretta Jennings (Loretta.M.Jennings@nuim.ie) by June 1, 2007.
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OF THE IMMUNE SYSTEM – HOW YOUR BODY SEEKS AND DESTROYS INVADERS

IRISH SOCIETY FOR IMMUNOLOGY – SCHOOLS PRESENTATIONS
FRIDAY, 11TH MAY, 2007: THE CONCERT HALL, RDS 10AM – 1PM

10.00am Prof Cliona O’Farrelly.
St Vincent’s University Hospital, Dublin.
“Good Bugs, Bad Bugs: - What do they look like? Can your body tell the difference?”

10.30am Dr Derek Doherty.
National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
“The Immune System – The Body’s Armed Forces and their Weapons.”

11am Break

11.30am Dr Niall Conlon.
St James’s Hospital, Dublin.
"Allergy; a plague for our times?"

12.00pm Dr Emma O’Neill.
Veterinary Medicine, University College Dublin.
“Harnessing the Immune System – To Treat Our Pets.”

12.30pm Dr Michelle Armstrong
Conway Institute, University College Dublin.
“Immunology on the Brain!”

ALL WELCOME
IRISH SOCIETY FOR IMMUNOLOGY
MEMBERSHIP FORM 2006 – 2007

NAME:

INSTITUTION:

ADDRESS (WORK):

TELEPHONE (WORK):

E-MAIL ADDRESS (WORK):

Areas of Interest (4 Keywords):

Technologies Employed in Research:

If you are willing to promote Immunology in Ireland, Please tick □ √ to indicate your preferred mode:

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Full Membership      €50.00
Student Membership   €25.00

Membership entitlements:

- Free registration for the Annual Conference
- Reduced or exempted registration for other ISI meetings and workshops
- Free admission to ISI events (Public Lectures, etc.)
- Reciprocal membership with the Ulster Immunology Group
- Inclusion in the ISI directory
- Free subscription to the ISI Newsletter
- Eligibility for travel bursaries (Students Only)
- Qualification for Oral and Poster Prizes at ISI meetings (Students Only)

Please return separate forms for each delegate with a cheque payable to “The Irish Society for Immunology” to the ISI Secretary:

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UCD Conway Institute of Biomolecular & Biomedical Research,
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