Dr. Robek Receives 5-Year NIH Grant

Michael Dr. Robek, Ph.D., Associate Professor in the Department of Immunology and Microbial Disease, has received a five-year, $2,013,042 grant from the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in support of his work entitled, “Highly Attenuated Vesiculovirus-based Vectors as HBV Therapeutic Vaccines.”

Dr. O’Connor Receives NIH R21 Grant

William O’Connor, Jr., Ph.D., Assistant Professor in the Department of Immunology and Microbial Disease, has received a two-year, $434,500 grant from the National Institutes of Health in support of his work entitled, “Novel Functions of TH17 Cytokines: Reciprocal Regulation of Non-canonical WNTs.”

Dr. Hazlett Receives New NIH Grant Funding

Karsten R.O. Hazlett, Ph.D., Associate Professor in the Department of Immunology and Microbial Disease, will serve as the AMC Principal Investigator for a newly-awarded five-year, multi-institutional NIH/NIAID R01 grant entitled, “Correlates of Vaccine-Induced, Tunable-Protection in an Outbred Tularemia Model.” Dr. Hazlett will receive a total of $977,686 of the $3.8M award.

Dr. MacNamara Receives Two Awards

Kate C. MacNamara, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in the Department of Immunology and Microbial Disease, has been awarded a two-year, $60,000 Aplastic Anemia and MDS (Myelodysplastic Syndromes) Foundation, Inc. grant in support of her research entitled, “Macrophages in the Pathogenesis of Aplastic Anemia.”

Dr. MacNamara also received a 2016 AAI (American Association of Immunologists) Careers in Immunology Fellowship. This fellowship program supports the career development of both AAI regular and trainee members by providing one year of salary support to predoctoral students and postdoctoral fellows. This award has been designated to support Postdoctoral Fellow Julianne Smith, and begins September 1, 2016.
Dr. Robek Named Among Top Peer Reviewers for Two Consecutive Years

Michael D. Robek, Ph.D., was named as one of the top 25 reviewers for the *Journal of Virology* (JVI). JVI is the Number 1 cited journal in virology. The JVI editors and reviewers have worked hard to ensure that the review process is constructively critical, fair, and objective. The average time from manuscript submission to the editors’ first decision letter is 26 days. However, the top 25 reviewers were exceptional in the total number of manuscripts reviewed within 14 days or less, and accepting invitations to review more than 80% of the time.

Dr. Metzger Reappointed to Two Editorial Boards

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., was reappointed to the editorial board of *Infection and Immunity* (IAI) for the American Society for Microbiology. The term is from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Dr. Metzger was also reappointed to the editorial board of *Clinical and Vaccine Immunology* (CVI). The term is from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Peer-reviewed Publications


Conferences, Meetings, and Study Sections

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., served as a reviewer for the Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program Discovery Award in Bethesda, MD, November 5, 2015.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., served as a reviewer for the Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program—Healthcare Acquired Infection Reduction via teleconference on November 12, 2015.

Dana R. Crawford, Ph.D., gave two poster presentations entitled, “Increased Female Sensitivity to CCl4 Oxidative Stress and Aflatoxin B1 Toxicity in a GSTA3 Knockout Mouse Model of Liver Carcinogenesis,” and “Degraded and Oxidized Mitochondrial Polynucleotides as Novel Macrophage Inflammatory Triggers,” at the 22nd Annual Society for Redox Biology and Medicine Meeting in Boston, MA, November 18-21, 2015.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., was invited to give a seminar entitled, “Innate Protection Against Influenza Virus Infection,” at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE, December 8-10, 2015.

James R. Drake, Ph.D., was invited to give a presentation entitled, “MHC Class II Subsets in B-Cell Immunology,” at the University of Montreal in Montreal, Canada, December 10-11, 2015.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., served as Chair for the Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program, Investigator-Initiated Research Awards teleconference on December 18, 2015.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., served as a reviewer for the Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program Discovery Award via teleconference on December 18, 2016.

Michael D. Robek, Ph.D., served on the Review Committee for German Research Foundation Transregional Collaborative Research Center (German equivalent of NIH) in Heidelberg, Germany, January 19-20, 2016.

Michael D. Robek, Ph.D., was invited to give a seminar entitled, “Antiviral Mechanisms of Type III Interferon,” at the Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, IN, February 4, 2016.


Michael D. Robek, Ph.D., was an invited participant in the NIH Workshop Cures for Chronic Hepatitis B Infection in Rockville, MD, April 27-28, 2016.

Congratulations!

Travis Walrath and Dora Aiello welcomed their son, Domenic James Walrath 5lbs., 14 oz., on January 2, 2016

Dates to Remember

August 1, 2016—CIMD Annual Research Retreat
October 24-27, 2016—19th Annual Upstate New York Immunology Conference (NYIC)
November 10, 2016—Annual Theobald Smith Lecture
December 13, 2016—CIMD Holiday Party
We are pleased to announce that registration is now open for the 19th Annual Upstate New York Immunology Conference. This year’s schedule of events includes: two keynote speakers—Drs. Wayne Yokoyama (Washington University) and Thomas Braciale (University of Virginia), three workshops, a panel geared towards trainees, four symposia, and 20 oral poster presentations, as well as several social events. Space is limited so please register early. For a complete schedule, visit the web site at:

http://www.amc.edu/NYIC/index.cfm

Questions?
Contact Dawn Bellville at nyic@mail.amc.edu