

Zoomerang Survey Results

2007 Meeting Survey AND 2008 SLB Membership Survey

1. Are you a current member of SLB?		
Yes	244	93%
No	18	7%
Total	262	100%

2. What is your current job title?		
261 Responses		

3. Did you attend the 2007 SLB Annual Meeting?		
Yes	63	24%
No	199	76%
Total	262	100%

4. If you attended the 2007 Annual Meeting, please rate the following according to this scale: 1=Excellent, 2=Good, 3=Average, 4=Below Average, 5=Poor

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	1	2	3	4	5
Scientific Content	20 32%	31 49%	5 8%	4 6%	3 5%
Audio-visuals	10 16%	29 46%	17 27%	5 8%	2 3%
Poster Sessions	5 8%	31 50%	18 29%	8 13%	0 0%
Location	16 25%	23 37%	16 25%	7 11%	1 2%
Speakers	26 41%	27 43%	3 5%	5 8%	2 3%
Facilities and accommodations	20 32%	19 30%	16 25%	8 13%	0 0%
Meeting organization (flow of sessions, scheduling)	20 32%	19 31%	15 24%	8 13%	0 0%
Banquet	11 20%	14 26%	20 37%	7 13%	2 4%
Refreshments	14 23%	21 34%	19 31%	4 6%	4 6%

5. If you did NOT attend the 2007 Annual Meeting, why not?

Scheduling conflict	103	52%
Scientific content did not interest me	26	13%
Location was difficult to get to	23	12%
Registration fee was too high	16	8%
Destination was cost-prohibitive	31	16%
Other, please specify	42	21%

Response

travel is difficult for me at this time

Location

insufficient funding for travel

Already attended EB2007 and International congress

Cost constraint for budget

didn't have travel funds available

combination of funding issues and research success

Do not have my own grant money

retired member

Teaching/research load conflict

didn't get the visa in time for the meeting
constantly need to write grants
Too many meetings
Do not find attendance at large meetings to be a v
Unavailability of new FYf unding in Oct./Nov
lack of funding at the time
boss limits us to one meeting a year
no data ready for submission by the deadline
switched lab and new PI not a member of SLB
retired
Do not recall
lack of travel funds
did not have material to show
Budgetary and time constraints
physical disability pending surgery
SOMe family issues
competitive exams were announced
budget restriction, independent of location
Retired
Retired, no longer active in research
Organization of meeting leaves alot to be desired
too many meetings not enough hours. priority
Too many meetings
retired
I don't attend these types of meetings anymore.
We needed to attend another meeting
Competing priorities
Medical difficulty to traveling
Received grants to attend other meeting
tend to limit travel due to work and teaching load
Too many other meetings to attend during the year
N/A

6. Additional comments on 2007 Annual Meeting

34 Responses

Response
 I am a veterinary immunologist. The SLB meeting often conflicts with the AABP or the AAVI meetings.

It did not seem as well organized as previous year.

I would like to participate but usually do not get around to set aside the time for a transatlantic trip.

The meeting is too small to maintain a energetic society. I think the society must do a better job to recruit members, find more outstanding speakers, and organize a better meeting for attracting more people to the meeting.

N/A

Boston is a very costly place to find accommodation. Please select smaller cities/ cheaper places so that more people can join.

It was excellent, as always

Attendance was very low compared to previous ~5 meetings. Organization suffered from the absence of Debbie. Very few posters and many people that submitted abstracts did not attend. Consequently, the value of hte meeting was low compared to previous years. Some changes in refreshments were unexpected (eg., cash bar without two drink tickets) but these changes are not significant.

I felt that the meeting only provided the very bare minimum to the attendees. The facilities seemed sparse, the refreshments were a bit strange (one session all bagels, the next all ballpark junk food) and the banquet was really stark. I was stunned that we had to purchase tickets for drinks, which consisted of cheap wine served in plastic cups! The ambience was cold and barren. The food was "OK", again served on plasticware, which I considered very tacky. This is hardly what I would expect for the \$500-plus registration fee. Guest tickets to the banquet cost \$125. I feel very sorry for anyone who paid that price for what seemed like a \$10 value. The audiovisuals were problematic. Each meeting room should have had someone available to monitor the situation. This was not the case and in some sessions there were lighting problems or speakers that could not be heard. No one was available to fix these problems.

Overall the meeting seemed "thrown together" and I was left the feeling that I had grossly overpaid for the experience. The scientific content was fairly good, but there did not seem to be the opportunities for interaction that I've experienced in previous meetings and there was no sense that any effort was made generate any enthusiasm. If this was the only SLB meeting I had attended, I wouldn't consider attending SLB meetings in the future.

thought the topic was an interesting choice

Usually JLB meeting conflicts with other meeting I attend and has for several years.

It was very frustrating (and financially draining) that of 3 of my trainees who submitted abstracts for travel awards NONE of them got one. While I allowed them all to come to the meeting (and I came as well) I think it is unlikely that I will be able to do that in the future.

I have made this point many times in the past, October is a very difficult month for new FY funding for travel/meetings.

audiovisuals in the afternoon sessions were unacceptable - a portable screen with 30 rows of chairs - no one could see the data being presented.

morning coffee at the 8:00 session is necessary. ideally, there would be breakfast/snack at the 8 am session.

I just felt you had a lot of the big wig speakers at the 2006 meeting and not too many at the 2007 meeting.

The poster sessions were poorly attended, partly I think because there was no subsidised bar. People therefore took some food quickly then left after a long day of scientific sessions.

The meeting needs to be a class act. The banquet, especially, was outrageously poor..and yet guests/spouses were charged \$125!!! Someone has absolutely no respect for SLB. The refreshments should be mixed to accommodate vegetarians, people who don't eat high fat, or high sugar snacks. If this trend toward low class ambiance continues, meeting attendance will drop to double digits.

Good meeting.

I look forward to future joint meetings with the endotoxin society (as in 2006). The 2006 SLB was one of the best meetings I have ever attended.

Two students from my lab went to the 2007 Annual Meeting

none

I did not attend the banquet because it is on the last evening and conflicted with my schedule. I suggest having the banquet on the evening of the second day, so more people can attend (having paid for it), or charge it separately.

I read the abstracts ..Excellent science

No

None

If you have poster sessions, do more to encourage attendance. Otherwise, the poster presenters are wasting their time.

I would like to attend more of meetings containing infection and immunity

The facilities were terrible, and the staff very non-responsive to requests. We asked to have a room set up and were told not to worry, it would be done just in time. Of course it was not and the session was done without audiovisuals for the first speaker, while the support staff ran around. It was very annoying that they did not do this when asked, but merely sat behind the desk with a smug look that things were under control.

much-much improved

I am mainly interested in leukocyte biology and the focus of the meeting was diluted by a lot of cancer talks. Though it was interesting to hear about research in this field, it left much less time for topics of interest to me like inflammation in sepsis/ microbial infections. But the organization/ food/stay was excellent. Thank you.

Great meeting, attendance seemed a bit low. Excellent relevant meeting which took advantage of the excellent intellectual resources in the Boston area.

Thank you for very interesting meeting and organising banquet in museum!

Keeping the concurrent sessions on time is crucial to being able to take advantage of all the talks one wants to hear. This was sometimes a problem

The timing of the sessions and poster sessions makes it difficult to have meals with colleagues without missing sessions.

7. Suggestions for future Annual Meetings (locations, themes, content, et al)

102 Responses

Response

Smoother organization of sessions & speakers
Washington DC or Baltimore MD would be easiest for me, but that is personal

Chicago is a good site, plenty of hotel rooms and central

The location was very expensive this year (Boston).

Themes and content: macrophages, phagocytosis, cytokines, inflammation

themes are always very well selected

LA, Seattle, Vancouver, Chicago, San Diego, Miami, San Francisco

more sessions relevant to lymphoid cells would attract me - current meeting is heavily focused on myeloid cells.

Midwestern location

Cardiovascular Immunology, more open access to symposium presentations

a cardiovascular based meeting

Diabetes, Insulin resistance and inflammation; obesity and inflammation

New York City as a location so our junior staff can attend or Atlantic City

Emphasis on Innate immunity

Location suggestion: Seattle, denver

Should not conflict with IEIS meeting (august 2008), Toll meeting (Portugal, sept 2008?)

Location suggestion:

San Antonio, Texas

looking forward to the joint meeting with other societies in Lisbon

host-pathogen

Smaller cities, cheaper places will be more appropriate place. Immune tolerance is my favorite theme with sub-sessions including- Tolerance and transplantation, Tolerance and Infection, Tolerance and tumor growth etc
Chicago, Minneapolis. Inflammation, apoptosis, metalloproteases

Continued focus on innate/adaptive immune interactions

Phagocytosis, more host pathogen interactions and innate immunity.

innate adaptive immune cross-talk

Choose locations outside USA

must be a Program Committee/ head that helps generate ideas to present to President etc?
also involvement of a member at local site is good can bring in some local speakers who would otherwise not come.

Hotel cost at some locations can be a factor...
Generally if I could go I would as all of above are ok with me.

Every SLB meeting I have attended has been well planned and executed and the sites are part of the attraction. Especially: Churchill College, Cambridge, Maui, in 2001 (the latter not well attended but fine meeting)

Locations and content was good in the past...

Tag team event with other meetings/societies, have more satellite meetings to bring in a crowd. Cheaper cities that require only one airplane to get to.

As a long-standing SLB member and attendee of many meetings in the past, may I suggest a more democratic approach in selection of Plenary Session topics? Proposals should be invited from the membership at-large and a Program Committee should select topics/sessions based on overall merit and related subject-specialty areas of proposals submitted within the framework of 'Leukocyte Biology'. The selection of the scientific program for SLB annual meetings should have a more 'inclusive' approach.

The alternation with European locations, which the society seems to have stopped, was a very good idea. The European locations should be started again

sessions on focused, organ-specific issues, e.g. neuroimmunology, lung disease, etc.

In a developing country. It's a shame at the very heart of the XXI century to keep this events at in Europe and USA only having members of other parts of the world. What about Mexico, Brazil, Chile or Argentina (the latest with recognised Nobel Prize winners)? Please, we are scientists and we have the responsibility for the ideological change of mentalities as well. Thanks

Hawaii, las vegas, seatle, san francisco

Central U.S.

Tuscon, AZ

Pittsburgh as a location?

See previous question for content (joint mtg with endotoxin society).

Charleston, SC is a great venue.

Recent content has been appropriate for my interests, innate immunity.

San Diego, CA

Theme: Gender differences in immune responses following injury

I have none to suggest.

Location : Vancouver; Same format, themes and content

translational medicine

combine with faseb or clinical reasearch societies

Vaccine Adjuvants, immunotherapy

The meeting in Hawaii a few years ago was great!! New Orleans, Las Vegas, Seattle

innate immune cells and inflammation

Yokohama, Japan

cytokine balance in inflammation

Denver, Santa Fe,

More with neutrophils, signaling

therapeutical applications are needed in th future

Italy would be nice

add a Neuroimmunology section

I've been to the same Royal Sonesta hotel just a few years agon for a SLB meeting. A new place will be more interesting. In many ways (scientific program, location, cost, fun activity, etc), the meeting at San Antonio was better organized.

san francisco

I hope joint meeting with IETIS will be held again in the future

1. If the conference was to be held in Europe more often (e.g. every other year), it may be easier on the non-American members, financially and "Jet-Lag" wise.

We should include STEM cell as a special topic

No

European meeting - e.g. Oxford 2005 excellent

It would be nice to have a sections on neutrophils and immunology

Keep a good balance between cellular and humoral elements in the program. In some of the previous meetings, the program was too dominated by the preferences of local organizers.

Program suggestion:

innate - adaptive cross talk

Paris-France

Locations that are cheap-to-get to destinations (ie, major cities, with lots of flights) would be preferred as that would make it easier for me to visit because of limited travel budget.

occasional meetings in europe (like Oxford 2005)

None

UK, Oxford or Edinburgh

More cohesiveness; poster session during the peak times of the day; fewer of the same names giving oral presentations. How many times do we need to hear the same data from a small number of folks from the SLB clique?

Macrophage activation, New T-cell Networks, The forgotten Neutrophil, B-Cells Jack of all Trades. Cleveland, Baltimore, Austin, Charolett

macrophages in tumors

Bacteria and macrophage interactions, evasion of host immune response related topics

No break between sessions and posters.

Student and PostDoc gathering (like in Cambridge, England.)

Have Jeanette Thorbecke winner give a talk at a lunch event?

More diversified content in the field of neutrophils and inflammation.

location not only in US

Topics:

Comparative Immunology and Evolutionary Implications

Neuroendocrineimmunology

Locations:

Portland, OR

Santa Fe, NM

Flagstaff, AZ

W.DC, chicago.

Get support staff who actually respond to reasonable requests (such as setting up the room 15 minutes prior to the start of a session rather than literal 1 minute)

Crete in Greece

Innate immunity

location somewhere in western part of europe.

Subjects: interaction/signaling of TLR's and complement system

Innate immunity; Europe

Cytokine influence on stem cell differentiation

Chronic infection of dendritic cells and macrophages - impact on properties and functions

Boston/suburbs

autoimmunity theme

vaccines theme

one distinguished key note speaker, renowned for the theme

invite speakers that are not always part of the "circuit" so as to stimulate new ideas and discussion at the sessions.

Themes: Role of leukocytes in pain

joint meetings with Cytokine Society and ISCIR, particularly international meetings are of greater interest

Should be held in a place, where the total cost will be less like air fare, hotel accommodation, etc. Something like a small city.

Leukocyte in Cancer development and treatment

Pls. consider California for the next location. Would like to see more cancer and immunology topics

why sepsis remains such a killer even though we have so much basic information...

Hematopoiesis/stem cells

Europe such Paris, Lausanne, Basel

I usually go to the meetings in Europe and that suits me fine. So every third or second year somewhere in Europe is good.

More meetings in Europe, maybe every third meeting or so.

1. Schedule some of the meetings in Europe
2. Place more emphasis on biochemical aspects of leukocyte function

Europe

San Francisco

I think planning more conjoint meetings with other societies can be more stimulating and well attended .

No special suggestions, I feel the programs are appropriate

Denver, CO

Spain !!!

macrophage polarization. myth or reality?

Joint meeting

Europe, Cell adhesion and migration to inflammation sites, Mechanisms and role of membrane receptors shedding in inflammatory responses

Providence RI- themes co-inhibitory receptors
expression on various leukocytes influence
inflammatory and immune responses.

Canada and Latin America locations

Make SLB Annual Meetings jointly held with other
major meetings e.g. FASEB or AAI

8. If you are a CURRENT SLB MEMBER, please reply to the remaining questions. When in your career did you originally join SLB?

Student	30	12%
Post-Doc	71	29%
Professional	148	59%
Total	249	100%

9. How many years have you been a member of SLB?

Less than 1	21	8%	
	5-Feb	107	43%
	10-May	35	14%
More than 10	86	35%	
Total	249	100%	

10. What was your PRIMARY reason for joining SLB?

Networking	92	37%
Career Advancement	32	13%
Less Expensive Registration Fees at Annual Meeting	33	13%
Education	58	23%
Other, please specify	37	15%
Total	252	100%

11. How well has your membership met your expectations?

Very well	57	23%
Well	117	46%
Somewhat	66	26%

Very little	11	4%
Not at all	1	0%
Total	252	100%

12. How important are these benefits to you? (1=Very Important, 2=Somewhat Important, 3=Not At All Important)			
	1	2	3
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.			
Journal of Leukocyte Biology	179 72%	63 25%	8 3%
Annual Meeting	111 45%	110 45%	26 11%
Networking	121 49%	101 41%	23 9%
Newsletter	29 12%	142 59%	68 28%
Scientific Content of Society Meetings	156 64%	68 28%	19 8%
Opportunities for Student Presentations	89 37%	92 38%	59 25%
Web Site	50 21%	129 54%	62 26%

13. How well is SLB meeting your expectations for these same benefits? (1=Very Well, 2=Somewhat, 3=Poorly)			
	1	2	3
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.			
Journal of Leukocyte Biology	159 69%	63 27%	8 3%
Annual Meeting	92 42%	112 51%	15 7%
Networking	69 31%	128 58%	24 11%
Newsletter	40 19%	143 66%	33 15%
Scientific Content of Society Meetings	98 45%	107 49%	14 6%
Opportunities for Student Presentations	75 34%	114 52%	29 13%
Web Site	49 23%	132 62%	32 15%

14. Please check those features you'd like included on SLB's Web Site:

List Serves	62	26%
Job Postings	158	66%
News of Other Societies' Meetings	150	63%
Ability to Change Your Own Database Information	100	42%
Electronic Newsletter (versus Printed Newsletter)	136	57%
On-line Journal Club	110	46%
Other, please specify	13	5%

15. What are the most effective ways for SLB to communicate to you? (Check all that apply)

Biennial Newsletter	60	24%
Weekly Emails	22	9%
Monthly Emails	197	78%
Other, please specify	12	5%

16. Are you willing to serve on an SLB Committee or Task Force?

Yes	150	58%
No	107	42%
Total	257	100%