



2026 Pre-Program

Monday, September 14th

Information Desk

8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Ballroom Foyer

Special Interest Group Satellites (SIGs):

SIG 1: Immune Exhaustion, from Innate to Adaptive Immunity, and Rejuvenation (8:30am-11:30am)

Room: Ballroom A

Chair: Liwu Li

SIG 2: Naturally Occurring Veterinary Diseases as Models for Human Diseases (8:30am-11:30am)

Room: Ballroom C

Chair: Rosemary Bayless

SIG Attendee Lunch (for SIG registrants only) (11:30am-12:30pm)

Ballroom B

SIG 3: Where and When: Spatiotemporal Determinants of Neutrophil Function (12:30-3:30pm)

Room: Ballroom A

Chair: Ronen Sumagin

SIG 4: Beyond the Tumor Paradigm: The Expanding Biology of Myeloid-Derived Suppressor Cells (12:30-3:30pm)

Room: Ballroom C

Co-Chairs: Jordan Brauner and Katherine Blin

BREAK 3:30-3:45pm

SIG 5: Metabolic Control of Leukocyte Biology in the Tumor Microenvironment (3:45-6:45pm)

Room: Ballroom A

Chair: Hind Rafei

SIG 6: Neuroinflammation Meets Metabolic Disease, T cell Circuits across Brain and Liver (3:45-6:45pm)

Room: Ballroom C

Chair: Smita Iyer

- **Title TBA**, Smita Iyer, *University of Pittsburgh*
- **Title TBA**, Ruth Barrientos, *The Ohio State University*

- **Title TBA**, Dandan Sun, *University of Pittsburgh*
- **Title TBA**, Alexis Stranahan, *Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University*
- **Title TBA**, Candice Brown, *Indiana University School of Medicine*

SLB Council Meeting Dinner (Part 1): 5-9 pm – Executive Boardroom– **By Invitation Only**

59th Annual Society for Leukocyte Biology Meeting

Leukocytes, it's all about location



Tuesday, September 15th

Information Desk

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Ballroom Foyer

JLB Editorial Board Breakfast 7:00am – 8:30 am – Executive Boardroom – **By Invitation Only**

7:00 – 8:00 am Networking Breakfast Ballroom

Hosted by the Engagement and Enrichment Committee, join fellow attendees for this opening breakfast event while discussing a variety of topics.

Breakfast Buffet provided.

8:00 am – 9:15 am	Feature I:	Chairs:	Location:
	Nervous System	Andrew Taylor and Michelle Visser	Ballroom

8:00 am

Innate Immune Cells Regulate Brain and Behavioral Development, Kathryn Lenz, *Ohio State University*

8:25 am

Neuro-immune Niche that Underpins Touch, Daniel Saban, *Duke University School of Medicine*

8:50 am

Mast Cells: The Versatile Conductors of Allergy, Inflammation and Tissue Remodeling, Theoharis Theoharides, *Nova Southeastern University*

9:15 am – 10:30 am Poster Session 1 Ballroom Foyer & Pavillion

Join fellow attendees for a refreshment while browsing the first set of posters.

10:30 am – 11:45 am	Feature II:	Chairs:	Location:
	Mucosal Tissues	TBD	Ballroom

10:30 am
**A Better Overall
Understanding of IL-17
Receptor Signaling in the Oral
Mucosa**, Heather Conti,
University of Toledo

10:55 am
**Extracellular Vesicles:
Regulators of Mucosal
Immune Modulation**, Shannon
Wallet, *University of Florida*

11:20 pm
**Type 3 Immunity in Mucosal
Tissues**, Iyaylo Ivanov,
Columbia University

11:45 am – 12:45 pm Lunch Ballroom Foyer & Pavilion

Join fellow attendees for some social time while enjoying lunch.

12:45 – 2:15 pm Presidential

Scholars

Chairs:

Anne Pereira & Cindy Leifer

Location:

Ballroom

Graduate Student Finalists

12:45 pm
Award Finalist TBD

1:00 pm
Award Finalist TBD

1:15 pm
Award Finalist TBD

Postdoctoral Finalists

1:30 pm
Award Finalist TBD

1:45 pm
Award Finalist TBD

2:00 pm
Award Finalist TBD

15 minute break

2:30 – 4:30 pm

Excellence in

Leukocyte Biology

Chairs:

Anne Pereira & Cindy Leifer

Location:

Ballroom

Early Career Finalists

2:30 pm
Award Finalist TBD

2:50 pm
Award Finalist TBD

3:10 pm
Award Finalist TBD

Mid-Career Finalists

3:30 pm
Award Finalist TBD

3:50 pm
Award Finalist TBD

4:10 pm
Award Finalist TBD

4:30 – 5:45 pm Poster Session 2 Ballroom Foyer & Pavillion

Join fellow attendees for a refreshment (cash bar) while you browse the second set of posters.

5:45 – 6:45 pm

SLB Legacy

Keynote Lecture

SLB Legacy Awardee

Chair:

Elizabeth Kovacs

Location:

Ballroom

Imaging Inflammation and its Resolution, Anna Huttenlocher, *University of Wisconsin-Madison*

6:45 pm – 9:00 pm Opening Dinner Reception, Ballroom Foyer & Pavilion

Join fellow attendees to celebrate coming together at this dinner reception. Mingle, network, and connect with new, and old, friends.

Wednesday, September 16th

Information Desk

8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Ballroom Foyer

7:30 am – 8:30 am Science at Sunrise

Breakfast and Sunrise Focus Session 1: Host Pathogen

7:30 am

Cardiac Complications of Respiratory Virus Infections, Jacob Yount, *Ohio State University*

7:54 am

Selected talk

8:06 am

Selected talk

8:18 am

Selected talk

8:30 am – 9:30 am Focus 2: Autoimmunity

8:30 am

TLRs and MyD88 Activation in Sjogren's Disease, Jill Kramer, *University at Buffalo*

8:54 am

Selected talk

9:06 am

Selected talk

9:18 am

Selected talk

15 minute break

9:45 am – 10:45 am Focus 3: Cancer

9:45 am

Targeting the Tumor Microenvironment to Enhance CAR-based Immunotherapies in Solid Tumors, Hind

10:09 am

Selected talk

10:21 am

Selected talk

10:33 am

Selected talk

Rafei, MD Anderson
Cancer Center

10:45 am – 11:45 pm Focus 4: Omics

10:45 am
**Unique Spatial
Organization Promotes
Local Immunity at the
Oral Barrier**, Drake
Williams, *University of
Minnesota*

11:09 am
Selected talk

11:21 am
Selected talk

11:33 am
Selected talk

11:45 pm – 12:45 pm Lunch Ballroom Foyer & Pavilion
Join fellow attendees for some social time while enjoying lunch.

12:45 pm – 1:45 pm Focus 5: Inflammation

12:45 pm
**Neutrophils,
Inflammation and
Resolution**, Carole
Parent, *University of
Michigan*

1:09 pm
Selected talk

1:21 pm
Selected talk

1:33 pm
Selected talk

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm Focus 6: Drug Therapies

1:45 pm
**Understanding the
Edges of
Homeostasis**,
Andrew Wang, *Yale
University*

2:09 pm
Selected talk

2:21 pm
Selected talk

2:33 pm
Selected talk

15 minute break

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Focus 7: Aging

3:00 pm
**Succinate: An
Emerging**

3:24 pm
Selected talk

3:36 pm
Selected talk

3:48 pm
Selected talk

Gerometabolite?,
Xin Li, *University of
Virginia*

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Focus 8: Trauma Response

4:00 pm	4:24 pm	4:36 pm	4:48 pm
Trauma Immunology: From Mechanisms to Modulation , James Lederer, <i>BWH Harvard</i>	Selected talk	Selected talk	Selected talk

5:00 – 6:15 pm Poster Session 3 Ballroom Foyer & Pavillion

Join fellow attendees for a refreshment (cash bar) while you browse the third set of posters.

6:30 – 8:30 pm Professional Development and MTTC Dinner Workshop

Ballroom

Pre-Registration required

Join this workshop organized by the Professional Development and Members in Transition and Training Committees. A panel discussion will be followed by focused round table groups. Prior RSVP required.

Thursday, September 17th

Information Desk

8:00 am – 2:30 pm

Ballroom Foyer

7:30 – 8:00 am Breakfast

Ballroom Foyer

8:00 – 10:00 am Flash Talks

Ballroom

Organized by the Members in Transition and Training Committee.

Chair: TBD

Topic TBA: Co-Chair: TBA

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Topic TBA: Co-Chair: TBA

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Topic TBA: Co-Chair: TBA

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Topic TBA: Co-Chair: TBA

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Topic TBA: Co-Chair: TBA

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

Selected flash talk

10:00 – 11:15 am Feature III: Skin**Chairs:**

TBD

Location:

Ballroom

10:00 am

**Early Life Immune-Microbe
Crosstalk in Skin**, Tiffany
Scharschmidt, *UCSF*

10:25 am

TBA

10:50 am

**Itchy Immunity via Myeloid IL-
33**, De'Broski Herbert, *Tulane
University***11:15 am – 11:45 am Member Business Meeting & Award Presentations**

Ballroom

Learn about the current status of SLB and JLB and congratulate award winners with the announcement of Presidential Scholars, Excellence in Leukocyte Biology, and onsite flash talk awards.

11:45 am – 1:00 pm Poster Session IV and Lunch sponsored by Biogen Pavilion

Join fellow attendees and browse posters during this final poster session while enjoying lunch. Flash Talk and Undergraduate Posters are presented.

**1:00 pm – 2:15 pm Feature IV:****Chairs:**

Andy Taylor and Michelle Visser

Location:

Ballroom

Cyberspace – AI in Research

1:00 pm

**Decoding Immune
Architecture with Spatial AI**,
Kevin Byrd, *Virginia
Commonwealth University*

1:25 pm

**Single-cell and Spatial
Signatures of Type 1
Diabetes**, Todd Brusko,
University of Florida

1:50 pm

Systems Vaccinology, Bali
Pulendran, *Stanford
University***SLB Council Meeting (Part 2): 3:00-6:00 pm pavilion - By Invitation Only**