



## 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

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

*Room: Ballroom C*

**Chair:** Rosemary Bayless

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

*Ballroom B*

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

*Room: Ballroom A*

**Chair:** Ronen Sumagin

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#### **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 Bline

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**BREAK 3:30-3:45pm**

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

*Room: Ballroom A*

**Chair:** Hind Rafei

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#### **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*

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

59<sup>th</sup> 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: **Nervous System**

**Chairs:**  
Andrew Taylor and Michelle Visser

**Location:**  
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*

### 10:30 am – 11:45 am Feature II: **Mucosal Tissues**

**Chairs:**  
TBD

**Location:**  
Ballroom

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

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

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**, Ivaylo 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 & Pavilion

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

**5:45 – 6:45 pm SLB Legacy**

**Chair:**  
Elizabeth Kovacs

**Location:**  
Ballroom

**Keynote Lecture**

*SLB Legacy Awardee*

**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 <b>Cardiac Complications of Respiratory Virus Infections, Jacob Yount, Ohio State University</b>	7:54 am <b>Selected talk</b>	8:06 am <b>Selected talk</b>	8:18 am <b>Selected talk</b>
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**8:30 am – 9:30 am      Focus 2: Autoimmunity**

8:30 am <b>TLRs and MyD88 Activation in Sjogren's Disease, Jill Kramer, University at Buffalo</b>	8:54 am <b>Selected talk</b>	9:06 am <b>Selected talk</b>	9:18 am <b>Selected talk</b>
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### 15 minute break

**9:45 am – 10:45 am      Focus 3: Cancer**

9:45 am <b>Targeting the Tumor Microenvironment to Enhance CAR-based Immunotherapies in Solid Tumors, Hind</b>	10:09 am <b>Selected talk</b>	10:21 am <b>Selected talk</b>	10:33 am <b>Selected talk</b>
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**10:45 am – 11:45 pm      Focus 4: Omics**

10:45 am <b>Unique Spatial Organization Promotes Local Immunity at the Oral Barrier,</b> Drake Williams, <i>University of Minnesota</i>	11:09 am <b>Selected talk</b>	11:21 am <b>Selected talk</b>	11:33 am <b>Selected talk</b>
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**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 <b>Neutrophils, Inflammation and Resolution,</b> Carole Parent, <i>University of Michigan</i>	1:09 pm <b>Selected talk</b>	1:21 pm <b>Selected talk</b>	1:33 pm <b>Selected talk</b>
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**1:45 pm – 2:45 pm      Focus 6: Drug Therapies**

1:45 pm <b>Understanding the Edges of Homeostasis,</b> Andrew Wang, <i>Yale University</i>	2:09 pm <b>Selected talk</b>	2:21 pm <b>Selected talk</b>	2:33 pm <b>Selected talk</b>
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**15 minute break**

**3:00 pm – 4:00 pm      Focus 7: Aging**

3:00 pm <b>Succinate: An Emerging</b>	3:24 pm <b>Selected talk</b>	3:36 pm <b>Selected talk</b>	3:48 pm <b>Selected talk</b>
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**Gerometabolite?**,  
Xin Li, *University of  
Virginia*

**4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Focus 8: Trauma Response**

4:00 pm  
**Trauma**  
**Immunology: From**  
**Mechanisms to**  
**Modulation,** James  
Lederer, *BWH*  
*Harvard*

4:24 pm  
**Selected talk**

4:36 pm  
**Selected talk**

4:48 pm  
**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

10:25 am

10:50 am

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

TBA

**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:****Cyberspace – AI in Research****Chairs:**

Andy Taylor and Michelle Visser

**Location:**

Ballroom

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, Standford  
University****SLB Council Meeting (Part 2): 3:00-6:00 pm pavilion - By Invitation Only**