



## MESSAGE from THE CHAIR



Dr. Joan Goverman  
Professor and Chair

The Department of Immunology continues to grow and thrive. Three of our junior faculty recruited in the past six years have now been promoted to Associate Professor. The laboratories of our two Assistant Professors continue their rapid growth: two new predoctoral students joined Dr. Gerner's lab and one new predoctoral student and one postdoctoral fellow joined Dr. von Moltke's lab. We are also excited to be in the midst of an active search for a new faculty member for the

Department of Immunology and hope to fill this position in 2019. Our primary faculty's grant portfolios increased from \$20 million to \$22 million, and our graduate program continues to be highly competitive - the number of applications increased 28%! The growth in the research programs of our current faculty as well as the addition of new faculty creates an even stronger foundation for training students and postdoctoral fellows. While we have been increasingly successful in competing for grants, we are seeking to increase philanthropy for the department, especially in ways that will enhance our training programs. Our [Fund for Excellence](#) supports programmatic activities for students and postdocs as well as graduate student recruiting expenses. Our newly endowed [Dr. Richard Titus Fund for Graduate Student Support](#) currently generates funds to support a student every other year; we are hoping to increase this fund to support a student fellowship each year. Please consider making your contribution today to make a difference in the future of science, immunology and lives of students.



Graduate students at the 2018 Department of Immunology Retreat at Fort Worden.

## YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS = FUTURE SCIENTISTS



## HIGHLIGHTS and UPDATES

- Congratulations to Dr. Andrew Oberst on his promotion to Associate Professor in July 2018!
- Congratulations also to Assistant Professor Jakob von Moltke for becoming a Searle Scholar Awardee in July 2018.
- We initiated a search for a new primary faculty member in Immunology.
- Dr. Michael Gale Jr., received the prestigious UW School of Public Health's 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award. He will give the Distinguished Alumni Award Lecture "*Controlling Viral Infection: From Hepatitis C to Zika*," Feb. 5, 2019.
- Dr. Martin Prlic became an Affiliate Associate Professor in the Department of Immunology. His studies of T cell and innate-like T cell responses in mucosal tissues bring a new research area to the department.
- UW Immunology students and postdocs won nine of 36 Midwinter Conference of Immunologists awards for outstanding posters and short talks in January 2018.



(Left to right) Dr. Jess Hamerman, Panel: Drs. Betsy Gray, Tennille Thelen, Justin Killebrew and Blythe Sather, and Dr. Marion Pepper.

- The Careers in Immunology Series in which students and postdocs network with immunology professionals who have followed different career paths, and the Pizza and Perspectives lunches that explore issues around inclusion, equity and diversity, continued this year by popular demand. This year on Nov. 16, the Careers event (picture above) began with a panel discussion with alumni of our graduate program and a former postdoc all who have pursued careers in the biotech industry. A big thank you to our faculty organizers Jess Hamerman and Marion Pepper, and to our panelists: Drs. Blythe Sather (07'), Justin Killebrew (11'), Tennille Thelen (16'), and Betsy Gray (former Stetson Lab postdoc); and was attended by a record 33 trainees. A second panel with a focus on non-industry careers in immunology is planned for April 2019.

## GRADUATE PROGRAM UPDATE

- We welcomed six new graduate students to the Immunology Graduate Program in 2018-19: Michael Conlon, Cassidy Hagan, Kurt Pruner, Laila Shehata, Rachel Van Gelder and Lindsey Warner.
- Three Immunology graduate students defended their PhD degrees in 2018: Ty Crowl (Stetson Lab), Michelle Dutra (Rawlings Lab), and Rochelle Joslyn (Ram Lab). One MCB graduate student in an Immunology lab also defended her PhD degree: Susana Orozco (Oberst Lab).

## 2018 DEPARTMENT RETREAT

At the 29th Annual Retreat Dr. Russell Vance, from UC Berkeley, provided the keynote talk. We shared a day and a half of scientific presentations from faculty, postdocs and students as well as some fun social activities (retreat pictures on page three). Congratulations to retreat poster award winners:

Category – Entering 3<sup>rd</sup> year or below Brittany Ulloa (Gale Lab) - \$250 graduate student best poster award (provided by the Sandra L. Clark Education Fund).

Category – Entering 4<sup>th</sup> year or above Nicole Arroyo (Pepper Lab)- \$1,000 graduate student best poster award (provided by the Sandra L. Clark Education Fund).

Category - Postdoc Anna Bruchez (Lacy-Hulbert Lab) - \$1,000 postdoc best poster award (provided by the department).



(Left) Associate Professor Dr. Ram Savan with Nicolle Arroyo receiving the Best Poster Award by a senior graduate student.

## IMMUNOLOGY HALLOWEEN- ISH



We took it to the next level this year with our 2nd annual Department of Immunology Halloween Trick-or-Treat and Costume Contest! We had a grand menagerie of costumes including the Taylor Lab who came together as an “Antibody Panel”, Greenberg postdoc Leah Schmidt as Rick from ‘Rick & Morty’, and Oberst Lab grad student Nick Hubbard stole the show as an Oompa Loompa. Looking forward to next year!

## RETIREMENT OF DR. PAMELA J. FINK



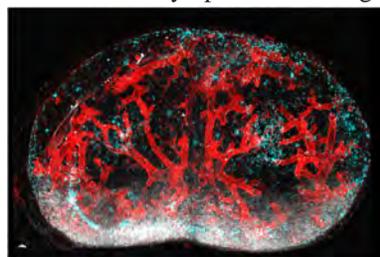
Pamela J. Fink, Ph.D.  
Professor of Immunology

On behalf of all members of the Department of Immunology past and present, I would like to recognize the outstanding career of Dr. Pam Fink as she approaches retirement in January 2019. I would also like to offer our deep appreciation for her contributions and the prestige that her scholarship and service has brought to us during her 28 years as a faculty member in our department. Pam joined the department in 1990 as one of the “founding members”. Her laboratory has studied many aspects of T cell biology and pioneered the fields of peripheral T cell receptor revision and the biology of recent thymic emigrants. Her 75 primary research papers, four book chapters and 32 invited reviews and commentaries represent an extraordinary scholarly contribution to the field. During Pam’s tenure at the UW, she served on dozens of university and School of Medicine committees, as well as virtually all of our departmental committees – including serving as Graduate Student Advisor three times. In addition to lecturing in the Immunology course for medical students and MCB courses, Pam taught extensively in all of the courses offered by our department. In fact, she organized many of these courses for the first time and served as course chair for the undergraduate Introduction to Immunology course for four years, Developmental Immunology for three years, Advanced Immunology (the cornerstone of our program) for six years, Central Topics for three years and designed and co-chaired Immunological Methods for six years. Pam also wrote our new T32 training grant in 2012 and served as the PI and Director of the T32 program until 2018. In addition to this strong record of service and teaching, Pam was selected to serve as Editor-In-Chief of the Journal of Immunology for five years. Perhaps her most important legacy stems from her mentorship: Pam has been the thesis advisor for 12 predoctoral students, 10 postdoctoral fellows, and numerous undergraduate students, fellows, visiting scientists and junior faculty. These immunologists benefited greatly from her mentorship, enthusiasm and leadership, as has the entire department. We wish Pam the very best going forward and are grateful to have had her as a colleague for the past 28 years.

- Joan Goverman

## ABOUT THE BANNER IMAGE

This murine lymph node image shows the structure of the vasculature in red, the lymphatic sinus in white and conventional dendritic cells in cyan. These are visualized with 2-photon intra-vital microscopy, multi-parameter whole-organ confocal microscopy and analytical Histo-Cytometry. Created by



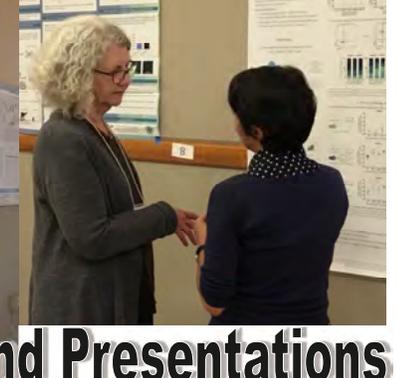
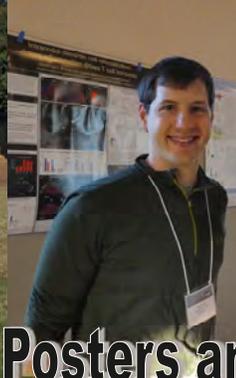
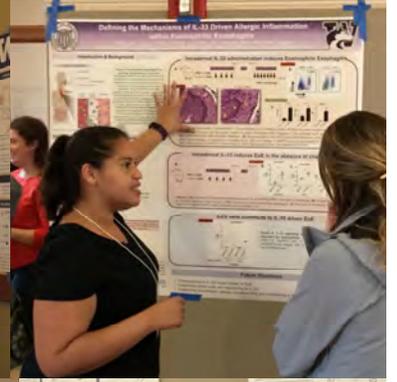
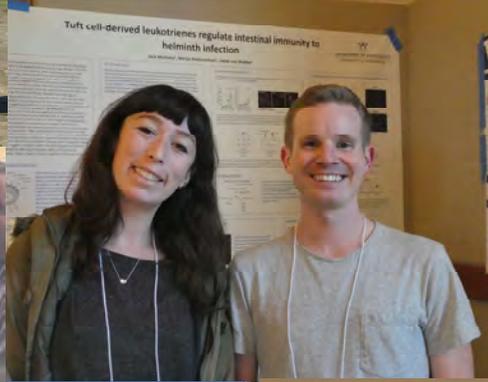
Caleb Stoltzfus in the Gerner Lab.



# 2018 Retreat at Fort Worden



Fun, Games and Food!



Posters and Presentations



2018



2014



2015



2017



2016



2013

## Graduate students by year