



Congratulations / Félicitations

***Dr. Kent HayGlass, University of Manitoba
The 2008 CSI – Hardy Cinader Award Recipient
Presentation: “What is Normal?”***

Professor, Department of Immunology
Canada Research Chair in Immune Regulation
University of Manitoba

I obtained a double major in Honours Chemistry and Biology from Queen’s University at Kingston, worked for a year as a lab technician, during which I caught up on mysteries, spy novels and beer missed during my undergrad, then entered graduate studies in Immunology. During my 3 years doctoral work with Gill Strejan at the University of Western Ontario, I developed and investigated murine immunotherapy models aiming to prevent, or to re-orient, allergic responses. I then carried out a fellowship at Harvard with Baruj Benacerraf, with primary focus on the putative role of B cell idiotype in neonatal generation of the murine T cell repertoire. Following one year as new faculty at Harvard, I returned to Canada, recruited to the University of Manitoba where the first Department of Immunology had been established in 1969. I served as department head from 1997 to 2007.

My research interests centre on immune regulation. In the early stages of my independent career, this was entirely in murine models of dysregulated immunity, with emphasis on identifying the basic immunologic decisions, framed at that time as Th1 vs Th2 dominance, that led to dominance of antigen-specific “incorrect” vs beneficial (functional tolerance-inducing) responses. Research that my colleagues and I conducted for the next 12 years in murine and human systems aimed to strengthen links between the two solitudes (humans and mice) and integrate basic immunology with a translational component.

Over the last 5 years, my focus has been predominately on basic and translational immunology in human systems. We wish to understand control mechanisms that help explain why it is that although we all live in broadly similar environments, some immune regulatory systems consistently make choices leading to desirable outcomes, while others make decisions that lock the host into chronic inflammatory responses leading to progressively worsening consequences. Current research activity centres on innate immunity and peanut allergy, examining the roles played by immunologic and epigenetic factors that initiate and maintain such responses.

Education in research is a major interest. Both in my own lab, and more broadly where my colleagues and I established the National Training Program in Allergy and Asthma Research, *Allergy and Asthma: From Molecular Regulation to Population Health*, a CIHR multidisciplinary Strategic Training Initiative with membership of some 75 trainees to date from four provinces, I am strongly interested in how one best creates effective critical thinking and research training. My Canada Research Chair in Immune Regulation was just renewed and I am the recipient of operating grants from CIHR, AllerGen NCE, provincial and charitable agencies. I am Professor in the Departments of Immunology, of Pediatrics and Child Health, and of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases.