



## **BULLETIN**

**CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR IMMUNOLOGY**

**SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'IMMUNOLOGIE**

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**Editor - Redacteur: K. HayGlass, Ph.D., Dept. Immunology,  
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, R3E 0W3**

## THOMAS G. WEGMANN (1941-1994)

Tom Wegmann died suddenly of a cerebral hemorrhage on January 26, 1994. Tom's zest for life, infectious good humor and broad intellectual interests were a wonder to behold. He will be greatly missed by his friends and by the community of immunologists in Canada.

Tom received his BA (1963) and Ph.D. in Medical Genetics (1969) from the University of Wisconsin. He was appointed to the faculty of Harvard University as an Assistant Professor in 1969. Given an opportunity to remain at Harvard by being promoted to Associate Professor in 1972, he chose instead to move to Edmonton in 1974 and was there promoted to Professor in 1976.

Tom's research focused on basic problems in immunogenetics and transplantation and then moved into reproductive immunology. He became a major figure in this latter field and has left his indelible stamp on it. His work established many of the experimental paradigms in the immunogenetic and cellular approaches to the interactions at the maternal fetal interface and provided critical insights into the unique immune mechanisms that affect reproduction. Along with Tom Gill, University of Pittsburgh, (from whom some of this text has been borrowed), Tom organized three Banff conferences aimed at defining the various aspects of the reproductive immunology, summarizing its current state of knowledge and bringing together students and senior investigators working in various aspects of the field.

His interest in reproductive immunology extended to promoting it in developing countries where the problems of population are most acute. He was particularly active in Thailand and India and was also active in issues of Native American health care. These activities interdigitated well with his interests in biotechnology, through which he hoped to bring the tools needed in reproductive immunology to a worldwide scientific community and finally the fruits of their labors to the worldwide community. Many of these ventures involved cooperative efforts with individual entrepreneurs as well as with governments in both Canada and developing countries. These efforts typified Tom's firm belief in the integration of the University and the marketplace. To this end, he served the Federal government this past year as part time Visiting Professor, Science Policy, ISTC in Ottawa, assessing and encouraging the integration of commercial biotechnology within Canadian academic institutions as a device to pay for the ever increasing cost of academic research. He practiced what he preached by founding two companies in Edmonton.

On Jan. 29, a standing room only crowd of students, relatives, friends and colleagues met in Snell Hall at the University of Alberta to celebrate his life. These affairs usually do no justice to the real person by tending to dress up memories in the same way morticians make the corpse look better than life. But this one was different. Tom's brother John and his wife Brenda set the tone by looking at all sides of a complex and energetic man. Brenda perhaps summarized the entire event when she stated: "People have mentioned to me that I must be a saint to have put up with a (active) character like Tom - but I'm not, and it was genuinely a real pleasure, an adventure, to be around this man for all those years." Then it all came out in over two tumultuous hours of laughing and crying - private or public, there was only one Tom Wegmann, and that one was well worth a good wake.

*Larry Guilbert, Ph.D.  
University of Alberta*



## SEVENTH ANNUAL CSI MEETING PREVIEW

The organizers have provided us with the following contributions about their workshops and how they will run them. Enjoy the meeting!

### WORKSHOP:        **Immunoparasitology**

Chair:                **Dr. K. Chadee, McGill**

The theme for this year's workshop on Immunoparasitology is "modulation of the immune response by parasites". Based on the subject matter from the abstracts submitted for consideration for presentation at the workshop, two general areas will be chosen. Selected abstracts for 5-minute oral presentations (2 overhead transparencies each) will be assigned, and the participants informed. Following the presentations from each of the general areas (approx. 12 presentations), discussion will follow where questions can be directed to either individual participants or the discussion will be opened for free exchange of ideas and suggestions. As the workshop will be held from 4:00-6:00 p.m. followed by the poster presentations later that night, all will have an opportunity to meet and discuss further subjects of mutual interest.

### WORKSHOP:        **Cell Death**

Chair:                **Dr. J. Reynolds, Calgary**

Over the past few years there has been an increasing awareness that the function and properties of various immune compartments is not only established by how rapidly the cells proliferate that comprise the compartment, but also by how rapidly the cells are eliminated. Cells do not only die when they become effete or damaged, they also die as part of a physiological process that helps mold the functional properties of cells and organs. The actual mechanism by which the cells are eliminated may take a number of forms, although the process is commonly referred to as apoptosis. Apoptosis has been shown to be important in T cell and B cell development, myelopoiesis, and killing mediated by CTL and NK cells. The workshop will focus on how apoptosis of the cells of the immune system is triggered and regulated and how this process influences the function of different immune compartments.

### WORKSHOP:        **Superantigens**

Chair:                **Dr. W. Mourad, Laval**

The term superantigens has been proposed to describe a novel group of antigens. Upon interaction with MHC class II molecules on antigen presenting cells, the complex so-formed (MHC class II-superantigens) interacts with the V $\beta$  element of the TCR on T lymphocytes leading to the activation of both cell types. During the Superantigens Workshop several topics will be discussed: 1) molecular analysis of the interaction between superantigens and their effector molecules, the MHC class II and the TCR; 2) possible role of superantigens in the pathology of autoimmune diseases and AIDS; 3) superantigens and diseases therapy.

These topics will be covered by several invited speakers, and by authors who have submitted abstracts for oral presentation.

**WORKSHOP:      Control from Within: Nuclear Events**

**Chair:              Dr. G. Wu, Toronto**

I hope this workshop will bring together those of us who have some data on, or at least some ideas about nuclear activities in the Immune Response. Thus topics that will be discussed will include transcription of the TCR, Ig, lymphokine and MHC genes and genes associated with them. The workshop would be the ideal place to discuss regulation via mRNA degradation or alternative splicing, or alternative promoter usage. I hope some of us will have data on nucleosome or chromatin assembly of these genes. Of course, V(D)J recombination will be one subject, but anyone having ideas on somatic mutation, class switch, enhancers or other types of recombination at the immune associate loci should find friends in this workshop.

**AGENDA**

**14th Annual General Meeting of  
The Canadian Society for Immunology**

**March 13, 1994**

**Le Chantecler, Sainte-Adele, Quebec**

- 1) Opening Remarks, President Wayne Lapp
- 2) Approval of 1993 Annual General Meeting Minutes
- 3) New Business

**9th International Congress of Immunology  
July 23-29, 1995, San Francisco, CA**

- 4) Secretary-Treasurer's Report: John Wilkins
  - A) Membership
  - B) Financial Report
  - C) Investment Status
  - D) Advertising Policy
- 5) President's Report: Wayne Lapp
- 6) Canadian Federation of Biological Societies Report
- 7) Adjournment



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIPDEMANDE D'ADHESION

Name of Applicant/Nom du Candidat \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Poste \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address and Telephone Number/Adresse Postale et Numero de Telephone  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature du Candidat (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsors (2 Members of The Canadian Society for Immunology)  
Parrains (2 Membres de la Société Canadienne d'Immunologie)

1. Name/Nom \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name/Nom \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Adresse \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Adresse \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Category/Categorie

1. Member/Membre \_\_\_\_\_

2. Associate Member/Membre Associé \_\_\_\_\_

3. Emeritus Member/Membre Emerite \_\_\_\_\_

4. Student Member/Membre Etudiant \_\_\_\_\_

Applicants should append a curriculum vitae and a list of publications with full titles. 11 complete applications with appendices should be submitted. Student applicants need only submit one complete application with appendices. Applications will be considered in November and March.

Les candidats doivent joindre un curriculum vitae et une liste des publications incluant les titres. Veuillez compléter ce formulaire, obtenir les signatures des parrains, et le faire parvenir en 11 copies (y compris les appendices). Les étudiants doivent soumettre une seule copie du demande complète avec l'information additionnelle requise. Les demandes d'adhésion seront examinées, en Novembre et Mars.

To/A:

CSI c/o Dr. J. A. Wilkins  
RDU Research Laboratory  
RR 014, 800 Sherbrook Street  
Winnipeg, MB  
R3A 1M4

1. Annual Reviews of Immunology are once again available through the CSI at a discount of 30% off retail price.

Volume 12 1994	\$ 51.75 Canadian (Prices include GST)
Volumes 10-11 1992-1993	\$ 48.50 Canadian
Volumes 1-9 1983-1991	\$ 44.25 Canadian

2. The Immunologist, the official journal of the International Union of Immunological Societies, is offered at a 43% discount to CSI members. The cost to CSI members for a 1 year subscription is \$53.00 Canadian.

3. Elsevier Science Publishers offers a 20% discount on Immunology Today subscriptions ordered through the CSI. All subscriptions begin January 1994 and run for 12 consecutive months. Students should note that there is a 50% discount to them if they **order directly** from Elsevier.

CSI members price is \$118.00 Canadian.

Please make all cheques payable in Canadian funds to the Canadian Society for Immunology. Indicate clearly which publication(s) you wish to order and the address where the volume is to be sent.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### LES EFFETS PRÉVENTIFS ET THÉRAPEUTIQUES DES SUPPLÉMENTS NUTRITIONNELS DANS LE TRAITEMENT DES MALADIES CHRONIQUES

### ADJUVANT NUTRITION AND CHRONIC DISEASE: PREVENTIVE AND THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS

#### Domaines d'intérêt :

- les maladies cardio-vasculaires
- les maladies dégénératives des yeux
- les maladies musculo-squelettiques
- les maladies infectieuses chez les personnes âgées

#### Areas of study:

- cardiovascular disease
- degenerative eye disease
- musculoskeletal disease
- infectious diseases and the elderly.

September 29 - October 1, 1994

Royal York Hotel

Toronto, Ontario

Contact:  
Secrétariat de la conférence sur les  
suppléments nutritionnels  
c/o Association des hôpitaux du Canada  
17, rue York, bureau 100  
Ottawa (Ontario) K1N 9J6  
Tél. (613) 238-8005  
Téléc. (613) 238-6924  
À compter du 15 janvier 1994  
Tél. (613) 241-8005 Téléc. (613) 241-5055

Contact:  
Adjuvant Nutrition Conference Secretariat  
c/o Canadian Hospital Association  
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fax (613) 238-6924  
after January 15, 1994  
tel (613) 241-8005  
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## **POSITION AVAILABLE**

The University of Calgary Immunological Sciences Research Group invites applications for a full-time academic position in immunology at the Assistant Professor level or higher. This position offers an excellent opportunity to develop an independent research program and collaborative interactions with 17 faculty in two broad areas: development and physiology of cells of the immune system, and immunologic mechanisms in disease and inflammatory process; the role of adhesion molecules in the immune system is a developing theme. Duties will include teaching and graduate student supervision.

Qualifications include a Ph.D. and/or M.D., a minimum of three years' postdoctoral experience, and a proven track record of excellence in research. Applications encouraged from researchers in any field of immunology.

The selected candidate must compete successfully for salary and operating funding from the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research and/or the Medical Research Council of Canada, and will have 75% of time protected for research.

In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, priority will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada. The University of Calgary has an Employment Equity Program and encourages applications from all qualified candidates, including women, aboriginal people, visible minorities, and people with disabilities.

Please submit a curriculum vitae, a statement of aims and research interests, two reprints of recent publications, and the names/addresses of three referees to:

Dr. J.D. Reynolds, Chair  
Immunological Sciences Research Group  
The University of Calgary  
3330 Hospital Drive N.W.  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 4N1