December 1999
Volume 6, No.3

2000 Meeting

November 5-9
Amsterdam
Joint ISICR/ICS

Future ISICR Meetings
2001 Cleveland, OH
2002 Vienna
Joint ISICR/ICS
2003 Melbourne ?

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www.bioinformatics.
weizmann.ac.il/ISICR/

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ISICR
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR INTERFERON AND CYTOKINE RESEARCH

Presidential Farewell

Dear Colleagues:

My term as President will end in December. We are fortunate to have adopted a smooth transition mechanism and Kathy Zoon will assume office January 1. Keiko Ozato has been elected President Elect so we are in a unique position among scientific societies in having two outstanding women to lead our society over the next four years.

I have enjoyed my term as president although I would have loved more time to devote to some of the issues. I was fortunate to be able to preside over two successful meetings. The first organized by Ray Kaempfer and Michel Revel in Israel was a long anticipated gathering for our Society. We were fortunate to be able to combine forces with the Cytokine Society and with the help of David Wallach and Issac Witt, a superb scientific and social program was enjoyed. This year we met in Paris for the first time where Janine Doly organized an outstanding program in the heart of the City of Light. Despite the obvious distractions offered by the Left Bank, the scientific sessions were well attended. We also enjoyed a visit to the Musee dHistoire de la Medecine, the Milstein Awards Ceremony at the Marie de Paris and dinner on a Bateau Mouche on the Seine.

A perusal of the attendees list at both the Jerusalem and Paris meetings revealed that only a minority were members of ISICR. This indicates one of the more frustrating aspects of my term where considerable effort was expended attempting to increase our membership base. The Membership committee under Heinz-Kurt Hochkeppel has made a number of suggestions, some of which have been implemented, and the FASEB office has been active in alerting members to their membership status. Despite these efforts, many members fail to renew and are deleted from the Directory (and from the mailing list for this newsletter). This has included some of my colleagues at the Lerner Research Institute. We have even had to chase up award winners to renew their memberships in order for them to be able to accept their awards. Please take a moment to check your status (FASEB can help, just email

dfrancis@execofc.faseb.org). It would also help if you signed up members of your own lab if they haven't already joined. As I have stated before, the Society offers major benefits in terms of travel awards and, as the saying goes, "you have to be in to win".

The ISICR meeting in Paris was attended by over 500 registrants. This attests to the continued interest in interferons at the level of basic research. Did you know that it has been estimated that over 3 KG of interferons valued at over $US 4 billion were used in clinics worldwide over the past year? As a society we need to do more to attract high quality clinical research (and its attendant sponsorship) to our annual meetings. This is quite a challenge as we have joint meetings with ICS scheduled for 2000 (Amsterdam) and 2002 (Vienna). In Cleveland in 2001, we are planning to have clinical presentations as an integral part of the program. Any suggestions you may have for inclusion in the program would be most welcome.

Finally, I would like to thank a number of individuals with whom I have had the pleasure of working over the past four years. Bob Friedman was very helpful in easing me into the Presidency during my time as President-elect. Sid Pestka has been very supportive in his role as Secretary and major fundraiser, ably assisted by Eleanor Kells. Delores Francis has been very helpful at FASEB and the transition of the treasury from Pete Knight to Sam Baron proceeded smoothly. Chris Czarniecki as Chair of the Meetings Committee has performed a superb job providing programatic oversight for the meetings and it has been a pleasure working with Keiko Ozato on the annual awards. In connection with this it has been most enjoyable to interact with Mr and Mrs Milstein and to acknowledge their generous support of the ISICR. Finally, I wish to acknowledge two important contributors to the Society that many of you have either interacted with by phone, fax or email, or met personally. My secretary, Sherrie Vidmar has been unflagging in her attention to Society details and interactions with other officers and FASEB. My wife, Silvia Wagner has been very supportive throughout, accompanying me to the past few ISICR meetings where she enjoyed interacting with many of you while I took care of ISICR business.

We both look forward to seeing you all in Amsterdam next year.

Bryan

ISICR Presidential Election Term- 2002-2003

Final vote totals

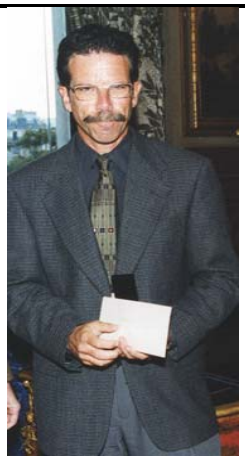
Keiko Ozato	137
Ara Hovanessian	116

Support the ISICR! Renew Your Membership Now!

The ISICR wishes to express its gratitude and appreciation for the continued support of interferon research by Seymour and Vivian Milstein

May 2000 be a happy and healthy year for the Milstein family and all ISICR members

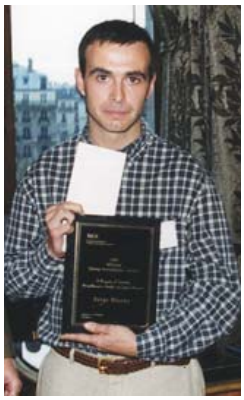
The 1999 Milstein Award Winners



Michael Katze

Adi Kimchi

The 1999 Milstein Young Investigator Award Winners



Jorge Blanco

Sandy Der

Sergei Kotenko

Seng-Lsai Tan

The Christina Fleischmann Memorial Award

Isabelle Marie

Travel Awards

42 ISICR members were awarded travel awards to attend the 1999 ISICR meeting.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ISICR AWARDS

To be eligible for ISICR 2000 Awards, you must have paid your 2000 membership dues by April 1, 2000

Insights for 2000

Hannah Nguyen

Hi! Hope all you lucky ones who got to go to the ISICR Paris meeting (lucky you!) had exposure to great science and lots of fun in the city.

I guess that the next event of great excitement is the millenium celebration. Aside from debating whether I would join the rest of the world and get some champagne (although by now, there is probably none left!), I was thinking that by the quarter of the next century, many of us would have been independent and established research investigators with our own labs and actually be running the interferon/cytokine field. It's pretty neat when you think about it! Hence, the new logo of this column.

I thought that I would give you a preview on what's coming up in the next few issues. One topic involves the ABC's of patent law: with the high competitive rate of discovery of therapeutics (especially in our field; the most obvious example would be interferon), drug companies among others need to establish and define what is theirs. Patent law is quickly becoming a new career choice, especially for those who love science but don't really mix with working at the bench. Therefore, we will explore what exactly patent law is and what it serves to do, what a patent lawyer typically does on a day-to-day basis and how one can become a

patent lawyer.

Another topic that I would like to tackle is the issue of women in science. Previously as a graduate student I never thought of it as an issue which applied to me until I attended an ISICR meeting addressing important issues women scientists face on a daily basis and when applying for promotions or higher executive positions. We will also survey how male scientists and scientists from different parts of the world consider this issue.

The last topic that is of interest is what science employers in academia and industry look for in job applications. Is it the number and/or quality of publications? Is it the reputation of whom you previously worked for? Is it the nature of your training? Your reference letters? We will see how employers rank these and other parameters in their decision-making.

Any issues you'd like addressed? I'm an e-mail away and I more than welcome any ideas!

Wishing you all a great millenium celebration and another century of great science.

Hannah

REVIEWS OF INTEREST

Akira, S. Functional roles of STAT family proteins: lessons from knockout mice. *Stem Cells* 17:138, 1999.

Annunziato, F., Galli, G., Romagnani, P. et al. Chemokine receptors and other surface moleculaes preferentially associated with human Th1 or Th2 cells. *Microbes and Infection* 1:103, 1999.

Gessani, S. and Belardelli, F. IFN-γ expression in macrophages and its possible biological significance. *Cytokine & Growth Factor Rev*. 9:117, 1998.

Hirano, T. Molecular basis underlying functional pleiotropy of cytokines and growth factors. *BBRC* 260:303, 1999.

Karin, M. The beginning of the end: IκB kinase (IKK) and NF-κB activation. *J. Biol. Chem*. 274:27339, 1999.

Lee, B. and Montaner, L.J. Chemokine immunobiology in HIV pathogenesis. *J. Leukocyte Biol.* 65:552, 1999.

Mamane, Y., Heylbroeck, C., Genin, P. et al. Interferon regulatory factors: the next generation. *Gene* 237: 1, 1999.

Morgensen, K.E., Lewerenz, M., Reboul, J. et al. The type I interferon receptor: structure, function, and evolution of a family business. *J. Interfer. Cytokine Res*. 10:1069, 1999.

Moser, B., Loetscher, M., Piali, L. and Loetscher, P. Lymphocyte responses to chemokines. *Intern. Rev. Immunol.* 16:323, 1998.

Schillace, R.V. and Scott, J.D. Organization of kinases, phosphatases, and receptor signaling complexes. *J. of Clin. Invest.* 103:761, 1999.

Schindler, C. and Brutsaert, S. Interferons as a paradigm for cytokine signal transduction. *Cell. Mol. Life Sci.* 55:1509, 1999.

Sutterwala, F. and Mosser, D.M. The taming of IL-12: suppressing the production of proinflammatory cytokines. *J. Leukocyte Biol.* 65:543, 1999.

Williams, B.R.G. PkR: A sentinal kinase for cellular stress. *Oncogene* 18:6112, 1999.

Yeh, W.-C., Hakem, R., Woo, M. and Mak, T.W. Gene targeting in the analysis of mammalian apoptosis and TNF receptor superfamily signaling. *Immunol. Rev.* 169:283, 1999.

Zidek, Z. Adenosine – cyclic AMP pathways and cytokine expression. *Eur. Cytokine Netw.* 10:319, 1999.

Thank You Dr. Janine Doly

All attendees wish to thank Drs. Janine Doly and Lawrence Lomme for a productive and enjoyable 1999 ISICR Annual

meeting. The science was exciting and they even arranged for wonderful weather! In addition, the banquet cruise was memorable and the highlight of the social calendar.

WWW

The Bio Online Career Discussion Forum

http://www.bio.com/hr/forum

The Bio Online Career Discussion Forum is a very unique online community. At no other place on the web can you find such interesting discussion threads involving each and every nuance of interest to the job-seeker as well as the professional seeking career guidance and mentoring contacts. Recent topics have included:

* How do I get started in a Regulatory Affairs career?
* I've got trouble with my Supervisor. How do I handle this kind of situation . . .
* Is it wise to pursue my PhD after several years of successful industry employment with my MS?
* Dual Career Couples -- What effect on my job search does this really have?

You'll find that the Bio Online Career Discussion Forum has a significant readership, and questions are not around long before they have attracted what is usually a number of viewpoints. While the Forum is moderated to keep SPAM and commercial messages to a minimum, it has the fresh, active feeling of a busy coffeehouse. Lots of conversations going on in different corners about a world of subjects, all related to careers in Biotech and Pharmaceuticals.

Dave Jensen, Moderator
Bio Online Career Discussion Forum
http://www.bio.com/hr/forum
email: davej@sedona.net

BioScience Links

http://ttt3.issp.serpukhov.su/links

This search engine and link database was developed for the rapid communication between researchers involved in biological studies. Don't forget to represent your site in BioScience Links. It's free.

Biotechnology Clip Art

http://www.nbif.org

The National Biotechnology Information Facility is pleased to announce its biotechnology clip art server. Clip art on this server includes black & white line art, graphical images, and stock photos. All may be used royalty free for personal and instructional use. Commercial uses require a license from NBIF.

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Jnet v0.1 (alpha)

http://circinus.ebi.ac.uk:8081/jnet
http://barton.ebi.ac.uk/

Jnet is a new consensus neural network protein secondary structure prediction method. The software is freely available to all.

The method works through the application of multiple sequence alignments, alongside PSIBLAST and HMM profiles. Consensus techniques are applied to predict the final secondary structure more accurately than the component predictions.

- Average Q3 prediction accuracy is 76.4% (8.4sd). This figure is based on a set of 406 non-redundant proteins that were not applied during the development of the method.
- Residues predicted with a confidence value of 5 or greater have an average Q3 accuracy of 84%, and cover more than 68% of residues.
- Relative solvent accessibility based on a two state model, for 25, 5 and 0% accessibility is predicted at 76.2, 79.8 and 86.6% respectively.

SGI and Linux binaries are available, along with the C source code. Full details of the method are described in: "Application of enhanced multiple sequence alignment profiles to improve protein secondary structure prediction", Cuff, J. A., Barton, G. J., (submitted) 1999.

James Cuff,
Geoff. Barton
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Hinxton, Cambridge. CB10 1SD

MatrixPlot

http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/MatrixPlot/

MatrixPlot is a program for making high quality matrix plots, such as mutual information plots

of sequence alignments and distance matrices of sequences with known three-dimensional coordinates. The user can add information about the sequences (e.g. a sequence logo profile) along the edges of the plot, as well as zoom in on any region in the plot. The user can also type in the name of a PDB entry and receive the distance matrix directly. It is also illustrated how output generated from other web servers can be exported to the MatrixPlot server. Ref:: J. Gorodkin, H. H. Staerfeldt, O. Lund, and S. Brunak Bioinformatics 15:769-770, 1999.

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Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics Web Portal

www.MolBio.org

There is a new web portal for all things related to molecular biology and bioinformatics (including the related fields of cell biology, biochemistry, genetics, genomics, and biotechnology). Currently www.MolBio.org provides a news service where the web community can post information related to molecular biology (et al.) and bioinformatics. In addition to the news service, www.MolBio.org provides spam free discussion groups. Do you have information to share such as: Conferences - Press Releases - Course - Protocol - News Bite - Software - Research Finding - Tip - Database - Web Site - FTP Site - Web Based Program/Tool - Mailing List - Other
Related to the fields of:
- Biochemistry - Biotechnology/Biotech – Cell Biology - Computational Biology - Genetics – Genomics - Molecular Biology - Other

Then please submit it to www.MolBio.org via the news form at http://www.molbio.org/postnews.cgi. The more info you post, the more useful www.MolBio.org will be. The information you post doesn't need to originate from yourself -- it can be anything you come across in searching the web, reading a journal, browsing bionet, etc... If in doubt, post it!

If you have any questions, comments, or requests -- feel free to contact me at Alan@MolBio.org.

Alan Williams
www.MolBio.org
ps -- www.MolBio.org is loosely setup as a slashdot (www.slashdot.org) for biology. Follow-ups have been directed to bionet.software.www

National Cancer Institute Publications Locator

http://cancer.gov/publications/

The NCI Cancer Information Service Branch announces a new on-line service, the NCI Publications Locator, that provides Internet users with another way to access National Cancer Institute publications. The service allows Web users to order printed materials to be mailed to them and also links to NCI materials that may be viewed and downloaded from the Web. If you would like more information about this service, please contact Judy Patt at pattj@exchange.nih.gov <mailto:pattj@exchange.nih.gov> or 301-496-5583, extension 238

NSITE - Search for consensus patterns with statistical estimation

http://genomic.sanger.ac.uk/

Analysis of nucleotide sequences is available through WWW: http://genomic.sanger.ac.uk/gf/gf.shtml

NSITE serves for analysis of regulatory regions and their functional motifs composition. The program is designed on UNIX OS and adapted to work with Transfac type sites.

Method description: The method is based on statistical estimation of expected number of a nucleotide consensus pattern in a given sequence [1-2]. It uses the NSITE formatted datafile, which can include any set of consensus sequences of functional motifs. In current version this file consists of the public release of Transfac sequences (3.4, 1998), composite elements [3] and a set of additional functional motifs.

If we found a pattern which has expected number significantly less than 1, it can be supposed that the analysed sequence possesses the pattern's function. In the output of NSITE we can see a pattern, its position in the sequence, accession number, ID, Description of motif and binding factor name from the original database if it exists.

Acknowledgments: We acknowledge Igor Rogozin who took part in the development of some applications of this method for nucleotide consensuses searching on IBM PC [4].
Ref:
[1] Shahmuridov K.A. Kolchanov N.A.Solovyev V.V.Ratner V.A. Enhancer-like structures in middle repetitive sequences of the eukaryotic genomes. Genetics (Russ),22, 357-368,(1986).
[2] Solovyev V.V., Kolchanov N.A. 1994, Search for functional sites using consensus In Computer analysis of Genetic macromolecules. (eds. Kolchanov N.A., Lim H.A.), World Scientific, p.16-21.
[3] Heinemeyer, T., Chen, X., Karas, H., Kel, A. E., Kel, O. V., Liebich, I., Meinhardt, T., Reuter, I., Schacherer, F., Wingender, E. (1999). Expanding the TRANSFAC database towards an expert system of regulatory olecular
[4] Solovyev V.V.,Rogozin I.B. The program package of the context analysis of DNA, RNA and protein sequenses 1.Search for homology and functional sites. Institute Cytology and Genetics of the USSR Academy of Science, Novosibirsk,(Russ),1-70,(1986).
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PIR-International Protein Sequence Database

ftp://nbrf.georgetown.edu/pir/
ftp://nbrfa.georgetown.edu/pir/

Release 62.00, Sept. 30, 1999,
Containing: 142,080 entries
To search the PIR databases online visit our Web site.
http://pir.georgetown.edu/

Protein Information Resource
National Biomedical Research Foundation
3900 Reservoir Rd., NW
Washington, DC 20007
Phone: (202) 687-2121
E-mail: pirmail@nbrf.georgetown.edu

Readseq 2.0.3

http://iubio.bio.indiana.edu/soft/molbio/readseq/java/

Readseq is a program to read & reformat biosequences, and a package of methods for programmmers to incorporate into their software for this end. This program is designed to automatically detect input sequence format, and produce output formats compatible with different sequence analysis software.

Version 2 adds the ability to parse and translate documentation and feature tables found in GenBank and EMBL formats, as well as extract sequence based on features. A simple graphic user interface is included, for use without learning command-line options. Also included is a CGI interface for web servers. This is version is written in the Java language, and source code is freely available. An instance of the Web form for this is at: http://iubio.bio.indiana.edu/cgi-bin/readseq.cgi

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SANBI

ftp://ftp.sanbi.ac.za/STACK/benchmarks/

SANBI is making available a dataset of masked ESTs suitable for benchmarking. We are keen to evaluate the *hardware* performance of clustering applications, and also the *clustering* performance and accuracy. The dataset represents a randomly chosen set of Human eye-expressed ESTs that have been masked for repeats and vector sequences. It has not as yet been assigned to 'true' gene classes, as these have not all been assigned against available genome data. The dataset is made available with the proviso that results of benchmarking should be made broadly available. Our own results and a suggested format are found in ftp://ftp.sanbi.ac.za/STACK/benchmarks/README

Algorithmic benchmarks can be found at ftp://ftp.sanbi.ac.za/STACK/benchmarks/ALGO_BENCH

Unfortunately, due to spamming, uploads to the FTP site are not possible. Please email results including clusters if possible to info@sanbi.ac.za and they will be posted.

Win Hide, Alan Christoffels, Andrey Ptitsyn and Antoine van Gelder

STACK_PACK EST CLUSTERING MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS TOOL-SUITE

www.sanbi.ac.za/CODES

SANBI announces the free academic availability of the STACK_PACK EST clustering management and analysis tool-suite. STACK_PACK 1.0 has been developed by SANBI in collaboration with Electric Genetics, Cape Town (PTY) LTD, to support analysis of the increasing EST load for Gene Discovery. The tool-suite

interchangeably supports 'modules' such as PHRAP and other assemblers, and includes D2-cluster and CRAW together with other codes specifically developed for the system. STACK_PACK manages flow and stringent analysis of data between these applications. The system creates two outputs: a standard data set as well as a more highly-qualified data subset based upon consensus quality. Alternate splicing and low quality EST consensi are also detected and processed. This system has been used to manufacture STACK, the sequence tag alignment and consensus knowledgebase which is also distributed by SANBI. http://www.sanbi.ac.za/Dbases.html

Further information on the STACK-PACK system, and the clustering code d2-cluster,is to be published in the Genome Research November issue. 'D2_cluster: A Validated Method for Clustering EST and Full-length cDNA Sequences' John Burke, Dan Davison, and Winston Hide. Genome Research November 1999. and 'A comprehensive approach to clustering of expressed human gene sequence: The Sequence Tag Alignment and Consensus Knowledgebase. R. T. Miller, A. G. Christoffels, J. Burke,A. A. Ptitsyn, T. R. Broveak, W. A. Hide. Genome Research November 1999.

Famous Quote

(Has anything changed in 30 years?)

The work in the laboratories is less gay now; enthusiasm is becoming misplaced, from the acts of discovery to the work of quick publication. The practice of science is becoming less for its own sake than for the advancement of scientists. A slow terror is descending upon us, compounded of fear and pride and envy, of hate and waste and misguided zeal, of lacks of joy and satisfaction. Let us stop this before it becomes complete. Siekevitz, P., *Science* 154: 33, 1966.

CLINICAL TRIALS

94-AR-0196, Steroid Hormones, **TH1/TH2 Cytokines** and Reproductive Status. National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS). Contact: Patient Recruitment and Public Liaison Office, CC. Bethesda, Maryland. Ph: 1-800-411-1222

MSKCC-94134, NCI-V95-0629 Phase I/II Study of Immunization of Patients with Advanced Prostate Cancer with MHC Class I-Matched Allogeneic Human Prostate Carcinoma Cells Engineered to Secrete **IL-2** and **IFN-γ.** Contact: Susan Slovin, Chair, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Ph: 212-639-6412

95-I-0133, A Randomized Trial of **Interleukin-2** With or Without a **Tumor Necrosis Factor Antagonist** in Patients with HIV-1 Infection. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Contact: Patient Recruitment and Public Liaison Office, CC. Bethesda, Maryland. Ph: 1-800-411-1222

99-I-0114, T Cell Cytokine Changes During **IL-4 Receptor** Treatment for Asthma. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) Contact:Patient Recruitment and Public Liaison Office, CC. Bethesda, Maryland. Ph: 1-800-411-1222

99-C-0027, Randomized Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Trial Using Recombinant Human **Interleukin-10** for Moderate-to-Severe Psoriasis. National Cancer Institute (NCI). Contact: Patient Recruitment and Public Liaison Office, CC. Bethesda, Maryland. Ph: 1-800-411-1222

99-I-0091, Safety and Immunogenicity of a Vaccine for Cutaneous Leishmaniasis Using Recombinant Human **Interleukin-12** and Aluminum Hydroxide Gel as Adjuvants. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Contact: Patient Recruitment and Public Liaison Office, CC. Bethesda, Maryland. Ph: 1-800-411-1222

OSU-99H0185, NCI-T99-0032 Phase I Study of **Interleukin-12** and Trastuzumab in Patients with HER2-Neu Overexpressing Malignancies. Contact: William Edgar Carson, III, Chair, Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital - Ohio State Univ. Ph: 614-293-6306

SWOG-S9628, SWOG-9628, CLB-S9628 Phase II Study of Dexamethasone/**Interferon alfa** for Primary Systemic Amyloidosis. Contact: Madhav Dhodapkar, Chair, Southwest Oncology Group. Ph: 212-327-7597

FCCC-96087, NCI-G98-1401 Phase I Study of Neoadjuvant Cisplatin and **Interferon Alfa** Followed by Surgery and Adjuvant Radiation Therapy, Cisplatin, and **Interferon Alfa** for Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma. Contact: Corey Jay Langer, Chair,

Fox Chase Cancer Center. Ph: 215-728-2985

RTOG-9710 Phase II Study of Radiotherapy Followed by Recombinant **Interferon Beta** in Patients with Supratentorial Glioblastoma Multiforme. Contact: Wai-Kwan Alfred Yung, Chair, Radiation Therapy Oncology Group. Ph: 713-794-1285

URCC-U2698, NCI-G99-1559, TRANSGENE-TG1041.01 Study of **Adenovirus Interferon Gamma** in Patients With Locally Recurrent or Metastatic Melanoma. Contact: Joseph D. Rosenblatt, Chair University of Rochester Cancer Center. Ph: 716-275-9484

NCI-99-C-0145, NCI-T99-0067 Phase II Randomized Study of Isolated Limb Perfusion Using Melphalan With or Without **Tumor Necrosis Factor** in Patients with Unresectable High Grade Soft Tissue Sarcomas of the Extremity. Contact: H. Richard Alexander, Jr., Chair, NCI, Division of Clinical Sciences. Ph: 301-496-2195

Remember :

Student and Postdoc Membership Dues are only $10

The 12th Protein Kinase Symposium

August 31 - September 3, 2000
Details can be found at:
http://www.klin-biochem.uni-wuerzburg.de/Symposium/Protein Kinase

Institute for Clinical Biochemistry and Pathobiochemistry of the University of Wuerzburg, Wuerzburg, Germany

DNA Personal Ads

(forwarded via the net by Lisa Gieselhardt)

I've been single-stranded too long! Lonely ATGCATG would like to pair up with congenial TACGTAC.

Menage a trois! Ligand seeks two receptors into binding and mutual phosphorylation. Let's get together and transduce some signals.

Some dates have called me a promotor. Others have referred to me as a real operator. Personally, I think I'm just a cute piece of DNA who is still looking for that special transcription factor to help me unwind.

Highly sensitive, orally active small molecule seeks stable well-structured receptor who knows size isn't everything.

There must be a rational way to meet a date! I'm tired of hanging out in those molecular diversity bars, hoping to randomly bump into the right peptide. I want a molecule that will fit right into my active site and really turn me on. I'll send you my crystal structure if you send me yours!

Gene therapy graduate. After years of producing nothing but gibberish, I've shed my exons and am ready to express my introns. All I need is a cute vector to introduce me to the right host.

My RNA, I'm sorry I misread your UAAUAAUAA and inserted three tyrosines when you repeatedly asked me to stop. Something got lost in the translation. Please forgive me.

Naked DNA with sticky ends seeks kanamycin-resistant plasmid. EcoR1 sites preferred.

Uninhibited virus seeks reason to make me shed my coat protein.

This very selective oliogonucleotide has been probing for just the right target for longterm hybridization.

Mature cell seeks same who still enjoys cycling and won't go apoptotic on me. Let's fight senescence together!

I'm a prolific progenitor with great potential for growth and self-renewal. Call me if you're a potent hematopoietic factor who still believes in endless nights of colony stimulation.

I don't always express myself on the surface, but I'm looking for a signal that you appreciate my complexity. Send me the right message that will cross my membranes, turn on my protein

expression and release my potential energy.

NEW ISICR MEMBERS

The ISICR welcomes the following new members. Contact information can be obtained from the Headquarters Office

Yazan M. Alsayed
Chicago, IL
Rocco Coli
Bronx, NY
Gostavo B Grandao
Ciudad Habana, Cuba
Howard M Johnson
Gainesville, FL
Kristopher Josephen
Birmingham, AL
Amy S. Kozak
Bronx, NY
Nadeene Parker
London, England
Silvio E Perea
Havana, Cuba
Roza'lia Puzstai
Szeged, Hungary
Josef D. Schwarzmeier
Vienna, Austria
Jill Suttles
Louisville, KY
Melondy Rene Vander Staten
Houston, TX
Sabrina A Volpi
Bronx, NY
Marc G Wathelet
Cincinnati, OH
Mark R Walter
Birmingham, AL
Xia Zhang
Frederick, MD

POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS CAN NOW BE LISTED ON THE ISICR WEB SITE

A new site has been created on the ISICR website that will permit ISICR members to list their open postdoctoral positions.

HUMAN DIVERSITY PANELS

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Human Genetic Mutant Cell Repository has assembled numerous human diversity panels for distribution as individual cell cultures and/or DNA panels. Each collection contains 10 unrelated individuals, both males and females, from the following ethnic groups: Northern European, African American, Chinese, Middle Eastern, Indo-Pakistani, Japanese, Mexican, Puerto Rican, Southwestern American Indian, Russian, Ashkenazi Jewish, Italian, Caribbean, South American, and African. Additional panels are in preparation. Information about these samples is available via the world wide web (http://locus.umdnj.edu/nigms) or by contact with the Repository.

NIGMS Human Genetic Mutant Cell Repository
Coriell Cell Repositories
Coriell Institute for Medical Research
401 Haddon Avenue
Camden, New Jersey 08103
Tel:800-752-3805 in the United States
609-757-4848 from other countries
Fax:609-757-9737
e-mail: ccr@arginine.umdnj.edu
Jeanne C. Beck, Ph.D. Deputy Director

CEPH REFERENCE FAMILIES CHLC AND GINITHON SUBSETS

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Human Genetic Cell Repository has available for distribution lymphoblastoid cell lines and DNA samples representing the eight CEPH Reference Families in the Ginithon subset and the fifteen CEPH Reference Families in the Cooperative Human Linkage Center (CHLC) subset. Family relationships have been verified by Southern blot analysis at the Coriell Cell Repositories and approved by the Centre d'Itude du Polymorphisme Humain (CEPH), Fondation Jean Dausset. Information about DNA and cultures, as well as additional CEPH Reference Families, can be obtained through the NIGMS www catalog (http://locus.umdnj.edu/nigms).

For additional information, contact:
NIGMS Human Genetic Cell Repository
Coriell Cell Repositories
Coriell Institute for Medical Research
401 Haddon Avenue
Camden, NJ 08103
Tel: (800) 752-3805 in the US
(609) 757-4848 from other countries
FAX: (609) 757-9737
e-mail: ccr@arginine.umdnj.edu
Jeanne C. Beck, Ph.D.

(L-R) Sam Baron, Janine Doly, Bryan Williams, & Sid Pestka

The Case of the Missing DNA*

Alan Drawoh, special correspondent to the ISICR

It was a lousy day from the start when Igor woke up. Rain was coming down and it was still dark out, making the commute to the lab particularly tedious. The day ahead wasn't much better; meetings that would accomplish little, an invited speaker whose topic sounded incredibly boring and a mandatory noon lab meeting. On top of all that, nothing had been working recently in the lab; plasmid yields were poor, ligations weren't giving any recombinant colonies and transfections kept dying. Nevertheless, with a site visit on the horizon, Igor knew he better get the lab on track or his days as an independent investigator were numbered.

When he arrived in the lab at 7AM, everything was quiet as few people got in that early. He knew he could get some things started before the meetings and seminars took him away from the lab bench. At least his bacterial culture had grown overnight so he could do the plasmid extraction. This plasmid was critical as it provided the backbone for a number of new constructs he had to make. Igor knew that it should be easy as the extractions were all kit based. He was a little concerned because his extractions the week before gave extremely low plasmid yields so today he thought he would try a kit from a different manufacturer. He started to pellet the culture and while it was in the centrifuge, he checked his emails to see if anything important had come in since yesterday. The first email was from his boss. An early email was a bad sign, as that usually meant he needed something. Igor's suspicions were right as his boss requested a three-page summary of his current and future research by 11 AM that morning. Something about a request just received from the central administrative office. Typical, Igor grumbled. Those administrators think we can just drop everything and instantly get them reports that probably never get read by anyone. What lousy luck Igor thought; now the only thing that I'll have time for is to extract the plasmid DNA.

The morning proceeded as expected with Igor having to run into the lab to perform the next step in the DNA extraction and then run back to the computer to finish the 3-page report. The next to the last step in the extraction procedure was a 30-minute centrifugation and Igor thought that he would be able to finish that just before the mandatory noon meeting. As the clock approached noon, Igor ran into the lab and pulled the tube out of the centrifuge. It looked like there was a good-sized pellet and Igor thought that at least he wouldn't have to grow this plasmid again. Igor then decided that he would put the 70% alcohol wash on the pellet and let it sit on the lab bench until after the meeting. The DNA would be safe and he could finish the prep later. He poured off the supernatant and quickly put 1 ml of 70% alcohol into the tube and then set the tube on the lab bench. After the noon meeting, Igor ate a quick lunch and returned to the lab. He picked up his tube and was stunned! Where was the DNA pellet? He couldn't see it and he remembered that it appeared to be a good yield after the centrifugation. Had he inadvertently lost the pellet when he poured the supernatant down the sink? That must have been what happened! Where else could the DNA have gone! Talk about lousy luck! Igor reluctantly inoculated more bacterial growth medium so he could start all over again the next day.

The next day seemed a little brighter as the rain was gone and the sky was clear. There weren't as many interruptions in the day and Igor could spend more time in the lab. The first thing he did was to repeat the plasmid extraction. But this time he would carry it right through to the end. Everything went smoothly and after the 30-minute centrifugation to pellet the precipitated DNA, there was once again a good-sized pellet. Igor carefully poured off the pellet and saw that it was still stuck to the wall of the centrifuge tube. Igor was still a bit puzzled as he hadn't done anything differently yesterday so why

should the DNA have gone down the sink? Nevertheless he then added 1 ml of 70% alcohol and strangely, right before his eyes, the DNA BEGAN TO DISAPPEAR. Within 2 minutes, all he saw was the clear liquid with no pellet anywhere. How can this happen, he thought. All the procedures call for a 70% alcohol wash and DNA doesn't dissolve in 70% alcohol. And then it dawned on him. His 70% alcohol was kept in a 50-ml plastic tissue culture centrifuge tube and was probably at least 6 months old, if not older. The alcohol must have evaporated and what he thought was 70% alcohol was probably much less. To test this he added back 100% alcohol to the 1 ml of 70% in the centrifuge tube. To his relief, the DNA came back out of solution. The mystery of the missing DNA had been solved!

Moral:
Things are often not what they appear to be!

*Based on a true story. Certain elements slightly exaggerated.

ISICR COMMITTEE MINUTES
Paris, Sept. 1999

Minutes
Board of Directors and Advisory Board
September 5, 1999

Present: Board of Directors
Samuel Baron, Otto Haller, Ara Hovanessian, Sidney Pestka, Huub Schellekens, Bryan Williams, Kathryn Zoon

Present: Advisory Board
Robert Friedman, Ernest Borden, and Ferdinando Dianzani
Absent: Edward DeMaeyer, Ion Gresser

The Board of Directors and Board of Advisors had a joint meeting. The meeting was opened at 2:15 p.m. by Bryan Williams. The budget was first discussed. The items on the budget were discussed in detail such as the organization of FASEB, handling of the membership, applications, dues and our directory. It was noted that George Galasso, who is supervising the interactions with the FASEB, has been doing a good job. Possible support of the ISICR-sponsored symposium at the annual meeting of the American Association of Immunologists (AAI) was discussed. The AAI has provided the ISICR a symposium slot at their meeting. The next meeting of the AAI will be in Seattle. Dr. Michael Katze will head that symposium and invite the speakers for the ISICR symposium at the AAI Meeting. It was discussed whether we should support the travel to that meeting and some support will be available up to $1,000, if necessary. No decision was made, but it was pointed out that previous travel was covered by the invited speakers from their own personal funds. All members of the Board of Directors attending approved the budget.

An extensive discussion was devoted to generate ideas to increase support through the Finance Committee of the ISICR. There was a suggestion that both the annual meetings devote more effort to covering advances in the biological and clinical arena. To this end a new committee, designated the Clinical Committee, will be established to invigorate the clinical commitment of the ISICR. To do this as a new standing committee, it will be necessary to change the Bylaws of the Society. Accordingly, initially the Clinical Committee will be set up as an *Ad hoc* committee for the short-term. The Bylaws will be evaluated to consider this change and a number of other changes during the coming year. Dr. Pestka made the motion that the Clinical Committee be established, Kathryn Zoon seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by all the Board members attending. The Finance Committee, in conjunction with the Clinical Committee, will be asked to establish new recommendations for corporate membership and help to sustain our current corporate members. The two committees could meet together. This clinical committee will initially include Drs. Dianzani and Borden who will help to identify young clinical investigators to raise funds for the ISICR. They will also be members of the final Clinical Committee.

Interactions with the International Cytokine Society (ICS) and the Society for Leukocyte Biology (SLB) were discussed. We currently have meetings almost every other year with the ICS, the next one being in Amsterdam, November 5-9, 2000. Future interactions with both of these societies will be explored by Bryan Williams and by Kathryn Zoon.

The secretary summarized the Secretary's Report for the Board of Directors and gave them copies of the report. The details of the Secretary's Report are included separately in the minutes (see Secretary's Report below).

The policy of having a write-in vote for elections was discussed. Currently the Bylaws do not permit write-in votes in elections. Thus we will review the Bylaws with this in mind as well to introduce the possibility of write-in candidates for elections.

The meeting was closed at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes
ISICR International Council
September 6, 1999

Present: Aida Prync, Argentina; Eleanor Fish, Canada; Pedro Lopez-Saura, Cuba; Yoichiro Iwakura, Japan; Philip Marcus, USA; Howard Young, USA; Bryan Williams, USA; Kathryn Zoon, USA; Christine Czarniecki, USA; Sidney Pestka, USA; Robert Fleischman, USA.; Mariano Esteban, Spain Some members of the General Membership Meeting joined this meeting at 3:00.

Bryan Williams opened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. The Finance Report was provided by Bryan Williams (see Treasurer's Report for details). The summary of the Board of Directors Meeting was presented by the President. The Awards Committee report was provided by Bryan Williams (see Awards Committee Report); the Membership Committee report, by Howard Young (see Membership Committee Report); the Publications Committee report, by Robert Fleischmann (See Publications Committee Report); the Secretary's Report, by Sidney Pestka (see Secretary's Report); and the Meetings Committee report, by Christine Czarniecki (see Meetings Committee Report). The Meetings Committee is considering Shanghai, Melbourne and Montreal for the 2003 meeting. The Standards Committee had no report at this time, but their full report is given below. It was emphasized that the database maintained by FASEB which is made accessible to the officers on disk is a read-only database. The ISICR website will include advertisements for postdoctoral fellows. This will be free to members of the Society.

The meeting was closed at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes
ISICR Awards Committee
September 5, 1999

The committee met during the meeting and discussed how to maintain and improve broad participation by members and fair, democratic selection processes. Broadening of eligibility. In 1999, eligibility for the Milstein Young Investigator Awards and the Christina Fleischmann Award for Young Woman Investigators have been revised. Now graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and those within 10 years of training can apply for the awards. The committee feels that this change has served well, since we have received a number of good applications.

Milstein Awards: more nominations sought. The Milstein Awards symbolizes our pursuit for scientific excellence. It would be desirable to have broader participation in the nomination process. We emphasize that the nomination is easy to make, and hope many members will participate. This can be done by just giving the name to the Awards Committee Chairperson. We also seek active nominations by past Milstein award recipients.
Travel Awards: In 1999 the committee received 86 applications. Of them 43 members received the award. Granting Travel awards is one of the most important functions of the Society, enabling fellow members to attend the annual meeting. The society has spent more than $ 50,000 this year. Although selection for this award is primarily based on the scientific quality of abstracts, the committee will continue to make some adjustments in order to support applicants from developing countries, paying attention to those with clinically oriented research.

We wish to remind members that there is no age restrictions for Travel Award applications. "Seniors" are welcome to apply. The committee would like to encourage supervisors of each laboratory (particularly large and powerful laboratories) to voluntarily limit Travel Award applications to one or two candidates, which will enable broader distribution of travel funds.

Fair selection processes: In order to make selection processes fair and open, scores for abstracts are disclosed within the Awards Committee members on an anonymous basis. For the same purpose, ballots for the Milstein awards/Honorary Membership are collected and counted by a third party person in the chairperson's office. This procedure will continue.

Acknowledgements: The committee thanks all members who applied for ISICR awards this year. Even though some did not receive awards, their efforts are significant and appreciated.

Lastly, we express special thanks to Dr. Janine Doly who made the 1999 Award ceremony memorable.

ISICR Awards Committee

Keiko Ozato

Another Thought to Ponder

A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out.

Ara Hovanessian, Jacques Samarut (President CNRS), Bryan Williams, Kathy Zoon (incoming ISICR President)

Minutes
ISICR Meetings Committee
September 5, 1999

The meeting was called to order on Sunday, September 5, 1999 at 2:00 p.m. Present were Joan Durbin, Thomas Fischer, Michael Katze, Santo Landolfo, Allen Lau, Larry Pfeffer, Janine Doly, Huub Schellekens, George Stark, Paul Hertzog, John Hiscott, Bryan Williams and Kathy Zoon. The meeting was chaired by Christine Czarniecki.

Dr. Czarniecki opened the meeting by welcoming new members joining the ISICR Meetings Committee and asking all attendees to introduce themselves.

1998 - Jerusalem:

Christine Czarniecki presented the final report from the 1998 joint ICS/ISICR Meeting in Jerusalem. The Organizing Committee was commended for the overall success of the 1998 Meeting and all of their efforts. There were 728 registrants; 631 abstracts; about 352 talks and 279 posters. $209,000 was raised from registration fees and approximately $196,000 was raised from corporate sponsors. The majority of the companies that made substantial

contributions are working with Interferons. After expenses, the surplus $28,797 was split between ICS and ISICR.

A written report describing "Lessons learned from the ICS/ISICR Meeting in Jerusalem," prepared by Ray Kaempfer, was given to the Committee Members and Ad hoc members who will be organizing future meetings.

1999 Meeting - Paris

Janine Doly presented an update on the status of the current meeting. There were 481 registrants: 226 ISICR Members, 10 ECS Members, 113 Students, 112 Non-members, 12 additional 0n-site registrants. Tally of the registrants on the last day of the meeting was 516. In terms of financial balance sheet, Registrations - $163,000; Sponsor Contributions - $55,000; Exhibitors - $8,955; Estimated Expenses - $220,000. An additional $12,000 that had been provided to the Organizers by the ISICR is being held in reserve, at this time.

The European Cytokine Society (ECS) provided two travel awards. If there are any surplus funds after payment of expenses, they will go to the ISICR alone.

2000 - Amsterdam, Netherlands:

Huub Schellekens provided an apdate on the Amsterdam Meeting. This meeting will be a joint ICS/ISICR meeting and the meeting dates are November 5-9, 2000. The meeting site is the Amsterdam Convention Center. The Scientific Organizing Committee is made up of 12 individuals and is a fair representation of the two societies. The Meeting will start on Sunday, with an opening lecture on Sunday evening and no meeting on Friday. There is a possibility of Satellite Meetings on Friday. The Meetings Committee reminded Huub of the ISICR Policy of reviewing programs for Satellite Meetings for scientific merit and balance prior to endorsement.

There will be a Plenary Session each morning with 8 major lectures; followed by 3 parallel Workshops; followed by an afternoon Symposium. Each Symposium will begin with a review speaker. There will be 2 Chairs per session: the current plan is for one to be Dutch and one from abroad. Approximately 200-250 presentations are planned. The goal is for 800 registrants and fund-raising from the usual sources of corporate sponsorship and exhibits. The Organizers are planning to place an emphasis on clinical presentations, and specifically emphasizing Virology work such as recent progress in therapy of Hepatitis. There was then a discussion regarding attempts to attract companies doing work in the virology area.

An announcement for the Meeting was distributed during the Paris Meeting and the "First Announcement" will be sent out shortly. A Website will be set up.

2001 - Cleveland, Ohio:

George Stark reported on the activities for the 2001 meeting. This meeting of the ISICR will take place October 7 to 12, 2001 at the Sheraton in downtown Cleveland. Meetings Coordinators, based in Cleveland, will be coordinating the meeting. George presented a first draft of the Scientific Program. The plan is to mix clinical and nonclinical presentations each day. There will be 8 Plenary Sessions (2 per day) on the following topics: regulation of cytokine signaling pathways; cytokines and apoptosis; cytokines and angiogenesis; Interferons and virus: mechanisms and resistance; cytokines and cancer; Interferons and neurolgical diseases; cytokines and immunoregulation. There will be 8-10 Workshops on the following topics: Interferon-stimulated genes and their functions; interferons and virus: mechanisms and resistance; cytokines and infectious diseases; cytokines and immunopathological disorders; emerging technologies in cytokine biology; second generation interferons and inducers; genetics of cytokine biology; structural biology of proteins in cytokine signalling.

An International Organizing Committee has been established and fund raising activities have been initiated. Each person has been assigned to contact specific companies.

A Web site will be set up for the meeting. A reception is being planned for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

2002 – Vienna, Austria

Christine Czarniecki and Bryan Williams provided an update on the plans for the joint ICS/ISICR Meeting in Vienna in 2002. Two venues are being considered: the Austria Congress Center and the Hofburg Congress Center. On Saturday, September 11, Christine, Bryan, Huub Schellekens, and members of the ICS (Jan Vilcek, Joost Oppenheim, and Annalise Schimpl) met with Josef Schwarzmeier and visited both potential sites. After discussions, it was agreed that the Hofburg Congress Center was the more desirable of the two for many reasons including available facilities (types of rooms, etc.) and proximity to hotels. The meeting dates being considered are August 25-29, 2002. The proposed meeting dates are earlier than usual, however, these dates would allow for funding support from the city. Each site will submit a new proposal to the Organizers (based on our discussions at the visit) and the choice will be made.

2003

At last years Committee meeting in Jerusalem, proposals were presented for Melbourne and Shanghai as potential future meeting sites. Paul Hertzog (for Melbourne) and Xinyuan Liu (for Shanghai) have both indicated their continued interest.

Paul Hertzog was present at the meeting in Paris and led the discussion about a possible reconsideration of this meeting (which was originally proposed as a joint meeting of the ICS and ISICR) as a 2003 meeting of the ISICR with possible involvement of the local Australian Cytokine Society, and perhaps the Japanese Cytokine Society. After discussion, it was agreed that the ISICR Meetings Committee would recommend to the ISICR Board that the ISICR would hold its meeting in 2003 in Melbourne.

Other business:

John Hiscott attended the Committee to present a proposal for Montreal as a possible Meeting site for 2004. He is proposing this as joint ICS/ISICR meeting. He and Marie-France Polidori (of the Palais des Congres de Montreal) made a presentation of the strengths of Montreal and the palais des Congres as a potential meeting site. John proposed September 26-30 as potential dates. He has approached individuals and there is interest in serving on the Organizing Committee; there are a large number of local people working on cytokines, interferons, viral pathogenesis, AIDS, etc.

After discussion it was agreed that Kathy Zoon, Bryan Williams and John Hiscott would initiate discussions with the ICS and determine their interest in this site and date. This proposal will be discussed again at the next ISICR Meetings Committee Meeting in Amsterdam and members of the ICS will be invited to participate in these discussions, for a decision.

Michael Katze requested discussion of his involvement in the Organizing of a Symposium to be held as a Satellite to the AAI Meeting. The discussion pointed out the benefits such a symposium might provide to the Society. ISICR Policy was discussed. As per ISICR Policy, for any Symposium to receive sponsorship/ endorsement from the ISICR, the program must be reviewed, for scientific merit and balance, by the ISICR Meetings Committee. It was agreed that Michael would provide the program to the ISICR Meetings Committee Chair who would then forward it to the Committee Members for approval. At that time, the Committee would make the recommendation to the ISICR Board for endorsement.

There was no other new business and the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine W. Czarniecki
Chair, ISICR Meetings Committee

Space for Experimental Design

Minutes
ISICR Membership Committee
September 5, 1999

The membership committee was called to order at 4:05 PM, Sunday, Sept. 5, 1999. Members present were Howard Young, Acting Chair, Bret Hassel, Steve Ralph and Eliane Meurs.

Howard Young reported on the status of ISICR membership. As of July 28, 1999 there were 673 paid members (575 Regular members, 88 Student members, 3 Corporate sponsors and 7 Emeritus Members). In addition, there are 14 Honorary Members and 32 Associate Members. On a troublesome note, there were 176 members who had paid through 1998 but not renewed, 132 who had paid through 1997 but not renewed and 74 who paid in 1996 but did not renew. Of the non-renewals in both 1998 and 1997, 33-34% were Students or Associate members. In 1997, 35% of the non-renewals were from the US and outside of the US, the major losses were Russia – 14, Hungary –12, Japan –9, China –7. In 1998, 43% of the non-renewals were from the US and outside of the US, the major losses were Poland –12, Japan –11, Hungary –9, Italy –9. The committee was very concerned about the large number of non-renewals and the following recommendations were made to increase the membership roles.

1. Letters urging renewal should go to members at least twice/year. Names on letters returned to FASEB as undeliverable should be sent to the International Council members of the respective countries to track down the former members.

2. It was recommended that a questionnaire be included with renewal statements for those members who choose not to renew. This questionnaire (postage paid) could serve as a resource to understand why former members choose to leave the ISICR.

3. It was recommended that the society give a 1 year membership to meeting attendees who are not ISICR members. This may be most practical in years that the meeting is not held jointly with the Cytokine Society.

4. The committee recommended that the ISICR establish an email database for members in Europe and Asia as these email addresses tend to change much less frequently than in the US.

5. For those individuals who subscribe to the electronic version of the JICR, it was recommended that a link to membership information in the ISICR be established and an initial reduced membership fee be offered.

6. The committee recommends that members must be paid up by April 1 to be eligible for any ISICR awards.

7. The committee believes that chairing sessions at the annual meeting is a privilege and should be reserved for ISICR members who are current in their membership dues.

8. ISICR principal investigators should be encouraged to support at least the initial membership for their students/postdocs.

9. For student/postdocs memberships, the ISICR sponsors name should be included on the FASEB database. This should make it easier to track down the location of these individuals after they leave that specific laboratory.

10. The importance of renewal and benefits of membership should be highlighted in each issue of the Newsletter with special emphasis on the first issue of each year.

11. ISICR committee members must be current with their dues.

12. The JICR should reconsider a "Hot Paper of the Year" Award for a publication in the journal by an ISICR

member. Members could nominate their own papers and the Editorial Board could vote on the selection with the Award to be presented at the annual meeting.

13. Permit members to advertise postdoctoral positions on the ISICR website.

14. Remove members from the mailing list if they are more than 6 months in arrears. Former members should not continue to receive ISICR benefits (Newsletter, Directory) if they do not stay current with their dues.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 PM.
Respectfully submitted,
Howard Young

Minutes
ISICR Nomenclature Committee
September 5, 1999

Attended by Paul Hertzog, Erik Lundgren (chair), Richard Pine, Margaret Sekellick. Later Bernhard Lebleu agreed on the recommendations made.

Review of 1998 committee meeting: IRF nomenclature was settled. It was decided that the acronym IRF would stand for Interferon consensus sequence regulatory factor. ICSBP and the p48 subunit of ISGF3, also known as ISGF3γ, were renamed as IRF-8 and IRF-9 respectively.

Nomenclature of avian interferons was discussed as proposed by John W. Lowenthal, Peter J. Staeheli, Ursula Schultz, Margaret J. Sekellick and Philip I. Marcus (see table at end of newsletter). Two approaches, structure-function and evolutionary, were considered as the basis for relatedness among avian interferons and between avian and other interferons, and as the basis for naming. The specific questions were whether to distinguish several apparent chicken α interferons from a single putative β interferon, and name them accordingly; and how to classify/name each of the single cloned turkey and duck interferons. No decisions were reached.

Old business
Margaret Sekellick reviewed the basis for classification of chicken interferons as α or β. It included serological and biochemical properties, as well as inducibility by imiquimod. More details of the serological data were sought, since it is known that antibodies that recognize many interferons may fail to react with one or a few. The question of imiquimod inducibility as a criterion was related to the structure-function of interferon gene promoters. Imiquimod induction is characteristic of mammalian α interferons and the proposed chicken α's. Mammalian β interferons have an NF-κB site in their promoters. The proposed chicken β has a putative NF-κB binding site not found in the chicken promoters. These details were second hand, but if confirmed by functional data will support an α/β nomenclature. It was noted that identification of disulfide bridges, or other structural data, would be extremely helpful for assigning the avian interferons to α/β or new groups. However, such data is not available, and likely will not be for some time.

It was noted that previously interferons were named on the basis of serological, biochemical, and amino acid sequence criteria, and that phylogenetic or evolutionary criteria were not considered. If the evolutionary concern about divergence of avian and mammalian lineages prior to elaboration of interferon gene duplications is correct and were the basis for naming, either additional Greek letters or an alternative scheme, such as numbering, would be required for the avian interferons. Since there is agreement on chicken γ interferon, numbers for the others would be inconsistent. An alphabet of Greek letters was deemed inelegant. These difficulties, and the prior lack of evolutionary criteria, led the committee to provisionally approve an α/β nomenclature for chicken interferons. A final assignment awaits confirmation that the promoter sequence and serological issues were correctly understood. Decisions on duck and turkey interferons are not possible without further examples and additional data.

New business
Nomenclature of bovine and ovine IFN-τ proteins was considered as proposed by R. Michael Roberts. Decisions await additional data.

Nomenclature of soluble type I IFN receptor chains was discussed since more than one is now known to exist. The issue will be further considered at the next meeting.
Richard Pine/Erik Lundgren

Minutes
ISICR Publications Committee
September 5, 1999

The Publications Committee of the International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research met at 4:10 pm on September 5, 1999 at the Annual Meeting of the ISICR. Members present and participating in discussion were Patricia Fitzgerald-Bocarsly, Bob Fleischmann, Dhan Kalvakolanu, Sandra Pellegrini, Yoshihiro Sokawa, Deborah Vestal, and Phil Marcus (ex officio).

The following topics were discussed by the Committee:
1. The Publications Committee heard the status report of the Journal of Interferon and Cytokine Research (JICR) from Phil Marcus.
   a. Phil reported that the journal appears to be in very good shape. This year has seen the largest number of accepted manuscripts and the largest number of pages in the JICR.
   b. Phil reported that the expedited 2 week review has continued to be a popular choice. It has worked well, with reviewers meeting the deadline in almost every instant. There does not appear to be a bias towards either acceptance or rejection of papers submitted for expedited 2 week review.
   c. Dr. Marcus reported that there are still members of the Editorial Board

do not support the JICR by publishing in the journal. The Publications Committee recognizes that the impact factor of the JICR can be improved only if the members of the ISICR and most particularly the members of the Editorial Board of the JICR publish their best articles in the journal. The Publications Committee encourages them to do so.

2. The Publications Committee discussed the membership of the Editorial Board.

a. According to the newly signed contract with Mary Ann Liebert, the membership of the Editorial Board is to be reviewed every three years. According to the contract, it is possible for Editorial Board members to be reappointed.

b. It was agreed that the best way to review the Editorial Board was to review one-third of the Editorial Board membership each year, with those newly appointed to the Editorial Board two years ago being the last to be reviewed.

c. All agreed that the principle qualifications for Editorial Board membership should include support of the JICR through publications in the journal, appropriate and timely reviews of submitted manuscripts, and international reputation.

3. The Publications Committee discussed the membership of the Section Editors.

a. According to the newly signed contract with Mary Ann Liebert, the membership of the Section Editors is to be reviewed every five years. According to the contract, it is possible for Section Editors to be reappointed.

b. It was agreed that the best way to review the Section Editors was to review about one-fifth of the Section Editors each year, with the most recently appointed Section Editors to be the last to be reviewed.

c. All agreed that the principle qualifications for Section Editorship should include support of the JICR through publications in the journal, appropriate turnover time for manuscripts, and international reputation.

4. The Publications Committee discussed the possibility of a Special Issue of the JICR on the topic of Interferon Assays to be written by the World Health Organization. The Special Issue was approved, conditional upon peer-review of manuscripts by internationally recognized experts in the interferon field to ensure that they meet the standard of quality of the International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research.

The Publications Committee meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.
Respectfully Submitted,
W. Robert Fleischmann, Chair
ISICR Publications Committee

Minutes
ISICR Standards Committee
September 5, 1999

Attendees: Norman Finter, Andrew Galazka, Gianni Garotta, Wendy Jones, Hanna-Leena Kauppinen, Yoshimi Kawade, Masayoshi Kohase, Kazuo Hosoi, Tony Meager, Aida Sterin-Prync, Louis Westreich, and Sidney Grossberg (chairman).

Dr. Grossberg opened the meeting at 1400 hours and asked the attendees to introduce themselves and state their affiliations.

I. Report on World Health Organization (WHO) Meetings on Cytokine Standards, October 1998 and July 1999.

Minutes of the WHO Cytokine Standards meetings held within the past year had been distributed prior to the meeting. Those of the most recent meeting, the 5th WHO Consultation on Cytokine Standards (27-28 July 1999), were briefly reviewed by Dr. Grossberg. Though chiefly concerned with human IFN-alpha standardization (see below), there were several items of general discussion, one of which was concerned with the reorganization of the Biologicals Unit at WHO. The Biologicals Unit is now replaced by a section known as Quality Assurance and Safety of Biologicals, with responsibility for Therapeutic Biologicals, Vaccines, and Blood Products; for these three subject areas, subcommittees are to be instituted to advise directly the WHO Expert Committee on Biological Standardization (ECBS). The subcommittee with a focus on therapeutic biologicals will probably assume the role of the present Consultative Group on Cytokine Standards, on which the ISICR Standards Committee has been represented.

II. HuIFN-Alpha International Collaborative Studies and Recommendations.

In 1994, at a WHO Consultation on the Standardization of Interferons, it was recommended that the 1st International Reference Preparation (IRP) for human leukocyte IFN, 69/19, be the only standard for the calibration of IFN-alpha preparations, a recommendation which was accepted by the *ECBS*. Subsequently a large collaborative study was conducted under the auspices of NIBSC to replace 69/19 with a more highly purified leukocyte IFN-alpha preparation and to evaluate various existing and new candidate International Standards (IS) for individual IFN-alpha subtypes and for IFN-alpha subtype mixtures, e.g. lymphoblastoid IFN. This study, completed in 1998, was followed by a smaller study in 1999, undertaken by commercial manufacturers of IFN-alpha under the auspices of the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations (IFPMA) and the direction of NIBSC staff. Based upon the results of both studies and constructive comments received from participants, recommendations made by the WHO Consultative Group and the IFPMA concerning the suitability of existing and candidate IS to serve as WHO IS and their respective potency assignments were discussed by the WHO Consultative Group and approved for submission to the ECBS later this year. Both studies endorsed the view that, where possible, individual homologous IFN-alpha standards should be chosen to serve as WHO IS. The WHO Consultative Group made the following

ten recommendations (reproduced here verbatim from its draft report):

1. It is recommended that the preparation of leukocyte interferon alpha in ampoules coded 94/78 be established as the International Standard for human leukocyte interferon alpha to replace the International Reference Preparation (IRP) for interferon, human leukocyte, in ampoules coded 69/19 and that the preparation 69/19 be discontinued.

It is recommended that the IS for human leukocyte interferon alpha be assigned a unitage of 11000 International Units per ampoule based on its calibration in terms of the IRP 69/19.

It is further recommended that an international non-proprietary name (INN) be assigned to the clinical product from which the material in these ampoules was obtained and that this INN be associated with the labels on the ampoules when established.

2. It is recommended that the preparation of interferon alpha1 in ampoules coded 83/514 be retained as the First International Standard for interferon alpha1 and that its assigned unitage of 8000 IU per ampoule be retained.

3. It is recommended that the preparation of interferon omega in ampoules coded 94/754 be established as the First International Standard for Human Interferon Omega, and that it be assigned a unitage of 20000 IU per ampoule based on its calibration in terms of the IRP 69/19, which is also consistent with its calibration in terms of the proposed IS for human leukocyte interferon alpha 94/784.

4. It is recommended that the preparation of interferon alpha2c in ampoules coded 95/580 be established as the First International Standard for Interferon alpha2c, and that it be assigned a unitage of 40000 IU per ampoule based on its calibration in terms of the IRP 69/19, which is also consistent with its calibration in terms of the proposed IS for human leukocyte interferon alpha 94/784.

5. It is recommended that the preparation of interferon alpha2b in ampoules coded 95/566 be established as the Second International Standard for Interferon alpha2b and that it be assigned a unitage of 70000 IU per ampoule based on its calibration in terms of the IRP 69/19, which is also consistent with its calibration in terms of the proposed IS for human leukocyte interferon alpha 94/784.

It must be noted that the units assigned to this preparation (95/566) are not continuous with the current IS for IFN alpha2b 82/576, which is recommended to be discontinued, and that assignment of this unitage may cause discontinuity of unitage for some medical and therapeutic products of Interferon alpha 2b.

6. It is recommended that the preparation of consensus interferon in ampoules coded 94/786 be established as the First International Standard for Human interferon alpha, consensus, and that it be assigned a unitage of 100,000 IU per ampoule. This study indicated that this preparation is dissimilar to other forms of interferon alpha in a number of assays, and, as a potential therapeutic, a standard is necessary.

The units assigned to this preparation (94/786) are not related to the International Units assigned to the proposed IS for Leukocyte Interferon 94/784 and are not related to the unitage of the First IRP 69/19.

7. It is recommended that the preparation of interferon in ampoules coded 95/568 be established as the Second International Standard for Interferon alpha, lymphoblastoid N1 and it is recommended that it be assigned a unitage of 38,000 IU per ampoule. These units are related to those of the First IS for Lymphoblastoid Interferon, Ga23-901-532 and consistent with units presently in use in practice, and thus continuity of the unitage is maintained. It is recommended that the First IS for Lymphoblastoid Interferon, Ga23-901-532, be discontinued.

The units assigned to this preparation (95/568) are not related to the International Units assigned to the proposed IS for Leukocyte Interferon 94/784 and nor to the unitage of the First IRP 69/19, but are consistent with calibration of 95/568 in terms of Ga23-901-532.

8. It is recommended that the preparation of interferon alpha2a in ampoules coded 95/650 be established as the Second International Standard for Interferon alpha2a and that it be assigned a unitage of 63000 IU per ampoule. These units are related to those of the First IS for Interferon alpha2a, Gxa01-901-535 and are consistent with units presently in use in practice, and thus continuity of the unitage is maintained. It is recommended that the First IS for Interferon alpha2a, Gxa01-901-535, be discontinued.

The units assigned to this preparation (95/650) are not related to the International Units assigned to the proposed IS for Leukocyte Interferon 94/784 and nor to the unitage of the First IS 69/19, but are consistent with calibration of 95/650 in terms of Gxa01-901-535.

9. It is recommended that the preparation of interferon alpha (human leukocyte N3) in ampoules coded 95/574 be established as the First International Standard for Human Interferon alpha (Leukocyte N3) and that it be assigned a unitage of 60000 IU per ampoule to maintain continuity of unitage with units presently in use in practice. The latter unitage was derived from the Working IS for Leucocyte Interferon, Ga23-902-530, which is now recommended be discontinued.

The units assigned to this preparation (95/574) are not related to the International Units assigned to the proposed IS for Leukocyte Interferon 94/784 and nor to the unitage of the First IRP 69/19.

10. It is recommended that the preparation of interferon alpha 1/8 in ampoules coded 95/572 be made available as the First International

Standard for Interferon alpha1/8 with an assigned unitage of 27,000 IU per ampoule based on its calibration in terms of the IRP 69/19, which is also consistent with its calibration in terms of the proposed IS for human leukocyte interferon alpha 94/784.

It was noted that two manufacturers of IFN-alpha2b obtained different results for 95/566, the proposed new WHO IS for IFN-alpha2b (see 5 above). The manufacturer who started producing IFN-alpha2b products earlier had used 69/19 as standard. The second manufacturer used the 1st WHO IS for IFN-alpha2b (82/576), the unitage of which was not continuous with that of 69/19. It was recognized that the acceptance of 95/566 with unitage continuous with that of 69/19, as endorsed by the majority of IFPMA members, may cause some hardship for the second manufacturer. However, the second manufacturer in question has agreed to comply with the majority decision. (end of verbatim recommendations of the WHO Consultative Group in its draft report.)

ISICR Committee Discussion and Recommendations on HuIFN-alpha Standards:

Dr. Kauppinen raised the concern that the manufacturers of leukocyte interferon did not agree in their results for the leukocyte N3 preparation (95/574). Although she felt that ECBS should defer its decision to establish this standard preparation until another small study could resolve this matter, there was no consensus in the group, and it was suggested that she might wish to bring this issue to the attention of Dr. Griffiths at WHO.

Concerns were also raised that, inasmuch as the descriptions of the materials used for lyophilized IFN-alpha preparations were not reviewed by the WHO Consultative Group as part of the recommendations to ECBS, it is difficult to assess the appropriateness of a standard as truly "homologous" or different from existing standards. The NIH had traditionally reviewed the descriptions of IFN materials with the manufacturers and supplied relevant details to WHO ECBS in the Reference Reagent Notes and memoranda that would subsequently accompany the ampoules when they were distributed. This information was then published by WHO. Such details were not supplied to the WHO Consultative Group in the case of new IFN-alpha materials, although such information was probably available. It is possible this information was withheld due to confidentiality agreements between NIBSC and manufacturers.

It was recommended that a description of each of the new IFN-alpha standards, which includes composition (identification of subtypes), formulation and stability information, should be forwarded to WHO ECBS and supplied in the technical note that accompanies the ampoules of the standards when they are distributed. It was agreed to petition WHO to make public such descriptions, especially where preparations of IFN-alpha subtype mixtures were involved, because of differences in the subtype composition of natural IFN-alpha mixtures produced by different manufacturers.

III. HuIFN-beta Collaborative Study.

A year ago the ISICR Standards Committee discussed the recovery and stability problems that had been encountered with the IFN-beta preparations and recommended that new materials be prepared. The WHO Consultative Group agreed with that recommendation. New candidate standards will be prepared using siliconized ampoules, as recommended by Mr. Kazuo Hosoi. Mr. Hosoi further recommended that, following reconstitution of standards, IFN-beta-containing solutions be diluted in serum-containing media and stored in plastic containers. It is expected that materials will be ready by this time next year.

Mr. Hosoi presented further data on the recovery of IFN-beta from ampoules of IFN-beta standards. These showed that, by using an immunoassay to measure IFN-beta content, recovery was somewhat variable for all standards tested (Gb23-902-531, 95/786, 97/672, Gxb02-901-535) where materials had been filled into non-siliconized ampoules, irrespective of formulation. Variation among the reconstituted contents from several ampoules of each standard was between 87 and 110% of the mean. The possibility was raised that such variation could be the result of experimental error in dilutions. The question was also raised whether such variation was of real significance for estimations of biological activity, especially in view of the limited precision of bioassays.

The WHO Consultative Group had agreed that some analysis of the data from the present incomplete study is appropriate to see if there might be other considerations beyond the problems in production of the ampoules. Specifically, the data may be useful in assessing whether the cell/virus system makes a difference in the results, which might pertain, for example, to the present fibroblast-derived IFN-beta standard (Gb23-902-531) which is known to be contaminated with other cytokines.

IV. Cytokine immunoassay results and biological activity units.

There are numerous reports of immunoassay results that are expressed in International Units (IU). Immunoassays are dependent on the mass of the analyte. Correlation of these results with biological activity is dependent on the specificity of the antibody, the type of assay, and the standard used. For some standards a content of a 'nominal" mass has been suggested, based on the manufacturer's estimate. The Committee felt that it is misleading to report immunoassay results in any units of biological activity.

ISICR Committee Recommendation on Reporting Immunoassay Results:

It was unanimously agreed that ELISA results should not be expressed in units of biological activity. This recommendation should be brought to

the attention of investigators and manufacturers.

V. Future workshops

It was announced that the WHO Consultative Group had recommended that NIBSC and ISICR jointly organize a workshop on immunogenicity to cytokines and other therapeutic proteins. Also recommended was a workshop on standardization of second-generation cytokine molecules, such as pegylated cytokines, various cytokine inhibitors, and soluble cytokine receptors.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1745 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy E. Jones, Ph.D.
Tony Meager, Ph.D.
Sidney E. Grossberg, M.D.

ISICR BUDGET FOR 1999

	Proposed	Actual
Travel awards 2000 meeting	$ 50,000	$ 53,600
FASEB Expenses	$ 26,000	$ 17,068
Advance – 2000 Meeting		$ 10,000*
Salary Secretary's Office	$ 9,600**	$ 8,800**
Office Expenses: Pres., Sec., Treas.	$ 4,100	$ 1,780
Financial Report 1999	$ 2,500	$ 2,500
Travel	$ 4,000	$ 2,155
Consulting	$ 1,800	$ 1,350
Miscellaneous (Bank Charges)	$ 300	$ 159
TOTAL	**$ 98,300**	**$ 97,412**

Anticipated Expenditures 9/1/99 – 12/31/99:	
FASEB	$ 5,550
Consulting	$ 450
Travel (Honorary Members)	$ 5,000
TOTAL	**$108,412**

*This $10,000 was not in the 1999 proposed budget but was paid in 1999 as an advance for the Amsterdam meeting in 2000.

**$9,600 was budgeted for 1999 but not fully paid

ISICR BUDGET FOR 2000
Adopted at 1999 Annual Meeting

Travel Awards 2000	$ 50 000
FASEB Expenses	$ 25,000
AAI Meeting Expenses	$ 1,000
Salary Secretary's Office	$ 9,800
Office Expenses:	
President	$ 500
Secretary - General	$ 4,500
- Stationery(for 2 years)	$ 2,000
Treasurer	$ 500
Financial Report 1999	$ 2,500
Travel	$ 4,000
Consulting	$ 1,800
Miscellaneous	$ 500
Total	**$ 102,100**

Secretary's Report September, 1999

I. Introduction

The ISICR has continued to enhance communication to its membership by publication of the Newsletter. This year marks the sixth year of the publication of the ISICR Newsletter. Three issues of the ISICR Newsletter were mailed to all our members so far this year. Publishing this newsletter was possible only with the exceptional energy of our editor-in-chief Howard Young who has been assisted by Patricia Fitzgerald-Bocarsly, Paul Drew and Hannah Nguyen. I thank them for undertaking and continuing this important endeavor. The Newsletter provides a great deal of information that members find useful. In the Newsletter, we have published the minutes of our committee meetings and the announcements of the procedures for nominations for the Milstein and other ISICR awards and for nomination of honorary members.

II. Elections and Awards

This year an election for the President-elect must be held. The International Councilors were contacted for nominations. The nominations were tallied and two individuals with the most votes, Keiko Ozato and Ara Hovanessian were placed on the ballot to be sent to the members of the ISICR. The office of the Secretary is preparing the ballot and the FASEB office will send out the ballots to the full ISICR membership, count the votes and inform the officers of the new President-elect.

The Awards Committee completed its discussions on nominations for the Milstein Award and Honorary Membership. The nominees were approved by the Board of Directors. Drs. Michael Katze and Adi Kimchi were chosen for the Milstein Award. Drs. Derek Burke and Edward DeMaeyer were chosen as new Honorary Members. Our congratulations to them all. We thank the chairperson, Dr. Keiko Ozato, and members of the Awards Committee for their efforts. The membership lists for the Awards Committee and all the ISICR committees can be found in Appendix I. The eligibility for the Milstein Young Investigator Awards and the Christina Fleischmann Award were modified slightly to include graduate students as legitimate applicants. Drs. Jorge Blanko, Sandy Der, Sergei Kotenko and Seng-Lai Tan were given Milstein Young Investigator Awards and Dr. Isabelle Marie received the Christina Fleischmann Award.

III. Membership

As of July 28, 1999, the Society has listed 673 paid members. This is a decrease of 50 from 1998. It should be noted that the membership total last year included members of record to

September 29, 1998. Of the 673 members, 607 are members who renewed and 66 are new members. We also have 14 honorary members, 7 emeritus members and 32 associate members. This brings our current paid, honorary and associate members to a total of 719. The largest number of currently paid members are from the United States (304), followed by Japan (58), then France (30), Germany (29), Italy (29), and the United Kingdom (25). For our associate members, most are from Poland (25). The number of members using our 2- and 3-year membership renewal options is also increasing: 156 members have already paid through 2000 and 76 have paid through the year 2001. This means that future income from membership dues will decrease unless the number of members increases substantially.

IV. Corporate Sponsorship

The income from sponsoring corporate members so far this year was $35,000 from five corporate sponsors. This is a decrease of $7,500 from 1998. Please see Appendix III for the complete list of corporate members. We welcome any suggestions for new corporate sponsors. Members suggesting new corporate sponsors should provide the ISICR office with the names of the potential sponsors and individuals to contact at these organizations. In addition, it would be useful for members of the Society and the International Council to make the first contacts before writing to this office. We value our corporate members who sustain the programs of the Society.

V. International Council

In May, the members of the International Council were contacted to make nominations for the office of President-elect. The list of current International Council members is attached as Appendix IV.

VI. FASEB

FASEB is responsible for maintaining the membership database, compiling the membership directory and distributing the Newsletter. In January FASEB sent out correction cards to members. They received a good response and were able to update the database significantly. Other responsibilities of the FASEB office are to send a quarterly membership report to Dr. Heinz-Kurt Hochkeppel, Chairman of the Membership Committee, to send a monthly update of membership to Dr. Menachem Rubinstein so he can keep the website up to date, to send a quarterly listing of new members to Dr. Howard Young for incorporation into the Newsletter, and to send out membership renewal notices September 15, November 30 and January 15, if appropriate. Welcome letters are sent to all new members of the Society. The membership directory was compiled and sent out in July and three issues of the Newsletters were distributed this year. This office is also distributing the ballot for President-elect to ISICR members and counting the votes. We thank Ms. Delores Francis for her work for the ISICR.

Respectfully yours,
Sidney Pestka, M.D.

Appendix I
Committee Membership List

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE
Chairperson: Norman Finter (1998-2000)
Samuel Baron (1998-2000)
Alfons Billiau (1998-2000)
Ferdinando Dianzani (1998-2000)
Robert Friedman (1998-2000)
Yoshime Kawade (1998-2000)

AWARDS COMMITTEE
Chairperson: Keiko Ozato (1998-2001)
Ara Hovanessian (1998-2000)
Ian Kerr (1998-2000)
Yukio Mitsui (1998-2000)
Paula Pitha-Rowe (1998-2000)
Christian Schindler (1999-2000)
Ganes Sen (1998-2000)
Robert Silverman (1999-2000)

MEETINGS COMMITTEE
Chairperson: Christine Czarniecki (1998-2000)
Joan Durbin (1999-2000)
Thomas Fischer (1999-2000)
Raymond Kaempfer (1998-2000)
Michael Katze (1998-2000)
Santo Landolfo (1998-2000)
Allan Lau (1998-2000)
Larry Pfeffer (1996-2000)
Yu-ichiro Satob (1998-2000)
Thomas Cesario, *Ad hoc* (1998-2000)
Janine Doly (1998-2000) *Ad hoc*
Huub Schellekens (1998-2000) *Ad hoc*
George Stark (1998-2002) *Ad hoc*

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Chairperson: Heinz-Kurt Hochkeppel (1998-2000)
Mariano Esteban (1999-2000)
Bret Hassel (1999-2001)
Antonis Koromilas (1998-2000)
Aseem Kumar (1998-2000)
Steve Ralph (1999-2001)
Eliane Meurs (1998-2000)
Howard A. Young (1998-2000)

NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE
Chairperson: Erik Lundgren (1998-2001)
Paul Hertzog (1998-2000
Jerome A. Langer (1998-2000)
Bernard Lebleu (1998-2000)
Richard Pine (1999-2001)
Margaret Sekellick (1999-2001)

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
Chairperson: W. Robert Fleischmann (1998-2000)
Kurt Berg (1999-2001)
Maria Capobianchi (1999-2001)
Deborah Finter (1999-2001)
Patricia Fitzgerald-Bocarsly (1998-2000)
Dhan Kalvakolanu (1998-2000)

Sandra Pellegrini (1998-2000)
Yoshihiro Sokawa (1999-2001)
Jeremiah Tilles (1999-2001)
Philip I. Marcus, ex officio

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Chairperson: Sidney E. Grossberg (1997-2001)
Lawrence Blatt (1998-2000)
Ronald Bordens (1998-2000)
Marcelo Criscuolo (1998-2000)
Norman B. Finter (1996-2001)
Andrew Galazka (1999-2001)
Wendy Jones (1999-2001)
Hanna-Leena Kauppinen (1999-2001)
Masayoshi Kohase (1996-2001)
Anthony Meager (1996-2001)
Huub Schellekens (1996-2001)

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Appendix III
List of Corporate Members, 1999

Sponsoring Corporate Members
Amgen, Inc.
Berlex Biosciences
Biogen, Inc.
Bio Sidus, S.A.
Schering- Plough Research Institute
Sumitomo Pharmaceuticals Co.
Toray Industries, Inc.

Summary of Income from Corporate Sponsorship
1990 -$28,990
1991 - 35,000
1992 - 33,500
1993 - 37,500
1994 - 87,500
1995 - 105,000
1996 - 62,500
1997 - 65,000
1998 - 52,500

Appendix IV
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS (1998-2000)

ARGENTINA Marcelo E. Criscuolo
AUSTRALIA Manfred W. Beilharz
Alternate: Paul J. Hertzog
AUSTRIA Christian Marth
Alternate: Thomas Decker
BELGIUM Hubertine Heremans
BRAZIL
Luiz Fernando Lima Reis
CANADA Eleanor N. Fish
Alternate: John Hiscott
CHINA Zhong-Cheng Zheng
CROATIA Zvonko Kusic
DENMARK Vagn Bonnevie
Alternate: Just Justesen
FINLAND Ilkka Julkunen
FRANCE Janine Doly
Gilles Uzé
Alternate: Claude La Bonnardiere
GERMANY Otto Haller
GREECE George Tsantakis
Alternate: John Vakalikos
HUNGARY Béla Taródi
ISRAEL Menachem Rubinstein
Alternate: Ben-Zion Levi
ITALY Guido Antonelli
Maria Capobianchi
Alternates: Elisabetta Affabris
G. Gribando
JAPAN Jiro Imanishi
Yoichiro Iwakura
Yukio Mitsui
Yoshihiro Sokawa
Shudo Yamazaki
Alternates:
Masakazu Kita
Masayoshi Kohase
Ken Takeda
Shin Yonehara
NORWAY Borre Robertsen
POLAND Egbert Piasecki
Alternate: Teresa Kaminska
RUSSIA Felix I. Ershov
Alternative: Valentina V. Malinovskaya
SWEDEN Stefan Einhorn
Kjell E. Öberg
Alternates: Dan Grandér
Gunnar Alm
SWITZERLAND
Helmut Jacobsen
Heinz-Kurt Hochkeppel
UNITED KINGDOM Ian Kerr
UNITED STATES
Samuel Baron
Susan E. Krown
Philip I. Marcus
Paula Pitha-Rowe
Nancy C. Reich
Charles E. Samuel
Robert D. Schreiber
Ganes C. Sen
Robert H. Silverman
George R. Stark
Stefanie N. Vogel
Howard A. Young
Alternates:
Oscar R. Colamonici
Michael G. Katze
Jerome A. Langer
R. Michael Roberts
Berish Y. Rubin
Gerald Sonnenfeld
Milton W. Taylor

ASSOCIATE EDITOR NEEDED: NO PAY but LOTS of GLORY

Many thanks to Paul Drew for serving as an Associate Editor of the ISICR newsletter for the last 3+ years. We are now looking for a new volunteer to help with the newsletter. The only requirement

is enthusiasm. Any ISICR member interested in this extremely prestigious position should contact Howard Young for more information.

Nomenclature of Avian Interferons

Species	Gene Symbol	Protein symbol	Original nomenclature	Genbank accession
		TYPE-I INTERFERON		
Interferon-alpha family:				
Chicken	*ChIFNA*	ChIFN-α	ChIFN[(1)]	U07868
			ChIFN1-1[(2)]	X92476
			ChIFN1-2[(2)]	X92477
			ChIFN1-3[(2)]	X92478
Interferon-beta:				
Chicken	*ChIFNB*	ChIFN-β	ChIFN2[(2)]	X92479
		TYPE-II INTERFERON		
Interferon-gamma:				
Chicken[(3)]	*ChIFNG*	ChIFN-γ	ChIFN-γ	U27465
Turkey[(4)]	*TuIFNG*	TuIFN-γ		AJ000725
Ring-necked pheasant[(4)]	*PhIFNG*	PhIFN-γ		AJ001289
Japanese quail[(4)]	*JqIFNG*	JqIFN-γ		AJ001678
Guinea fowl[(4)]	*GfIFNG*	GfIFN-γ		AJ001263

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2000 Joint Meeting International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research & The International Cytokine Society Nov. 5-9

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