XVII Great Lakes Transplant Immunology Forum
October 10-11, 2016

Co-hosts:
Northwestern University
The University of Chicago
University of Illinois at Chicago

Monday, October 10
11:00-12:35  Registration, Welcome and Lunch
12:35-2:35   Session 1: Antibodies and complement
2:35-3:05    Break
3:05-4:55    Session 2: Alloreactivity and Rejection
5:15-6:45    Moderated Poster and Sponsor Exhibits
7:00-10:00  Dinner

Tuesday, October 11
8:00-10:30   Session 3: Thymus and Tolerance
10:00-10:30  Break
10:30-12:00  Session 4: Innate Immunity
12:00-1:00   Lunch & Presentation of Awards

The Charles G. Orosz Keynote Lecture
1-2 PM, Tuesday, October 11, 2016
“Human immune responses in tissues and circulation”
Donna Farber, Ph.D.
Professor of Surgical Sciences (in Surgery) and Microbiology & Immunology
Columbia University in the City of New York

PC  Philip  Tawanchaya; www.got2photo.com
Welcome to the XVII Great Lakes Transplant Immunology Forum

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to Chicago and the GLTIF 2016. Time has flown by so quickly and it does not seem as if 16 years has passed since the first meeting, originally called the Erie Transplant Forum, was organized by Keith Bishop at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in 2000. That meeting was the brain child of the late Charley Orosz, who was a visionary, and who believed that the best science is done after much discussion, debate, and preferably over good food with lots of libations. Laughter was a bonus!

In the past 16 years, we have seen some changes, with some people moving from the Great Lakes to further away places, like Atlanta, Baltimore and New York, and with others moving into the Great Lakes (and our Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh) and Colorado (Denver) annexes). Those who moved away, have continued to participate in the meeting with their new collaborators, and those who moved into the Great Lakes region have brought new ideas and perspectives that have continued to invigorate the meeting. Through all of these changes, what has endured has been the spirit of interaction, discussion, friendship and the sense that we all plan to be in this business for the long run, so we should enjoy the journey together. I know that this was what Charley had envisioned at the beginning, and it is what we all of value most at the GLTIF.

In this 17th version of GLTIF, we continue to provide new and established faculty a unique opportunity to present their new findings to get feedback from a group of interested and engaged faculty members, and also the opportunity for those who have spent many years refining and polishing their research into a beautiful story that they are proud to share with the group. We have slots for those who have an idea they want to test out, and for those who think they have a solution to some of the challenges facing the field. Regardless of the goals of each presenter, we hope that all will benefit from the insights and wisdom of the attendees of the GLTIF.

This meeting is also for the trainees, who will have the opportunity to see their work presented by their PI, and also the opportunity to present their own work in a mentored poster session. Faculty will view their posters and provide feedback, as will their peers. The American Association of Immunologists has generously provided financial support for awards for the best posters presented by undergraduates, graduate students and post-doctoral fellows.

We are delighted that Dr. Donna Farber, Professor of Surgical Sciences (in Surgery) and Microbiology & Immunology at Columbia University in the City of New York will deliver The Charles G. Orosz Keynote Lecture. Donna has been on the leading edge of studies on immune memory and the localization of memory T cells in tissue sites to effect immune protection. Her translational studies, that involve a unique collaboration with the organ procurement organization for the New York Metropolitan area and transplant surgeons at New York Presbyterian, have set up a new paradigm for studying human adaptive and innate lymphocyte compartmentalization and maintenance in human tissues throughout the human lifespan.

This meeting would not have been possible without the generous support from the Division of Nephrology, the Feinberg Cardiovascular Research Institute, and the Comprehensive Transplant Center, Northwestern University, and the Departments of Medicine (Rheumatology) and Surgery (Transplant) at The University of Chicago. We also thank our corporate sponsors, BioLegend, Miltenyi, Novartis, STEMCELL, Veloxiz, Alexion and Bristol Myer Squibb, and The American Association of Immunologists. We would also like to thank the Northwestern administrative staff Nazanin Salehitezangi, Melanie Burnette, Kari LeBeau and Amy Kitzman for their outstanding support in organizing this meeting.

This GLTIF is co-organized by six Chicago transplant immunologist who warmly welcome you to the Windy City - the (hopeful) home of the 2016 MLB World Series Champions! Go Cubs!!

Marisa Alegre, Anita Chong, Xunrong Luo, David Perkins, Rebecca Shilling, Jenny Zhang
We gratefully acknowledge the generous support for the XVII Great Lakes Transplant Immunology Forum 2016

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