

**WINTER 2020
INFLAMMATION
RESEARCH
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER**



PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Dear Colleagues,

As we are keenly aware, inflammation has been recently “re-discovered” as the overarching cause for almost all human diseases. One can sense the excitement and potential opportunities for inflammation research in new drug development for hard-to-cure diseases that range from auto-immune diseases to cancer, cardiovascular diseases and neurological deficiencies. Our Inflammation Research Association (IRA) has grown with these exciting opportunities and challenges during the past 50 years, involving passionate members and patrons like you from both academic and industry settings.

Despite the changing topics of inflammation research throughout the past half century, our core value and mission remain the same. We strive to cultivate a collegial platform/network promoting scientific exchange, career development, and community outreach related to inflammation research. To make this possible, we count on the active participation and volunteer support of both seasoned and junior scientists as well as aspiring students and fellows. In return, the IRA network has and continues to help launch many successful and productive careers, with some described in this newsletter.

In addition to the virtual network, our association organizes the biennial international conference and 1-2-day regional meetings to facilitate in-person exchange with the leaders of

translational inflammation research with integrative expertise of inflammation biology, medicinal chemistry, cellular immunology, disease pathogenesis, and drug development. With our society approaching its 50th anniversary, I am extremely delighted to provide some preview of our upcoming 50th anniversary international conference entitled “Inflammation 2.0- Unmet Needs in Inflammation Research”, to be held in the picturesque town of Fort Collins, Colorado from September 20-23, 2020. We have planned a very exciting and integrative program with plenty of opportunities for interactive networking, and ample exposure for vendors to showcase their exciting products/services related to inflammation research.

On behalf of the officers and board of directors of the Inflammation Research Association, I appreciate your continued support and active participation, sharing our common goals of advancing the collegial community of inflammation research, harnessing the enormous potential of collaborative networking, and contributing to the unmet needs of patients suffering from debilitating inflammatory diseases.

With warm regards,

Liwu Li, Ph.D.

President

Inflammation Research Association
President@inflammationresearch.org

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

The IRA is your association, member-managed and member-driven, and we encourage you to take full advantage of benefits as a member in connecting with your peers to exchange key information for your

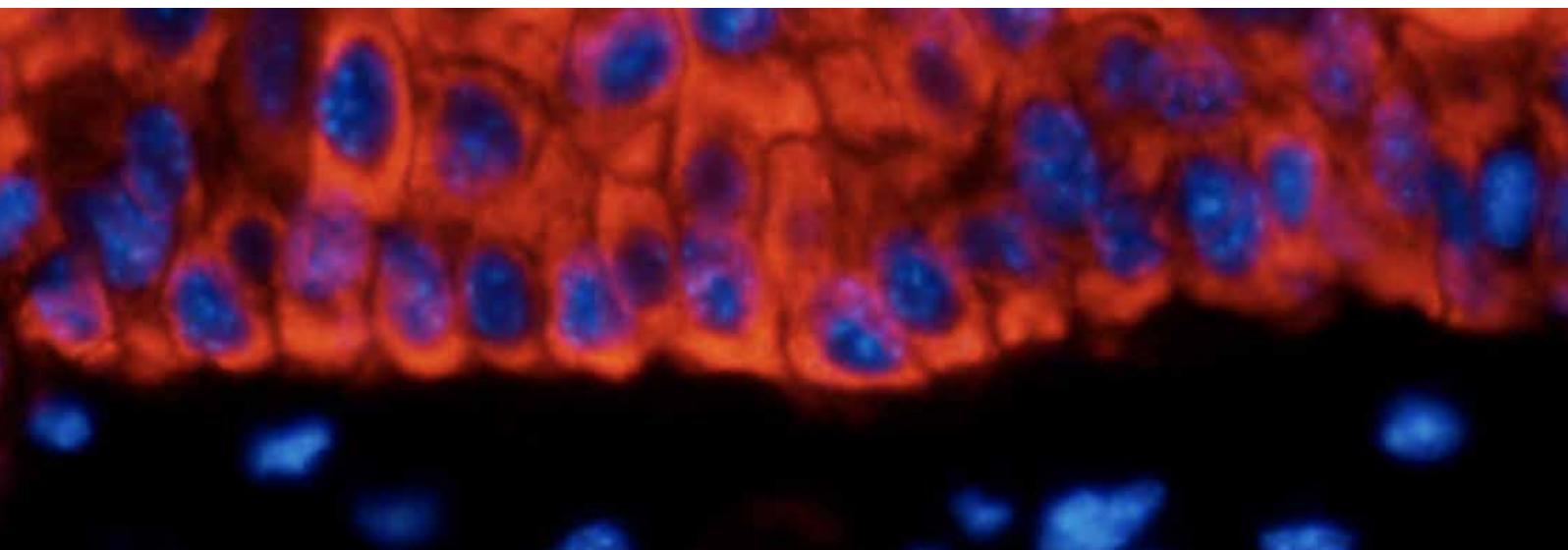
career advancement, your research program and your expertise & knowledge base.

Existing members - update your profile so colleagues with similar interests can connect.



OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

2018-2020 TERM OF THE IRA



Officers

President	Liwu Li, PhD Virginia Polytechnic Institute president@inflammationresearchassociation.org
Vice President	Caralee Schaefer, PhD Indalo Therapeutics vicepresident@inflammationresearchassociation.org
Secretary	Dirk Smith, MSC Cascadia Drug Development Group secretary@inflammationresearchassociation.org
Treasurer	Michael S. McQueney, PhD Oncoveda Cancer Research Center treasurer@inflammationresearchassociation.org

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Thomas A. Wynn, PhD Pfizer
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IRA2020

**21st International meeting of the Inflammation Research Association
September 20-23, 2020 | Fort Collins, CO**



50th anniversary of the IRA

The theme for the 21st International Conference of the Inflammation Research Association is "Inflammation 2.0" and the conference will focus on unmet needs, new concepts and emerging leads in the immune/inflammation space.

Industry, academic and clinic-based scientists and administrators will converge at the 21st International Conference providing a 360-degree perspective on inflammation research and therapeutic developments. Join us in Ft. Collins and network within this informed, connected and collaborative community promoting scientific and technological advances in therapeutic strategies for patients with inflammation-based diseases.

Sponsorship opportunities available: Platinum, Gold and Silver levels. Contact [Mike McQueney](#) to help the IRA continue to advance research and therapeutic innovations in inflammatory diseases.

Providers and vendors – Contact the [IRA2020 Exhibits Committee](#) to register your interest.

Preliminary Scientific Program

Basic Research

Cellular & molecular mechanisms in inflammation, autoimmunity, & tolerance

Early Discovery

Indications (RA, IBD, Dermatology, Fibrosis, etc), Biomarkers, New Targets, Screening and Assay Innovations

Translational Research

Preclinical models, biomarkers, data analytics and machine learning

Clinical Research

New therapeutic strategies and targets, Updates from Clinical Trials

Patient Advocacy

Perspectives from patients, advocates and physicians

The 21st International Conference will also feature

Scientific Poster Sessions

Exhibits

Lunch and Learn Sessions

Networking and Mentoring

50th Anniversary Banquet

Social Program

Attention Exhibitors:

The IRA Conference of old is back! The 21st International Conference represents our return to our classical setting in a self-contained resort, providing ample opportunities for interaction both on the exhibit floor and while partaking in the outdoor adventure, breweries, music and culture that is Ft Collins. The west coast meetings and the 2016 meeting at Temple University were scientific successes, however we admit it, we lost the advantage, your advantage, of having everyone attending grouped in one place with opportunities to interact all day long, both formally and informally. We are excited for this meeting and excited for your participation. The attendees at IRA Meetings are your customers - scientists who study inflammation and immunology, asthma, rheumatic diseases, oncology and other associated disorders and syndromes and most of the delegates will be from the pharmaceutical/biotech industry. As usual we have a limited area for tabletop displays and try to bring a diverse mix of vendors to the scientists attending the meeting, while giving your company exposure to an attentive group of potential customers.

Email the [IRA2020 Exhibits Committee](#) to register your interest today!

Why I am a member of the IRA?



Caitlin Parelo

I was initially inspired to become involved in the IRA by the words of the outgoing president at the banquet for the 19th International Conference in San Diego. He spoke of the pervasiveness of inflammation in so many disease types, across scientific disciplines, and I was excited to interact with a group of scientists who were passionate about translational inflammation research and who were at various points in diverse careers across academia, biotech, big pharma and CROs. I've learned a lot and have really enjoyed the connections made and the discussions had – from phone calls debating the meaning of inflammation to board meetings brainstorming the trajectory of the organization. The strong female presence in the IRA continues to be another motivating factor in my involvement. These women serve as role models for me, and I look forward to continued networking and mentoring opportunities.



Lisa Marshall

I was always committed to volunteering in non-profit scientific organizations- obviously the IRA and IAIS being the most prominent. I joined the IRA in 1986 and was fortunate to work alongside some of the most dedicated people in our industry to help IRA members to learn and grow both as scientists and colleagues. The IRA is a unique organization where industry comes together with academia, clinical and government to foster science around the discovery and application of new pharmaceutical agents to address patient unmet needs. I was honored to be elected as the first female president of the IRA and lead the IRA International meeting held at the Homestead Virginia in 2000. Later we initiated the "Patient perspective" sessions which have become a meaningful addition to both the IRA and IAIS meetings. The first "Speed Networking Sessions" were later initiated and continue in various forms today as one of our most important IRA remits is to foster the scientific development of the new incoming Investigators. I feel that creation of the Woman in Inflammation Science award – initiated at the 2003 WCI and adopted officially in 2005 by the IAIS is one of the most significant achievements of the Society as a beacon to woman scientists to aspire to their potential. But the greatest joy I had was working and "playing" with the outstanding scientists that have made up the IRA membership over the years.



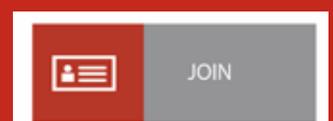
Joel Tocker

I have been an active member of the IRA since the mid-1990s and have served as an officer and board member and have had the opportunity to organize many scientific meetings. The IRA has provided a diverse academic and industrial community to network and forge long lasting friendships. Not to mention the superb science and opportunity to present and share data at IRA sponsored conferences.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

The Inflammation Research Association is a collegial, dynamic non-profit organization dedicated to engaging and encouraging scientists, researchers, students, teachers and clinicians with an interest in inflammation biology. Our mission is to foster and facilitate a more informed, connected and collaborative community researching and developing new therapeutic strategies for complex and diverse inflammation-related diseases. IRA members include a mix of industry, academic, government, and non-profit scientists dedicated to cutting edge inflammation research. As a member, you will be part of a large and supportive network

and community. Membership provides discounted registration fees for IRA hosted meetings, access to the interactive jobs board, and affiliation in the community of researchers and clinicians at the cutting edge of science in the broad field of inflammation. Your membership also includes access to the IRA networking platform connecting peers for career advancement and research expertise and knowledge; voting privileges in society elections; opportunities to join the IRA Board and take part in leading the IRA into its next 50 years; and opportunities to develop regional symposia and workshops.





PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Howard Kartstein, joined Owlstone Medical as Senior Manager, Business Development in the United States. Contact Howard at Howard.kartstein@owlstone.co.uk

Joan Chapdelaine retired from Calvert Labs after three decades of service to the pharmaceutical industry. Joan is enjoying her retirement knitting, weaving, reading, doing yoga and walking 4 miles a day with the women in her neighbourhood. Joan remains connected to her colleagues and clients through Chapdelaine Consulting, specializing in Immunology and Immunotoxicology. Email Joan at joanchap@ptd.net

Lisa Marshall has retired after 31 years in the pharmaceutical industry working at Pfizer, Wyeth, SKB, GSK and J&J. Lisa worked predominately in the field of immunology/inflammation, starting in basic research, transitioning into development and project leadership and then moving into Medical Affairs. She is enjoying her hiatus from the grind of pharmaceutical industry work and hopes to remain in contact with colleagues and friends via lamarshall1120@gmail.com.

Lisa Schopf is now Senior Director and Project Lead at Pfizer, leading both small molecule and large molecule projects focused primarily in RA and IBD from early discovery to the clinic. Lisa also eagerly mentors colleagues working on finding new targets in her therapeutic areas. Message Lisa at Lisa.Schopf@pfizer.com.

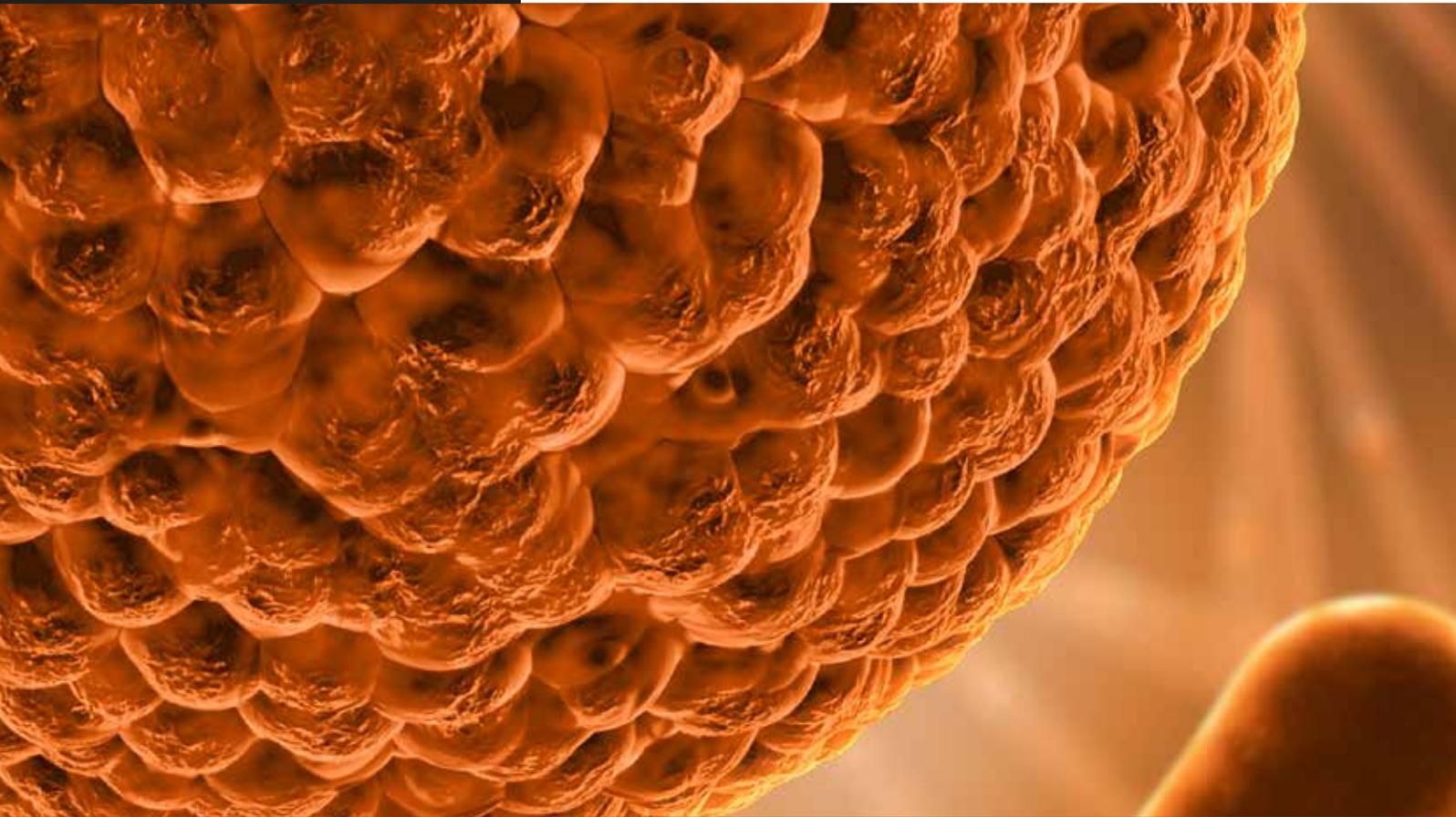
Laura Carter has moved from Ann Arbor to sunny San Diego, joining Gossamer Bio as Senior Vice President of Biology. Contact Laura using lcarter@gossamerbio.com.

Larry Burgess also moved to San Diego, accepting the position of Head of Chemistry at Vividion. Email Larry at larryb@vividion.com.

Caralee Schaefer joined Indalo Therapeutics as Executive Director of Pharmacology. Message Caralee at schaefer@indalotherapeutics.com.

Heather Jones has joined Incyte in Wilmington, DE, as Global Medical Affairs Lead, Immunology and Autoimmunity. Email Heather using hjones@incyte.com.

The Inflammation Research Association is a non-profit organization instituted to bring together scientists of all degree and experience levels with an interest in inflammation research, to encourage communication and discussion of scientific and technological advances that can be used to develop new therapeutic agents for the wide diversity of serious diseases with inflammatory processes.



The Newsletter

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Connect with the IRA on social media



www.inflammationresearch.org