

OCULAR MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY GROUP

Irmgard Behlau, MD
Executive Vice-President

May 2019

Eric G. Romanowski, MS
Past-President

Dear Colleague:

Cecilia Lee, MD
President

The 53rd Annual Meeting of the Ocular Microbiology and Immunology Group will be held at the **The Palace Hotel**, 2 New Montgomery Street, San Francisco CA, in the **Twin Peaks Room, Friday, October 11, 2019, from 7:30 am until 1:00 pm**, with registration at 6:45 am. The business luncheon meeting will follow in the **Pacific Heights Room**. The Federated Scientific Session (Cornea Society and EBAA) will also take place on Friday, October 11, 2019, at The Palace Hotel.

Savitri Sharma, MD
President-Elect

Guillermo Amescua, MD
Secretary

Anat Galor, MD
AAO Council Rep

Darlene Miller, DHSc, MPH, Research Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Technical Director Ocular Microbiology Laboratory, University of Miami-School of Medicine, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute/ABLEH, will present the 24th Thygeson Lecture, "*Acanthamoeba and Keratitis...More than meets the Eye.*" Jeremy Keenan, MD, 2018 Harry Hirsch Leiter Award Recipient, will give an encore presentation of his winning paper, "*In Vitro Synergy Testing of Commonly Used Anti-Amoebic Agents: Antagonism of Voriconazole,*" to acknowledge the generous \$500.00 honorarium for the Hirsch Leiter recipient of best paper, which is open to all presenters. This year's program will include a one hour mini-symposium titled "Emerging Infections and Their Relationship to Eye Disease".

Meeting Dues/Registration and Business Luncheon

Enclosed please find an invoice for OMIG membership dues. Please update and return the invoice to confirm your continued membership, even if you do not plan to attend the meeting. As in prior years, badges and luncheon tickets will be available at the registration table. To make payment of dues more convenient, we are pleased to announce that the option of paying online will be available again this year at <http://eyemicrobiology.upmc.com/OMIG.htm>, a site made possible by the Charles T. Campbell Laboratory, or email us for information at ocularmicrobiology@gmail.com.

OMIG membership dues have remained steady for nearly ten years. Due to increasing costs to host the annual meeting as well as decreasing corporate support, it has become necessary to increase the annual dues. To cover the costs of putting the meeting together, the annual dues, which include meeting registration, will be \$95.00. A reduced membership rate of \$75 will be available for residents, fellows, or students. For those who register onsite at the meeting, the dues will be \$110.00. Held immediately following the annual meeting, the business luncheon cost will remain \$35.00 in addition to your dues, though lunch will be \$50.00 if purchased at the meeting. In addition, senior members are strongly encouraged to consider a minimal donation (\$5, \$10, or \$20) to help offset the cost of membership for young member. We ask that you consider sending nominations for Board members to ocularmicrobiology@gmail.com, in preparation for the elections held during the OMIG lunch and business meeting.

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Abstract Submission

For those interested in presenting, abstracts must be submitted by **August 9, 2019**, to ocularmicrobiology@gmail.com, in order to be considered for the meeting. Electronic version of the abstract is available on <http://eyemicrobiology.upmc.com/OMIG.htm>. The first author or sponsor must be a member in good standing and presenter must register for the meeting upon acceptance. A member can sponsor or present only one paper. **All papers will be 5 minutes in length with 2 minutes for discussion.** Acceptance or rejection notices will be e-mailed in early September to the e-mail address that accompanies your abstract.

PowerPoint presentations are required via email at least 10 days before the meeting date. The agenda and abstracts for recent meetings are available on the web site, as is all correspondence concerning the 2019 annual meeting. The agenda and abstracts for the papers to be presented at the 2019 meeting will be on the web site within four weeks of the meeting date.

Ocular microbiology and immunology is the core mission of OMIG. The Board requests that authors and presenters try to stress infectious agents, immunity, and inflammation as a response to foreign agents whether infectious or autoimmune responses with their submissions. Neoplasia is not considered part of the core mission at this time. In addition, the Board also requests that authors and presenters try to stress new data and statistical analysis in their submissions whenever possible.

Commercial Relationships Policy

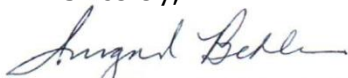
The Board of OMIG has instituted a commercial relationships policy for authors and presenters. This policy is derived directly from the AAO policy for abstract submission to its annual meeting. The policy is enclosed and you are asked to provide a disclosure code at the bottom of the abstract box. The disclosure code is necessary for your abstract to be considered.

Cornea Society/EBAA Meeting

If you wish to register for or submit an abstract to the Federated Scientific Session meeting (Cornea Society and EBAA), please check their web sites at <http://www.corneasociety.org> and www.restoresight.org. Scientific papers may be submitted for presentation at either the OMIG or Federated Cornea Society meetings to be held October 11. **However, the same paper may only be presented at one of these Friday meetings.**

Thank you for your continued support and membership. We look forward to seeing you at the 53rd Annual Meeting this October.

Sincerely,



Irmgard Behlau, MD

Enclosures:

Registration/Membership Card
Abstract Form
Commercial Relationships Policy