



OCULAR MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY GROUP

Francis S. Mah, MD
Executive Vice-President

May 2016

Dear Colleague:

The 50th Annual Meeting of the Ocular Microbiology and Immunology Group will be held at the **The Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago**, 909 N Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL, in the **Millennium Park** Room, **Friday, October 14, 2016, from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.**, with registration at 6:45 a.m. The business luncheon meeting will follow in the **Marquette Park** Room. The Federated Scientific Session (Cornea Society and EBAA) will also take place Friday, October 14, 2016, at the Westin Michigan Avenue.

James Chodosh, MD, MPH, David Glendenning Cogan Professor of Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School; and Director of Education and Fellowship Training, Cornea and Refractive Surgery Service, Director, Ocular Burn Service, Director, Boston Keratoprosthesis Clinical Programs, Associate Director, Infectious Disease Institute, and Associate Director, Cornea and Refractive Surgery Service, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary; Past President, Ocular Microbiology and Immunology Group, will present the 21st Thygeson Lecture, *"Pink Eye and the Evolution of New Human Adenoviruses."* Kimberly D. Tran, MD, 2015 Harry Hirsch Leiter Award Recipient, will give an encore presentation of her winning paper, *"Epidemiology of Herpes Zoster Ophthalmicus: Recurrence and Chronicity,"* to acknowledge the generous \$500.00 honorarium for the Hirsch Leiter recipient of best paper, which is open to all presenters.

Meeting Dues/Registration and Business Luncheon

Enclosed please find the OMIG meeting registration and membership card. In order to reduce mailing charges for OMIG, we ask that you update and return the registration card to confirm you remain a member or contact us via ocularmicrobiology@gmail.com, even if you do not plan to attend the meeting. As in prior years, badges and luncheon tickets **will not** be mailed but rather 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.

To cover the costs of putting the meeting together, the annual dues, which include meeting registration, remain at \$60.00. For those who register at the meeting, the fee will be \$75.00. We ask that you please send nominations for Board members to ocularmicrobiology@gmail.com, in preparation for the elections held during the OMIG lunch and business meeting. Held immediately following the annual meeting, the business luncheon cost remains \$35.00 in addition to your dues, though lunch will be \$50.00 if purchased at the meeting.

Abstract Submission

Ocular microbiology and immunology is the core mission of OMIG, and neoplasia is not considered part of the core mission at this time. 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. In addition, the Board also requests that authors and presenters try to stress new data and statistical analysis in their submissions whenever possible.

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For those interested in presenting, abstracts must be submitted **by August 12, 2016**, 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 3 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 2016 annual meeting. The agenda and abstracts for the papers to be presented at the 2016 meeting will be on the web site within four weeks of the meeting date.

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/EBA Meeting

If you wish to register for or submit an abstract to the Federated Scientific Session meeting (Cornea Society and EBA), please check their web sites at 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 14. **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 50th Annual Meeting this October.

Sincerely,



Francis S. Mah, MD

Enclosures:

- Registration/Membership Card
- Abstract Form
- Commercial Relationships Policy