



OCULAR MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY GROUP

May 2017

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Dear Colleague:

The 51st Annual Meeting of the Ocular Microbiology and Immunology Group will be held at the **Astor Crowne Plaza - French Quarter**, 739 Canal Street at Bourbon, New Orleans, Louisiana, in the **St. Charles Ballroom, Friday, November 10, 2017, from 7:30 am until 1:00 pm**, with registration at 6:45 am. The business luncheon meeting will follow in the **St. Ann Room**. The Federated Scientific Session (Cornea Society and EBAA) will also take place on Friday, November 10, 2017, at the Astor Crowne Plaza.

James V. Jester, PhD, Jack H. Skirball Endowed Research Chair, University of California, will present the 22nd Thygeson Lecture, "*Meibomian Gland Dysfunction: A Meibocyte Centric Hypothesis*." Kimberly Brothers, PhD, 2016 Harry Hirsch Leiter Award Recipient, will give an encore presentation of her winning paper, "*Insight Into the Corneal Wound Healing Response: Transcriptomic and Metabolomic Analysis of Corneal Epithelial Cells Challenged by Bacteria*," 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 "New Innovations for the Eye".

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. 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. 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.

Abstract Submission

For those interested in presenting, abstracts must be submitted by **September 1, 2017**, 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

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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 late 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 2017 annual meeting. The agenda and abstracts for the papers to be presented at the 2017 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 November 10. **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 51st Annual Meeting this November.

Sincerely,



Irmgard Behlau, MD

Enclosures:

Registration/Membership Card
Abstract Form
Commercial Relationships Policy