

## OCULAR MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY GROUP

**Irmgard Behlau, MD**  
*Executive Vice-President*

May 2020

**Cecilia Lee, MD**  
*Past-President*

Dear Colleague:

**Savitri Sharma, MD**  
*President*

The 54th Annual Meeting of the Ocular Microbiology and Immunology Group is scheduled to be held at **The Mirage**, 3400 S Las Vegas Blvd, Las Vegas, Nevada, in the **St. Thomas Room, Friday, November 13, 2020, from 7:30 am until 1:00 pm**, with registration at 6:45 am. The business luncheon meeting will follow in the **St. Kitts Room**. The Federated Scientific Session (Cornea Society and EBAA) will also take place on Friday, November 13, 2020, at The Mirage. Due to these challenging and uncertain times, OMIG will broadcast live the meeting and it will be recorded for all members.

**Guillermo Amescua, MD**  
*President-Elect*

**Robert M.Q. Shanks, PhD**  
*Secretary*

**Anat Galor, MD**  
*AAO Council Rep*

Stephen C Pflugfelder MD, Professor and James and Margaret Elkins Chair in Ophthalmology, Baylor College of Medicine, will present the 25th Thygeson Lecture, "*Why do dry eyes get inflamed?*" Lawson Ung, MD, 2019 Harry Hirsch Leiter Award Recipient, will give an encore presentation of his winning paper, "*Validation of a Comprehensive Clinical Algorithm for the Assessment and Treatment of Microbial Keratitis*," 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 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. 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](mailto:ocularmicrobiology@gmail.com).

Annual dues, which include meeting registration, will remain the same at \$95.00. A reduced membership rate of \$75 will be available for residents, fellows, or students. Held immediately following the annual meeting, the business luncheon cost will remain \$35.00 in addition to your dues. For those who register onsite at the meeting, dues will be \$110 and the cost to attend the business luncheon will be \$50. In addition, senior or supervising members are strongly encouraged to consider a minimal donation (\$20) to help offset the cost of membership for young members. We ask that you consider sending nominations for Board members to [ocularmicrobiology@gmail.com](mailto: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 28, 2020**, to [ocularmicrobiology@gmail.com](mailto: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 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 2020 annual meeting. The agenda and abstracts for the papers to be presented at the 2020 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**

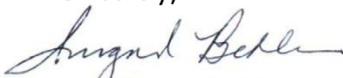
The Board of OMIG has instituted a commercial relationships policy for authors and presenters. This policy is derived directly from the AAO policy for abstract submission to its annual meeting. The policy is enclosed and you are asked to provide a disclosure code at the bottom of the abstract box. The 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](http://www.restoresight.org). Scientific papers may be submitted for presentation at either the OMIG or Federated Cornea Society meetings to be held November 13. **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 54th Annual Meeting this November. Stay safe and be well.

Sincerely,



Irmgard Behlau, MD

Enclosures:

Registration/Membership Card  
Abstract Form  
Commercial Relationships Policy