

IUIS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2015 AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY COMMITTEE

I. Mission and Objectives

As discussed at the committee meeting and with the members of the IUIS board the Clinical Committee is conducting a more focussed planning. Therefore in conjunction with the 9th FAIS Conference in Nairobi the CIC organized together with Dr. Thomas Kariuki, President of FAIS, and the Educational Committee with Dr. Michelle Letarte and a number of other FAIS members a Pre-Conference Workshop for further planning and discussing a clear concept for immunology workshops in Africa.

The aim after this discussion was to set up immunology workshops, organized by both of our committees, to be held in each of the four corners of Africa every two years. Once this concept would be of the ground an application for support should be made with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

II. 2014 Results

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP (November 26-30, 2014) AND 9th FAIS CONFERENCE (December 01-04, 2014) Joint Course of Educational and Clinical Immunology Committee

The workshop organized by Drs Thomas Kariuki, president of FAIS and Lucy Ochola, was held at the Institute of Primate Research in Karen. It regrouped 35 students from several African countries. Over 3 days, lectures on various topics were given with discussions, and viewing of student posters during lunch breaks. Teachers and their topics included Drs Gerald Chege (Innate Immunity; Immune Responses in SIV infections; role of laboratory animals in human vaccine development), Michelle Letarte (MHC and regulation of immune response), Reinhold Schmidt (Macrophages and NK cells in defence; inflammation & allergy), Dr Rebecca Waihenya (Adaptive Immunity), Eleanor Fish (Cytokine Signaling in T and B cells and during inflammation; Modern Biological and Immune Therapies 9), Pa Tamba Ngom (T cells and environmental factors in immunity), Clive Gray (Central and Peripheral Tolerance; Immune Response in HIV and AIDS; Modern Clinical Vaccines; Ebola, the way forward), Michael Gicheru (Chemokines); Tindish Heshborne (Immune Response to Parasites); Dorcas Yole (Immunity to Bacterial Infections); Thomas Kariuki (Preclinical Evaluation of Vaccines for tropical diseases); Elephantus Njagi (mechanisms of vaccination); BD team (Principles of Flow Cytometry and practical sessions). Students also presented their posters or gave oral talks at the conference. I chaired the poster session and recruited 10 judges of International stature to evaluate the student's work. This was a very efficient process and the top 5 students were awarded IUIS Education Committee money prizes, which were well appreciated and possibly a first for most African students. Winners of oral talks received FAIS prizes.

The IUIS held its annual meetings (executive and Council) In Nairobi as well as meetings with several of its committees. Their overall goal is to revitalize the Union and give it expanded funding and international visibility within a more organized structure.

Members of the Education and Clinical Immunology Committees held several meetings during the Nairobi Conference with FAIS members, with the aim of setting up Immunology Workshops to be held in each of the four corners of Africa every 2 years. In addition, preparatory course modules would be made available on line, through access restricted portals on the existing Immunopaedia website from the University of Cape Town. It was also agreed by Latin America members present at the FAIS meeting that regional workshops would also be initiated on their continent. The first two workshops with online portals are being held in October 2015, the first one in Medellin Columbia and the second one in Cape

Town, South Africa. Additional workshops are planned for North, West and East Africa for 2016.

The FAIS conference was excellent in terms of scientific content and organization. Most special was the interaction between participants and their evident determination to move forward towards excellence and become proactive in terms of African Immunology Education and Research. The IUIS Education and Clinical Immunology committees are determined to run successful and accountable workshops and to obtain more funding from outside agencies to meet the increasing demand for excellent courses in developing countries.

III. 2015 Update

IMMUNO COLUMBIA COURSE

(IUIS/ALAI Workshop “Immune regulation in health and disease”, October 10-13, 2015, Medellin, Columbia)

Here for the first time Educational and Clinical Immunology Committee prepared a structured course where the preparatory material is electronically available to the participants ahead of the workshop.

Also very structured questions have been prepared to really have a measurable outcome from the course. The great preparation is an outcome of the intense discussion both committees had together with particularly Clive Gray and Immunopaedia.

IMMUNO SOUTH AFRICA COURSE

(Southern African Regional FAIS/IUIS Workshop “Correlates of immune protection in HIV, TB and malaria”, October 20-24, 2015, Cape Town, SA)

Here a similar structure like in Medellin is planned. Again the same preparatory ways although for a different topic and content were used.

BUDGET 2015

1. “ImmunoColumbia” Course

IUIS/ALAI Workshop “Immune regulation in health and disease”
October 10-13, 2015, Medellin, Columbia

\$12,500

2. “ImmunoSouthAfrica” Course,

Southern African Regional FAIS/IUIS Workshop
“Correlates of immune protection in HIV, TB and malaria”
October 20-24, 2015, Cape Town, SA
+ Immunopaedia costs paid to UCT for Medellin and Cape Town
Courses

\$12,243

BUDGET 2016

1. “ImmunoGambia” Course

FAIS/IUIS Workshop “Correlates of immune protection in HIV,
TB and malaria”

\$12,500

2. Workshop either in East or North Africa on similar topics

\$12,500