



From the Editor's Desk

Welcome to the latest edition of the Fellow and Young Investigators Newsletter. In this issue we present a profile of the CCR Fellow and Young Investigators Steering committee and encourage anybody interested to come along to the next meeting and consider joining. We also preview the upcoming CCR-FYI Colloquium, which will take place March 17-19 in Hershey PA, as well as presenting the highlights of the survey carried out at last year's colloquium. Continuing our focus on career opportunities, we examine a range of alternative careers that fellows wishing to move away from the bench may wish to consider. We also extend congratulations to the winners of this year's NCI Director's Innovation Award Recipients.

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Tim Chan, PhD
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IF YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO FUTURE NEWSLETTERS PLEASE EMAIL US AT nciccrfyi@mail.nih.gov, or chantim@mail.nih.gov

CCR-FYI News

The CCR-FYI Steering Committee – We Need You!

The Center for Cancer Research within NCI currently has over 1000 young investigators on the Bethesda and Frederick campuses. Over ten years ago, an association was formed, called the CCR-FYI (Center for Cancer Research Fellows and Young Investigators), to represent the interests of these young investigators, which include postdoctoral fellows, clinical fellows, post baccalaureates, and graduate students. Primarily, the steering committee of this association works to foster the professional advancement of clinicians and scientists at the CCR. Moreover, we aim to enhance the intramural training program, cultivate communication among Fellows and the CCR community, and serve as a liaison to the administrative programs that coordinate our training experience.

To accomplish these goals, the CCR-FYI undertakes numerous initiatives that are coordinated through several sub-committees. One of the biggest sub-committees is community life. It has several tasks, including putting out a newsletter on a quarterly basis, maintenance of our website (<http://ccr.nci.nih.gov/careers/fellows/Default.aspx>) and the organization of social activities throughout the year in both Bethesda and Frederick. Importantly, the steering committee also has members serving as representatives on both FELCOM and the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA), who serve as liaisons between these committees and provide monthly updates of their activities. Currently, these members are Orla Casey and Raed Samara, respectively. One of the other activities carried out by the community life sub-committee is our participation in the orientation of new Fellows to CCR. These orientations are held bi-weekly in Bethesda and monthly in Frederick, and are led by Mary Velthuis from the Office of Training and Education in CCR.

The scientific sub-committee has two main tasks. The first of these is running a post-doctoral seminar series on the Bethesda (PASS) and Frederick campuses. We have structured these opportunities to give Fellows the opportunity to practice their presentation skills with the expert speaking coach, Scott Morgan. This is then followed by an opportunity to practice their preferred talk in front of their peers. For anyone interested in these opportunities, please contact Brid Ryan (Bethesda; ryanb@mail.nih.gov) or Jim Gould (Frederick; gouldj@mail.nih.gov). Additionally, this section of the steering committee is responsible for updating and distributing a scientific survey at annual CCR-FYI retreat. We also collate these results and report them to the Intramural Advisory Board, Principle Investigators, and Fellows (the most recent results are available on the CCR-FYI web site (<http://ccr.nci.nih.gov/careers/fellows/Default.aspx>)). This is an opportunity for CCR Fellows to communicate their experiences within CCR to the larger community and to identify any specific resources or opportunities they feel they need.

The CCR-FYI steering committee also organizes an annual Colloquium. This is a three day event that is now in its tenth year. The group of Fellows responsible for putting together the annual CCR-FYI colloquium assembles an event that includes several keynote speakers, a career fair and career-orientated workshops. The retreat is being held this year in Hershey, Pennsylvania from March 17th to 19th. This is an excellent opportunity for Fellows to network with each other and to present their research. This event continues to be generously supported by the CCR/OD.

In addition to these activities, the steering committee also works to establish an alumni of
(Continued on page 3)

"Being a part of the SC has provided me unique opportunities to improve networking skills and enhance/ acquire professional skills, ones that you do not necessarily gain from just being in the lab. Some of these skills are how to hold effective meetings, planning a colloquium, moderating speakers during sessions, just to name a few. These skills are transferable to the next steps in our career. You also get to strengthen your communication, time management and organizational skills. Furthermore, you can build and foster your networking connections."

- Tim Chan, 2008-2009 FYI SC Chair

(Continued from page 9)

- **O. Zack Howard, Ph.D., and Xin Chen, MD, Ph.D.**, Laboratory of Molecular Immunoregulation
Targeting TNFR2 as a Novel Strategy in Breast Cancer Treatment
- **Lisa Jenkins, Ph.D.**, Laboratory of Cell Biology
Use of New Chemical Methods to Investigate a Novel Mechanism of Bcl-xL Degradation
- **Smita Kulkarni, Ph.D., and Ram Savan, Ph.D.**, Laboratory of Experimental Immunology
MicroRNA Mediated Regulation of HLA-C and HLA-B Gene Expression
- **Michal Legiewicz, Ph.D.**, HIV Drug Resistance Program
Structural Responses in Tumor Suppressor mRNAs Induced by miR-21 in Breast Cancer
- **Zhihui Liu, Ph.D.**, Pediatric Oncology Branch
Genetic Screen of Candidate Tumor Suppressor Genes for Neural Crest-derived Tumors
- **Yan Li, Ph.D.**, Cell and Cancer Biology Branch
A Novel Mouse Model of Neuroendocrine Lung Tumors
- **Richard A. Morgan, Ph.D.**, Surgery Branch
Targeted Killing of Brain Tumor Stem Cells by Genetically Engineered Human Lymphocytes
- **Brad Scroggins, Ph.D.**, Urologic Oncology Branch
Hsp90 Regulation of RNA-induced Gene Silencing Pathways
- **Eilon Sherman, Ph.D.**, Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Biology
Super-resolution Imaging of Protein-protein Interactions and Complexes in Live Cells
- **Myong-Hee Sung, Ph.D.**, Laboratory of Receptor Biology and Gene Expression
Cell Penetrating Peptide Inhibitors of the NF- κ B Pathway for Systems and Translational Biology
- **William G. Telford, Ph.D.**, Experimental Transplantation and Immunology Branch
Supercontinuum White Light Lasers for Full-Spectrum Excitation in Flow Cytometry
- **Nadya Tarasova, Ph.D.**, Cancer and Inflammation Program
Selective Inhibitors of Interleukin 10 and Interferon Gamma Signaling
- **Atsushi Terunuma, M.D., Ph.D.**, Dermatology Branch
GABA Signaling in Malignant Melanoma
- **Scott F. Winter, Ph.D.**, Laboratory of Cancer Biology and Genetics
Insertional Mutation Screen for Breast Cancer Metastasis Genes
- **Shuang Yan, Ph.D.**, Pediatric Oncology Branch
BM Niche Changes Neural Tumor Cell to B-cell-like Tumor-initiating Cell
- **Liang Zhu, Ph.D., and Michael Tangrea, Ph.D.**, Laboratory of Pathology
Layered Electrophoretic Tissue Separation
- **Xuguang Zhu, Ph.D.**, Laboratory of Molecular Biology
Modeling Genetics and Hormonal Milieu Interactions with Exogenous Risk Factors in Thyroid Cancer

Congratulations to all of this year's recipients!

*Submitted by:
Tim Chan, PhD,
Laboratory of Experimental Immunology*

**Are you interested in getting the next issue of our newsletter?
Want to stay up to date with trainee related events within CCR?**

Sign up for the CCR-POSTDOCs listserv.

All you have to do is email listserv@list.nih.gov and type in "subscribe ccr-postdocs" in the body of the message

Results from the FYI Annual Scientific Survey

The 2009 annual scientific survey was distributed to attendees of the 9th Annual Fellows Colloquium in Hershey, PA held from March 18-20, 2009. The purpose of this survey is to provide information to the Steering Committee along with the CCR leadership to improve the training and

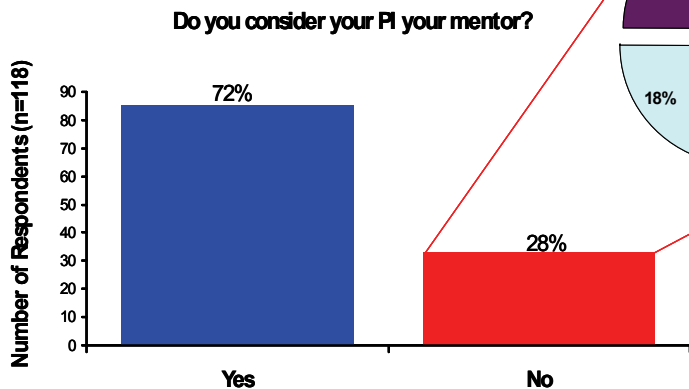
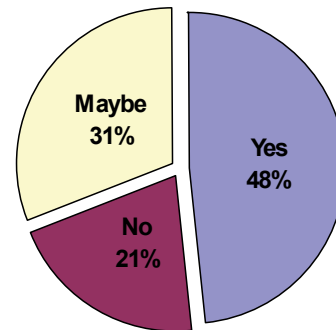
mentoring environment for our trainees. This survey, as in previous years, focuses on three main areas: demographics, current NCI/CCR fellowship, and family/life considerations. Shown below are the results from a selection of questions from this survey.



Figure 1: Nearly 96% of trainees felt that they were learning the skills needed to develop their career at least some of the time.

Figure 2: 48% of trainees were interested in multiple mentors for scientific and career advice.

Would you be interested in multiple mentors for scientific and career advice? (n=116)



Who is your mentor, if not your PI? (n=33)

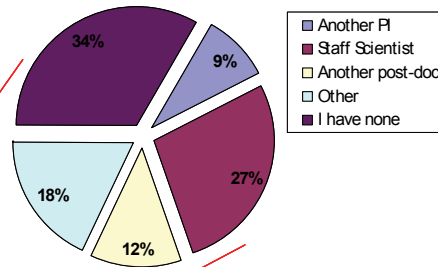
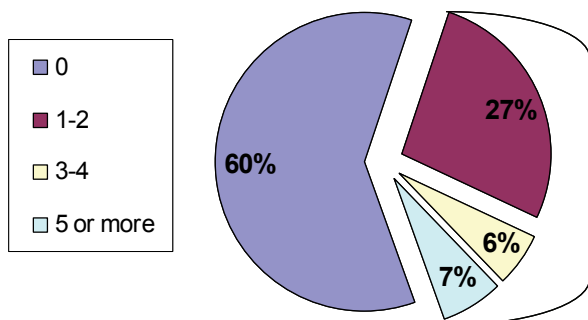


Figure 3: 72% of fellows considered their PI to be their mentor. Of those that do not consider their PI to be a mentor, 34% felt they have no mentor.

In your current fellowship position, how many peer-reviewed publications do you have? (n=120)



Of these, how many 1st author papers do you have? (n=43)

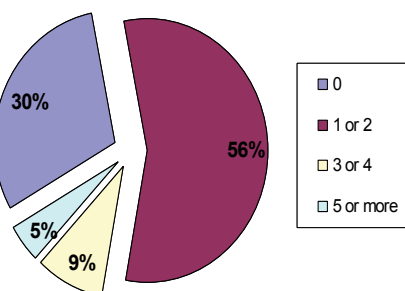


Figure 4: Only 40% of respondents had at least one peer-reviewed publication while at the NCI. The low number may be due to the fact that nearly 70% of the fellows were within their first two years of training.

2010 NCI Intramural Investigators Retreat

Each year, the results of the survey are compiled and disseminated through various means to the CCR community and leadership. Recently, a poster of this survey was presented at the Annual NCI Intramural Investigators Retreat, which was held in January, 2010. Drs Niederhuber and Wiltrout in their opening remarks emphasized the importance of the FYI organization for strengthening the training mission of the NCI for current and future trainees. Many PIs visited the poster and asked questions, providing a positive response and feedback.

One of the questions that created a dialogue was the response given for “Do you consider your PI your mentor” (Figure 3). Although 72% agreed with the statement, the remaining 28% stated the opposite. Of the respondents who

stated that their PI was not their mentor, the majority of them further indicated that alternative individuals such as staff scientists or other PIs were their mentors. Surprisingly, 34% of the non-responders felt that they have no mentor. From the informal discussion, there was a common theme that open communication and effort from both the trainee and mentor(s) needs to be improved.

Many PIs found it interesting that the attendance to the Annual Colloquium was split evenly between Frederick and Bethesda campus and that it had not changed over the years (Figure 5). They commented that they believed that since the Bethesda campus had more fellows that the attendance would be skewed toward that campus. We also had several new PIs that were excited about the effort the Steering Committee is putting forward to connect fellows and are urging their fellows to participate. Visitors from extramural institutions also stopped and were very interested in taking back information so they may get an “FYI-like” organization started in their institutions. We also handed out fliers for the Colloquium, and asked the PIs to encourage their labs to participate in CCR-FYI Association and in the Colloquium.

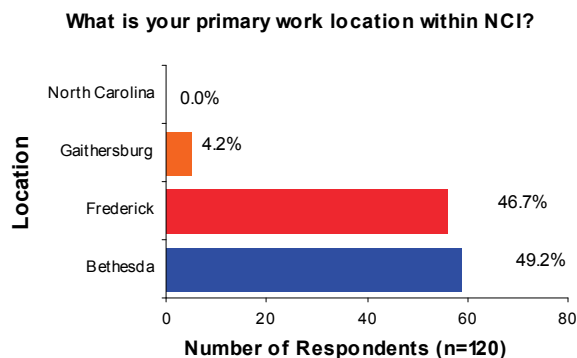


Figure 5: The response to “What is your primary work location within NCI” from respondents of the Annual Scientific survey.

Submitted by:
James Gould, PhD
Stephanie Watkins, PhD
Kate McGee, PhD
Kim Shafer-Weaver, PhD
Christian Capitini, MD
 FYI Scientific Subcommittee

Upcoming Events

- **NCI-Frederick and Fort Detrick Spring Research Festival, May 5-6th, 2010**
Registration deadline: April 21st, 2010
<http://web.ncifcrf.gov/events/springfest/2010/>
- **Applications for the Fellows Award for Research Excellence (FARE) 2011**
Deadline: March 23, 2010
For more information: <http://felcom.od.nih.gov/subCommittee/fare.aspx>

To all CCR trainees

Did you know that the *CCR Office of Training & Education*:

- Assists trainees and mentors with mentoring issues.
- Assists in submitting applications for various funding mechanisms.
- Provides opportunities for expanding collaborative interactions.
- Assists trainees in the transition to different career paths.
 - Provides numerous courses
 - And much more!

CCR Office of Training & Education

Jonathan S. Wiest, PhD

Director for Training and Education

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Are you **LinkedIn** with the CCR FYI?

Check it out at http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2495548&trk=hb_side_g

If you are not on LinkedIn, you will have to create an account, which takes no more than five minutes

The Fellows and Young Investigators (FYI) Association was organized by non-tenured and non-tenure-track MDs, PhDs, or the equivalent, and pre-doctoral intramural scientists. It enhances the intramural training program, fosters communication among fellows and the CCR community, and serves as a liaison to administration programs that affect the training experience by:

- Organizing and promoting educational activities such as training courses and seminars.
- Identifying potential employment opportunities in traditional and nontraditional career paths.
- Helping orient new trainees.
- Facilitating communication among members.

The purpose of this group is to professionally link current and previous NCI fellows.