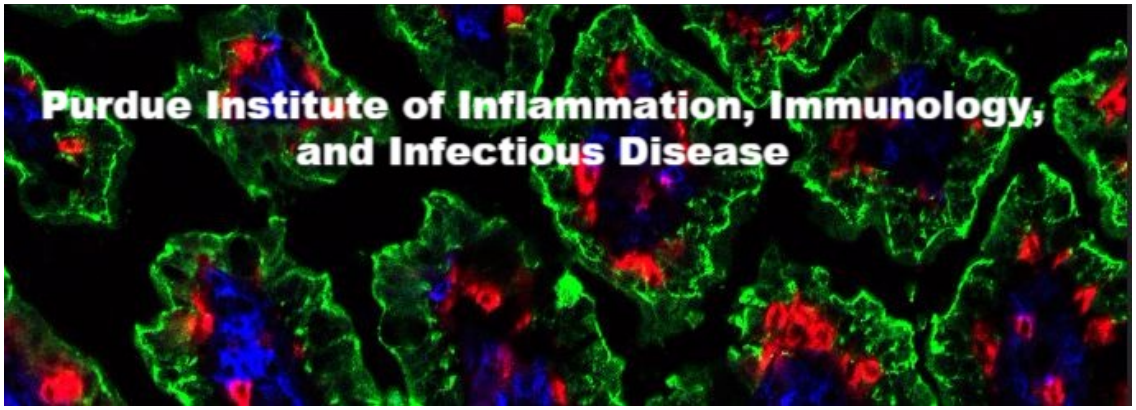

From the Director:

We are honored to be selected as one of the Pillars of Life Sciences Initiative here at Purdue University. Over the past few months, we have taken initial steps to build the infrastructure of the Purdue Institute of Inflammation, Immunology, and Infectious Disease (PI4D). From program area lunches, to our inaugural symposium in March, to our Research Incentive Program, the groundwork for a formative institute is being laid on a daily basis. For those of you who were not able to attend any of our events, we would welcome meeting with you on an individual basis throughout the summer. While we continue to form the Institute with the goal of building the reputation of the life sciences at Purdue by enhancing the curriculum and research associated with the PI4D Program areas (Control & Intervention, Imaging & Diagnostics, Infectious Diseases, and Inflammation and Immunology), we will continually ask for your advice, support, and participation.

- Dr. Richard Kuhn

Director, PI4D

Dr. Kuhn speaking at the Inflammation and Immunology Program Area Luncheon

PI4D Program Area Luncheons

PI4D held individual program area luncheons to review the structure of the Institute and informed participants about future plans, expectations, and benefits associated with the Institute. PI4D is formulated around the concept of taking disparate research efforts and directing them into foci areas in basic and translational research, continuing to feed Purdue's entrepreneurship powerhouse to boost rankings. The tangible goals associated with this activity are:

1.Develop a connected community of researchers focused on detection, basic research, prevention and control in inflammation, immunology and infectious diseases

2.Use this community to build a funding strategy that is broad and multi-investigator and lifts the entire life science portfolio at Purdue

3.Organize a set of graduate training programs based on the interdisciplinary expertise of the PI4D members

4.Increase the rankings of Purdue by making the Institute instantly recognizable based on scholarly and translational impact

In our next newsletter we will update you on the progress of these goals. Furthermore, during the summer

we will have activities designed to promote community amongst our graduate students, post-docs, and other research staff. We will seek your assistance in getting the word out to your research groups about these activities. We will also begin to have strategic discussions among the stakeholders for developing a research vision to advance PI4D.

Congratulations to the recipients of this year's PI4D Funding Competition!

For the Core Start Program the following PIs were awarded:
Dr. Seema Mattoo
Dr. Graham Cooks
Dr. Jenna Rickus
Dr. Harm HogenEsch
Dr. Fang Huang
Dr. Richard van Rijn
Dr. Kimberly Buhman

For the Translation Model:
Dr. GuangJun Zhang
Dr. Jacqueline Linnes
Dr. Tim Ratliff
Dr. Qing Jiang

Funding Opportunities:

NIH BD2K Postdoctoral Training in Biomedical Big Data Science (T32) The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to solicit applications for graduate training programs in Big Data Science, for the expressed purpose of training the next generation of scientists who will develop computational and quantitative approaches and tools needed by the biomedical research community to work with Big Data in the biomedical sciences. The proposed training programs should prepare qualified individuals for careers in developing new technologies and methods that will allow biomedical researchers to maximize the value of the growing volume and complexity of biomedical data. Deadline: July 25.

NIH Informatics Methodology and Secondary Analyses to Explore Shared Immunology Study Data in ImmPort (UH2) The goals of this FOA are to support the development of new or improved informatics tools and methods for the reuse of shared data in the immunology study repository, ImmPort; and to

support secondary analyses of existing immunology datasets to address basic and clinical immunology questions. Deadline: October 4.

NIH The Role of Mobile Genetic Elements in Cancer This FOA encourages applications to investigate mechanisms regulating the expression and activity of mobile genetic elements, including long terminal repeat (LTR) and non-LTR retroelements, in cancer. Research proposals shouild specifically investigate mechanisms regulating the expression and activity of mobile genetic elements in the context of cell transformation and assess the impact of their activity on tumor heterogeneity, cancer evolution, and response to therapy.

- *R01* Deadline: October 5
- *R21* Deadline: October 16

NIH Metabolic Reprogramming to Improve Immunotherapy The overall goal of this FOA is to encourage grant applications to (a) generate a mechanistic understanding of the metabolic processes that support robust anti-tumor immune responses in vivo, (b) determine how the metabolic landscape of the tumor microenvironment affects immune effector functions, and (c) then use this information to manipulate (reprogram) the metabolic pathways used by the tumor, the immune response, or both to improve cancer immunotherapy.

- *R01* Deadline: October 5
- *R21* Deadline: October 16

NIH Systems Approach to Immunity and Inflammation (U19) This FOA seeks to develop a comprehensive understanding of innate and adaptive immune responses triggered by pathogens, adjuvants, or vaccines using a systems biology approach. The basis of the research program will be to conduct forward genetic screens of mutant or genetically diverse mice, combined with systems level analysis, to identify previously unappreciated key immune regulatory genes, signaling pathways, or mechanisms; and will include validation of these pathways in human cells and tissues. Deadline: November 2.

Send us your images and news stories! Images and stories can be deposited here, or email us at pi4d@purdue.edu

PI4D Members

Our mailing address is:
Purdue University Pillars of the Life Sciences
207 S. Martin Jischke Drive
Lafayette, IN 47907

Add us to your address book

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list