Personal Statement

I am honored to have been nominated as a candidate for Chair of the GIL Section. I have served the section firstly as a member, and for the past three years as Chair, of the section Programming Committee. As Chair of this committee I have also been the section representative to the Joint Programming Committee that determines all APS programming at Experimental Biology. I have had the privilege of working with superb colleagues on the GIL Programming Committee and the section Steering Committee. I am very proud to say that together, and with the integral involvement of our section’s membership, we have increased our total abstract submissions by 66% over the past three years. We have also increased the footprint of the GIL Section on EB Programming by forming partnerships with other sections and focus groups to organize joint sessions of mutual interest. I have also worked with other section programming Chairs to minimize clashes between sessions of mutual interest for our members. This has also been the driving force for the excellent relationship we now enjoy with one of our sister societies at EB, the American Society of Investigative Pathology (ASIP), to ensure that their GIL-related sessions have minimal scheduling conflicts with APS GIL sessions. Key to success of any section is providing opportunities for new members and especially trainees to showcase their research and gain experience on the big stage. One of the big innovations in GIL programming has been the establishment of the John Forte Distinguished Abstract Plenary Session that both honors one of the Sections most distinguished former members, but also provides a forum to highlight trainee speakers and welcome speakers from other sections into GIL programming. In addition, we have introduced Poster of Distinction awards to recognize outstanding abstracts. Both of these initiatives have proven tremendously popular. A major goal of mine is to increase member involvement in the running of the GIL Section and APS in general. It is currently very difficult for GIL Section members to be elected onto APS-wide committees without having prior service experience on a section committee. Therefore, if elected as Chair, I propose to develop structures that will provide opportunities for members interested in increasing their involvement in APS. This will allow members the opportunity to gain the necessary committee experience within our section that will make them stronger candidates for selection onto APS committees. This will have the added benefit of increasing GIL Section representation on the decision-making bodies within the APS in which we have, quite frankly, been underrepresented for many years. Looking forward, major changes are underway for APS and the GIL Section with respect to the structure of the EB meeting and the way programming content is organized. Working with our outgoing section Chair, Jerry Turner, we have successfully argued against the clustering of GIL oral sessions on Wednesday afternoons. Furthermore, if I do become your Section Chair I will continue to be a strong advocate for more optimal scheduling for GIL programming. I believe that our section is very well positioned to build on our recent accomplishments and further increase not just our membership, but also the exposure for GIL research at EB through closer interactions with other sections and societies. I hope to be able to participate in those efforts on your behalf.

Declan McCole, PhD
University of California, Riverside
NAME
McCole, Declan Francis

POSITION TITLE
Assistant Professor

eRA COMMONS USER NAME
dmccole

EDUCATION/TRAINING
(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTITUTION AND LOCATION</th>
<th>DEGREE (if applicable)</th>
<th>YEAR(s)</th>
<th>FIELD OF STUDY</th>
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<td>University College Dublin, Ireland</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>1993</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>University College Dublin, Ireland</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Pharmacology and Veterinary Medical Research</td>
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A. Positions and Honors

Positions and Employment:
1998-2000  Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Mucosal Immunology Laboratory, Department of Medicine, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine
2000-2004  Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine
2004-2009  Assistant Project Scientist, Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine
07/2009-01/2013  Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine
02/2013-  Assistant Professor (tenure-track), Division of Biomedical Sciences, School of Medicine, University of California, Riverside.

Other Experience and Professional memberships:
Member of the American Gastroenterological Association
Member of the American Physiological Society
West Coast Salt and Water Club


Editorial Boards:
Laboratory Investigation, 2007 - present.
Section Editor, Inflammatory Bowel Disease Journal, 07/2012 - present.

Grant Reviewing Activities: (1) CCFA Senior Research Award Grants Committee, 2009-2011. (2) AGA Institute Research Awards Panel: 07/01/09-06/30/11. (3) Health Research Board of Ireland, 10/2010. (4) Chair, AGA-Horizon Fellows Abstract Award 03/11. (5) National Science Foundation, 04/2011. (6) CCFA Research

Scientific Prizes and Awards (from 17 total):
First place in the Merville Lay Seminar series (University College Dublin, April 1997); Department of Agriculture, Ireland (U.S.A. – Ireland Fund) postgraduate research grant, May, 1996 – June, 1997;
Association of Veterinary Teachers and Research Workers (U.K.) Travel Award, April 1997;
Irish Society for Parasitology Travel Award, June, 1997.
GRG/AGA Travel Award 2004.
Gastrointestinal Response to Injury Meeting Young Investigator Travel Award, September, 2004.
Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America, San Diego Chapter, Galaxy Volunteer Leadership Award, 2005.
Cleveland Clinic Inflammatory Bowel Disease Summit Travel Award, October 2006.
Jon I. Isenberg Endowed Fellowship Award, 2007.
American Physiological Society GI & Liver Section, Takeda Research Recognition Award, 2007.
Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease Symposium, Travel Award, April 2008.
American Physiological Society GI & Liver Section, New Investigator of the Year Award, April 2011.
S&R Foundation Ueno Award in Ion Channels or Barrier Function Research, American Physiological Society, Experimental Biology Meeting, April 2014.

B. Professional Society Service

American Physiological Society (APS) Service:
GI & Liver Section Programming Committee Member, 2006-present.
Organized and chaired a featured topic session “Intestinal Lumenal Antigens and Mucosal Defence Mechanisms”, at the EB2009 meeting.
Chair, Programming Committee, GI & Liver Section, 2012-2015.
GIL Section Steering Committee Member, 2012-2015.
Joint Programming Committee, GIL Section Representative, 2012-2015.
Section Advisory Committee, GIL Section Representative, April 2014.
Mentored APS Minority Travel Award recipients at EB2008, 2010.
Hosted groups of minority High School students at EB2008, 2009 meetings.

Other Professional Society Activities:
Chair, Digestive Diseases Week Translational Symposium 2009.
Member AGA Institute Research Awards Panel, 07/01/2009 – 06/30/2011.
AGA Meeting Abstract Reviewer, Intestinal Disorders Section, 2009-.
Session Chair, AGA Institute Translational Symposium – “Mechanisms and Impact of Barrier Dysfunction in Intestinal Disease”, DDW 2009.
Secretary of the West Coast Salt and Water Club (WCSWC) – 03/2011-03/2015.
Strategic Initiatives Committee, Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America, 2012-2015.
Councillor, AGA Intestinal Disorders Section, 2013-2016.
Chair, AGA Abstract Review Committee: Intestinal Cell and Molecular Biology: Signal Transduction, and Gene Regulation. 12/2012-12/2014.
C. Selected peer-reviewed publications (in chronological order – from 40 in total).


**D. Research Support**

**Ongoing Support**

1R01DK091281-01 (McCole)  4/1/2012 – 3/31/2016

NIH/NIDDK

A novel role for PTPN2 in intestinal epithelial barrier regulation

The primary goal is to identify the mechanisms by which the IBD candidate gene, PTPN2, regulates epithelial barrier responses to inflammatory cytokines and mouse models of inflammation.

Role: PI

UCR Collaborative Seed Grant (Borneman)  07/01/2014 – 06/30/2015

UCR Office of Research & Economic Development

Novel bacteria affect DNA damage in mice

**Major goals.** To identify novel intestinal bacterial strains that cause epithelial DNA damage.

Role: Co-Investigator