Dear friends and colleagues,

I hope you are already prepping your abstracts for EB2015. The submission deadline of November 6, 2014 will be here before we know it! The meeting will be in Boston as it was two years ago, but I’m certain the city will be open and a lot more fun this time. Speaking of fun, you can’t believe how much fun it is to be involved in the GIL Section. Seriously, we are looking for people who want to help our section continue the steep growth curve we have been experiencing. So, let me or any steering committee member (http://www.the-aps.org/mm/HP/Audiences/Sections/Gastrointestinal-Liver-/steering.pdf) know if you want to become more active. We will find an opportunity for you!

Our EB2015 programming is already taking shape and we will have outstanding symposia, including the centerpiece Davenport Award Lecture.

The extremely popular Trainee Symposium will take place on Monday afternoon, so be sure to block that time. In addition to seeing the exciting work of our trainees, this is a great opportunity to network and reconnect with friends and colleagues.

The legendary GIL banquet and business meeting will be on Tuesday evening, following the Tuesday afternoon Davenport Lecture. So don’t plan on leaving before Wednesday.

Overall, EB2015 promises to be one of the best we’ve ever had. So, plan to submit your abstract and attend EB2015 in Beantown.

Also, as you plan your abstracts, don’t forget the large number of awards we will be presenting (http://www.the-aps.org/mm/awards/sections/gil). The application deadline for these awards is December 15. Most of these are for trainees and can help to defray travel costs. Trainees can also apply for the prestigious APS-wide Caroline tum Suden Professional Opportunity Awards, the Dale J. Benos Early Career Professional Service Award, and a variety of others (deadlines are varied). All of these awards are described on the APS web site (http://www.the-aps.org/mm/awards).

So, plan your abstracts, travel, and participation! (AND ONLY SUBMIT TO GIL DESCRIPTORS see page 2)

Boston or bust!

Jerry
Hello GIL Section Members,

I just want to bring to your attention a very important consideration regarding abstract submissions for EB2015. Abstract submissions for EB2015 are particularly important for our section this year because it will directly impact the number of Featured Topic and Research Symposia sessions we get in future EB meetings. The allocation of sessions to each section in APS is based on the mean number of abstract submissions to that section over a 3 year period. If numbers go up from the previous 3 year period then a section may get extra sessions. If numbers go down they may lose a session. EB2015 constitutes year 3 of the current 3 year abstract submission cycle. Over years 1 & 2 (EB2013 & EB2014), abstract submissions to the GIL section are up by 38% compared to the previous 3 year cycle! In fact our submissions have never been higher. That’s a fantastic increase and thank you all for your contributions. This places us in a strong position to get increased GIL programming at EB provided we can increase our abstract submissions again for EB2015. I encourage you to start thinking now about potential abstracts for EB2015 so that we can get as high a number of submissions as possible and get more GIL content on the APS program.

Of further importance is the need to select APS GIL descriptors for your abstracts when submitting them online. We have not been credited with abstracts in the past because they were submitted to different societies or APS sections with GI or epithelial-related descriptors. For example, last year the anatomy society (AAA) received some abstracts that were intended for our section because their descriptors appear first on the submission website. So please ONLY select a descriptor from the list below. This is the full list of GIL section abstract descriptors. We also have two exciting featured topic sessions that you should consider submitting your abstracts to if you think your research applies to these areas as you may get the opportunity to give an oral presentation in one of these sessions. On behalf of the Programming Committee, thank you for your help with ensuring we have a successful EB2015.

The deadline for abstract submissions for EB2015 is November 6th, 2014.

With best wishes,

Declan McCole
Chair, GIL Programming Committee

GASTROINTESTINAL & LIVER PHYSIOLOGY SECTION

FEATURED TOPICS:

( NOTE: if selected for inclusion in a featured topic, abstracts will be presented twice: once as a poster and once in the oral session)

1165-APS Inflammatory Responses in Gastrointestinal and Liver Cancer: Current Insights into Mechanism and Treatment (Rao)

1166-APS Targeting Colonic Contents as Treatment for Disease (Keely)

POSTERS:

1167-APS Alcoholic and nonalcoholic fatty liver diseases

1168-APS Barrier function and repair

1169-APS Effects of diet and metabolites on mucosal immunology

1170-APS Effects of diet on GI and liver physiology

1171-APS Gastric physiology and pathophysiology

1172-APS Gastrointestinal cancer and metastasis
Hello GIL Section Members and Trainees:

As the GI & Liver representative to the Trainee Advisory Committee (TAC), I’m here to keep you up to date with all recent trainee related events. The TAC is responsible for investigating the needs of trainees, both pre-doctoral and postdoctoral, and for determining how the Society can provide necessary support and assistance. Here is an update on trainee EB 2015 events, awards, and other trainee-related issues:

In addition to the following items, be sure to keep up with the latest Trainee-related events and award opportunities at the APS Trainee Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/APSTrainees

- **Award Opportunity: GI & Liver Section EB Travel Award!** To submit your application, indicate that you are applying when you submit your EB abstract. Also, it is very important to plan to attend the GI & Liver Section Trainee Symposium. Details on the date and time will be sent out in a future list serv e-mail! Lots of travel awards were given out for GI & Liver trainees the past several years so be sure to apply!
- **Award Opportunity: Caroline tum Suden/Frances Hellebrandt Professional Opportunity Awards.** Graduate students and post-doctoral fellows: Apply if you are the first author of an abstract submitted to APS for EB. You can apply for this award when you submit your EB abstract. [http://bit.ly/10KlRWd](http://bit.ly/10KlRWd)
- **Award Opportunity: Novel Disease Model Award** Graduate students and post-doctoral fellows: Apply if you are the first author of an abstract submitted to APS for EB and are submitting a novel in vitro, in vivo, or ex vivo disease model. You can apply for this award when you submit your EB abstract. [http://bit.ly/10GhgPx](http://bit.ly/10GhgPx) (grad students) - [http://bit.ly/1t06q3m](http://bit.ly/1t06q3m) (post-docs)
- The **EB2015 Trainee Symposium** topic is *Scientists as Supervisors: Hiring, Firing, and Beyond*
including speakers Michael Reid, Ph.D., Kim Barrett, Ph. D., and Francine Montemurro, J.D. The symposium will be held 4/1/2015 at 10:30AM in the Boston Convention Center Room 206A. Be sure to attend!

• **Workshop: Writing and Reviewing for Scientific Journals (1/15-1/18).** This 3-day workshop held in Orlando, FL focuses on essential manuscript writing skills for upper level graduate students, postdoctoral trainees, and early career scientists. As part of the course, students receive feedback on their first-author draft manuscript from an instructor with extensive publication experience. Deadline: November 17, 2014 [http://bit.ly/PSTWriting](http://bit.ly/PSTWriting)

Again if you have any questions or comments regarding trainee related issues, please get in touch (mschumacher@chla.usc.edu)! I look forward to seeing you at EB2015 and good luck with your award applications!

*Michael Schumacher
mschumacher@chla.usc.edu*

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**GI and Liver Section Business Meeting/Banquet at EB 2015**

The world famous GIL Section Business Meeting and **Banquet** will be in the evening on **Tuesday, March 31**t, 2015. So, please be sure not to book your travel home before mid-day on **Wednesday April 1**st.

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**Physiologists in Industry Message**

**PIC Symposium:** The APS Physiology in Industry Committee is sponsoring a Symposium at EB2015 entitled “Targeting Gut Microbiome in Human Diseases and as Novel Therapeutics”. The PIC Symposium will be scheduled on Sunday, March 29 in Boston Convention Center.

The gut is home to hundreds of trillions of microorganisms. Gut flora is known to be essential to the digestion of nutrients, synthesis of vitamin B and K, suppression of pathogenic microbial growth and immunity. Gut microbiome has also been involved in a variety of other processes, from sugar appetite to cancer susceptibility. With the advent of Next-Generation DNA sequencing the Human Microbiome Project has been able to uncover microbes that have never been seen before, look at how they behave as communities, and study the correlation of microbiota composition and disease susceptibility and incidence. There are also an increasing number of studies assessing the therapeutic effect of modifying gut microbiome composition on allergies, diabetes, cardiovascular disease and even drug efficacy. We are looking forward to listen to the speakers of this exciting symposium.
The PIC Novel Disease Model Award is sponsored by Novo Nordisk Research Centre China, a world leader in developing innovative treatments for Diabetes. Two awards are granted each year to a graduate student and a postdoctoral fellow who submit the best abstracts at EB meeting that describe a novel disease model. The model should clearly emphasize the potential utility of the system for future research related to a disease. The deadline to submit your application is November 6th 2014, coinciding with the EB abstract date. The award is $500 for the graduate student and $800 for the postdoctoral fellow categories, respectively, and will be presented at the APS Business Meeting.

On Experimental Biology 2014 the PIC Novel Disease Model Award awardee for pre-doctoral student was Ms. Ellen Gillis, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS for her abstract entitled “The Dahl S rat on normal salt diet is a spontaneous model of preeclampsia” and the awardee for postdoctoral student was Dr. Suttira Intrapad, Ph.D., University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS for her abstract “A new model of intra uterine growth restriction (IUGR) induced by reduced uterine perfusion in the mouse programs hypertension in the IUGR mouse offspring”. Both awards were presented at the 2014 APS Business Meeting.

15th Annual Physiologists in Industry Committee Mixer. You're invited! Come meet, eat and socialize with your fellow Physiologists who are working in the corporate, industrial, academic, or government sector. The 15th Annual Physiologists in Industry Committee Mixer will feature free hors d’oeuvres along with information on the roles of Physiologists in Industry. It will be held on Sunday, March 29, 6:45 – 8:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to network with industry and academic APS members alike – we hope to see you there!

The annual APS PIC meeting will be scheduled on Sunday, March 29, 2015, chaired by WEH member Eugene Shek. This is the committee’s annual opportunity to have a face-to-face meeting to discuss committee business and new initiatives. Please feel free to contact your PIC section representative if you have new ideas and matters to be brought to the attention of the PIC.

Shaila Basavappa
As the Committee on Committees representative for our section, it is my responsibility to make recommendations for APS committee appointments at the EB meeting. In order to maintain an equal level of section representation among the committees, I need your help! Our goal is to have GI&L members in each committee. As you can see from the data in the table below, our section is very underrepresented in the APS governance. Last year, only 10 GI&L section members applied for APS committees, and of those, 3 were appointed. In 2016, only 5 out of 16 committees will have GI&L representation!!

Please consider getting involved with APS and volunteer to be on a committee. It is a wonderful way to network with colleagues and ensure committee decisions reflect the needs and aspirations of our sections members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Openings for 2016</th>
<th>GI&amp;L Membership (term expires)</th>
<th># of nominations received last cycle by GI&amp;L members</th>
<th>Total # of nominations received last cycle from all APS sections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Care &amp; Experimentation</td>
<td>1 Chair, 3 Members, 1 Trainee</td>
<td>Sharon DeMarrow (2014)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
<td>3 members</td>
<td>Yana Zavros (2014), Li Wang (2017)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Career Opportunities in Physiology</td>
<td>1 Chair, 3 Members</td>
<td>Caroline Appleyard (2017)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>1 Chair, 2 Members</td>
<td>Le Shen (2014), Kay Lund (2016)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Physiologists</td>
<td>1 Chair, 2 Members</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1 Chair, 4 Members</td>
<td>RK Rao (2015)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>2 Members</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>3 Members, 1 Trainee</td>
<td>Shrikant Anant (2014)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Physiology Development &amp; Minority Affairs</td>
<td>2 Members, 1 Porter Fellow</td>
<td>Layla Al-Nakkash (2015)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>1 Member</td>
<td>Linda Samuelson (2015)</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Policy</td>
<td>2 Members</td>
<td>Laura McCabe (2016)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women in Physiology</td>
<td>3 Members</td>
<td>Melanie Gareau (2016), Karen Edelblum (2017)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have submitted your name before, please keep trying, as persistence is a valued quality! Be aware that the competition for some of the committees can be fiercer than for others. Traditionally, ACE, Education, and International Committees receive a lot of nominees from across the society and substantial relevant experience is a must. Some other committees are in need of more nominees (see above). A web page providing committee position descriptions and responsibilities can be found at: [http://www.the-aps.org/mm/hp/Audiences/APS-Committees](http://www.the-aps.org/mm/hp/Audiences/APS-Committees).

If you are interested in serving on a committee, the application process is simple and requires only a little time and effort. You just need to submit a brief Candidate Form, and one other person must fill out an Endorsement Form to highlight your qualifications for a particular committee. A description of the committee nomination process can be found on the APS website: [http://www.the-aps.org/mm/hp/Audiences/APS-Committees/nominations](http://www.the-aps.org/mm/hp/Audiences/APS-Committees/nominations).

The deadline for submitting the forms is **January 16, 2015** for 2016 committee appointments. Forms should be submitted only via the online awards module at [http://www.the-aps.org/awardapps](http://www.the-aps.org/awardapps). Please also email me and let me know you are applying for a committee (or if you have questions!) at [jdominguezrieg@bastyr.edu](mailto:jdominguezrieg@bastyr.edu).

Thank you to all the members who are currently serving on committees. Your hard work and dedication to our section and the APS is greatly appreciated! Special thanks to those who are retiring from their current committee terms at the end of the year: Sharon DeMarrow, Yana Zavros, Le Shen, and Shrikant Anant. Don’t think you can escape from being put to work for our section! 😊

Congratulations to Li Wang, Caroline Appleyard, and Karen Edelblum for their appointments in APS committees beginning January 1, 2015!

Best regards,
Jessica Dominguez Rieg
GI & Liver Section Steering Committee Meeting: details to follow

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