

## VIIN Young Investigator Symposium

September 5, 2013 - Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Parkville



**Keynote Speaker: Professor Linfa Wang**

OCE Science Leader, CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory

*From Hendra to Hollywood: a 16-year batty journey*

For more details visit: <http://viin.org.au/events/69/>

Lorne Infection & Immunity  
Conference 2014  
Australia

19-21 February  
Mantra Lorne



### Confirmed Speakers:

**Bonnie Bassler**, Princeton University, USA  
**Brett Finlay**, University of British Columbia, CAN  
**Michael Gale**, University of Washington, USA  
**David Russell**, Cornell University, USA  
**Facundo Batista**, London Research Institute, UK  
**Alan Cowman**, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Vic  
**Tony Cunningham**, Westmead Millennium Institute, NSW  
**Dale Godfrey**, University of Melbourne, Vic  
**Tania Sorrell**, University of Sydney, NSW

[www.lorneinfectionimmunity.org](http://www.lorneinfectionimmunity.org)

## VIIN-IA Roadshow and Research Showcase

More than 150 VIIN scientists networked with representatives from Victoria's biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies at the VIIN Industry Alliance Roadshow and Research Showcases at Clayton, Geelong and Parkville during May.

These events showcased infection and immunity research from Monash University, University of Melbourne, Deakin University, Barwon Health, CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory, Geelong Centre for Emerging Infectious Diseases, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute and Burnet Institute, providing an opportunity for VIIN-IA's industry partners to identify potential collaborators from academia.

Industry partners CSL, Biota, Genera Biosystems, Nexvet Biopharma, Affinity Biosciences, BioDiem Ltd, World Courier and Perkin Elmer were well represented at these events, as well as business development firms including P&R Wood Partners, Medicines Development, Biocomm Squared, D3 Ltd, Brandon Capital, Phillips Ormonde Fitzpatrick Intellectual Property and Watermark Intellectual Asset Management.

As well as fostering collaborations between academic researchers and companies in Victoria, projects were identified for funding under the VIIN-IA Collaborative Project Grant scheme. Applications for these grants have closed and winners will be announced later in the year. Successful projects will make use of the VIIN-IA's seed funding to generate data for longer-term collaborative projects.



**Participants at the Clayton Roadshow:** Daniel Layton (Monash Antibody Technology Facility), [Richard Boyd](#) (Keynote Speaker – Monash University) and Chris Vindurampulle (Watermark Intellectual Asset Management)

The VIIN-IA is funded by the State Government's Collaborative Networks Pilot Program. For more information on the VIIN-IA contact [Rebecca.Smith@monash.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Smith@monash.edu)

To add or update your VIIN Member Page email: [info@viin.org.au](mailto:info@viin.org.au)

## A\*STAR / NHMRC Success

Congratulations to the Victorian infection and immunity researchers who were awarded grants in the recent Call for Research on Utilising Integrative Technologies to Combat Emerging Infectious Disease put out by the NHMRC along with Singapore's Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR). All of the Australian Lead Investigators were located in Victoria, namely [Jamie Rossjohn](#) (Monash University), Ken Shortman (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute), Aeron Hurt (Melbourne Health), Sarah Dunstan and Cameron Simmons (University of Melbourne). \$1.7 million was awarded to the Australian groups with an equivalent amount awarded to their Singaporean partners.

## Lorne Infection and Immunity Conference 2013

The 3rd International Lorne Infection and Immunity Conference, hosted by the Victorian Infection and Immunity Network was held at Mantra Lorne between February 20th and 22nd. The event was well attended with participants coming from 10 different Victorian research institutes, other national institutes and international laboratories in the USA, UK, Israel, Korea and China.

The program featured speakers on innate, mucosal and adaptive immunity, as well as the pathogenesis of infection, dynamic host-pathogen interactions, emerging infectious diseases, genomics in infection and immunity and clinical and translational research.

International speakers included Victor Nizet and Carolyn Larabell (University of California) Gordon Dougan (Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute), Richard

Flavell (Yale School of Medicine) Jianqing Xu (Fudan University) and Yasmine Belkaid (National Institutes of Health).



Richard Flavell gave a fascinating plenary lecture on the inflammasome, microbiota and disease while local invited speaker James McCluskey (University of Melbourne) **pictured below** presented recently published work on Mucosal-associated invariant T (MAIT) cells. **Pictured above:** Delegates enjoying lunch on the lawn; **left:** Zoltan Fehervari (Nature Immunology) and Pearl Swe (Queensland Institute of Medical Research).

**Student Prizes:** Lori Turner (Monash University) provided by VIIN and Jaclyn Pearson (University of Melbourne) provided by Nature Immunology

**Sponsors:** CSL, Gilead, Biota, Life Research, Monash Institute of Medical Research, University of Melbourne Infection and Immunity Domain, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute and Burnet Institute

For more photos visit the VIIN's Facebook Page:

<http://www.facebook.com/VictorianInfectionandImmunityNetwork>

The 4th Lorne Infection and Immunity Conference will be held at Mantra Lorne in February 2014. For more details visit: [www.lorneinfectionimmunity.org](http://www.lorneinfectionimmunity.org)





## Infection and Immunity Funding Opportunities

### **Gates Vaccine Innovation Award**

Gates (Bill and Melinda) Foundation

The Gates Vaccine Innovation Award will celebrate revolutionary ways children in the poorest parts of the world are immunized. The winning innovation will be recognized with a US \$250,000 prize.

Deadline: 31/07/2013

<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/What-We-Do/Global-Development/Vaccine-Delivery/Vaccine-Innovation-Award>

### **Support for UROP students**

VIIN Industry Alliance

The VIIN Industry Alliance is offering support to host laboratories taking in UROP students for commercially-focused research projects. 50% student stipends are available (\$7000 for 12 month projects or pro-rata). Eligible projects should involve an industry partner or have a clear commercial outcome.

Deadlines: Expressions of Interest are open

Contact [Rebecca.Smith@monash.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Smith@monash.edu) to register your interest

### **Support for industry sabbaticals for ECRs and PhD students**

VIIN Industry Alliance

The VIIN Industry Alliance is offering support to PhD students or ECRs to undertake 3 month sabbaticals in industry. PhD students must be close to submission and will be paid at the relevant annual APA rate. Support for ECRs taking a leave of absence from their host organisation will be negotiated. This is an excellent opportunity for an ECR to determine whether a career in industry may suit their skills and interests. It is also an excellent opportunity for host organisations to recruit and assess the suitability for employment of outstanding ECRs without cost to themselves.

Deadlines: Expressions of Interest from PhD students, ECRs or potential host companies from industry are open

Contact [Rebecca.Smith@monash.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Smith@monash.edu) to register your interest

### **Drug Target Development and Validation for Antimicrobial-Resistant Pathogens**

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) invites applications for translational research focused on characterization and validation of novel antimicrobial targets for development of new therapeutic interventions against select antimicrobial-resistant bacterial pathogens. This program will use the NIH R21/R33 Phased Innovation Award mechanism.

Deadline: Applications may be submitted to Grants.gov in response to this announcement on or after June 18, 2013. The deadline for receipt of optional letters of intent is June 18, 2013. The deadline for receipt of full applications is July 18, 2013, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AI-12-044.html>

### **Multiple ASM Awards**

American Society for Microbiology

The ASM Awards, overseen by the American Academy of Microbiology, encompass the many subspecialties of microbiology, including biotechnology, clinical microbiology, environmental microbiology, antimicrobial chemotherapy, immunology, and virology, as well as education and service to the profession.

Deadline: 01/07/2013

<http://www.asm.org/index.php/awards2>