

# PASPCR

December 2003  
Vol. 11 Number 4

## Newsletter



### Introduction...

by **Bill Oetting**

Plans for the XII<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the PASPCR, to be held at the Suttan Place Hotel in Newport Beach, California, are now being finalized. The meeting promises to be both fun and informative for all. The preliminary program can be found on pages 8 through 13 in this issue of the *Newsletter*. For the latest meeting information, go to the home page at [www.paspcr.org](http://www.paspcr.org) and press on the "Registration for the PASPCR Annual Meeting" button. This web page will also be the location for abstract submission, and links for meeting and hotel registration. Note: **The final abstract Submission date is February 16, 2004.** Keep June 24-27 in 2004 open to attend the PASPCR Annual Meeting in sunny California.

We are beginning a new segment of the PASPCR Newsletter called "Research in the PASPCR". The idea is to provide members of the PASPCR basic information on the major research interests in different members' laboratories as an effort to help facilitate collaborative research. If you wish to contribute to this initiative, please send a paragraph or two on the main focus of your research and I will put it into the next issue of the PASPCR Newsletter.

The *PASPCR Newsletter* is published quarterly and is intended to serve as a means of communication for the members of our Society. You are invited to contribute articles, or other information you feel will be of interest to members of the PASPCR. If you attend a scientific meeting and have heard results which you think will be of interest to the membership of the PASPCR, please write a few paragraphs summarizing what was presented and share

it with us. Any information on upcoming meetings of interest will be added to the "Calendar of Events". This is your newsletter, and we depend upon you to help us make sure it best serves the Society's needs. Contributions and comments can be sent to me, preferably by E-mail, to [bill@lenti.med.umn.edu](mailto:bill@lenti.med.umn.edu).

The IFPCS web site can now be reached by using the domain name **ifpcs.org**. The domain name **ipcc.info** will take you to the IPCC web site, providing you the most up to date information on the International Pigment Cell Conference which will be held on September 18 - 23, 2005, at the Natcher Conference Center at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD

When you get your ballot:

**Don't forget to Vote  
for the new  
PASPCR Council Members**

(see page 4)

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The PASPCR Web Site can be found at:

<http://www.paspcr.org>

**The PanAmerican Society for  
Pigment Cell Research**

C/O Dr. Raymond E. Boissy  
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Zalfa Abdel-Malek,  
*President*  
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Brian Potterf  
Glynis Scott  
Miri Seiberg  
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**IFPCS Representative:**

Richard A. King  
*past-President PASPCR*

**Calendar of Events:**

**July 22-24, 2004** International Skin Cancer Conference, Zurich, CH  
President: Günter Burg  
**Contact:** Reinhard Dummer  
Phone: +41 1 255 88 37  
Fax: +41 1 255 44 03  
E-mail: nicole.brunner@usz.ch  
Web : www.skincancer.ch

**2004** XII<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PanAmerican Society for Pigment Cell Research, to be held in Irvine, California.  
**Contact:** Frank Myskins.  
E-mail: flmeyske@uci.edu

**2004** XII<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the European Society for Pigment Cell Research, to be held in Paris, France.  
**Contact:** Dr. Lionel LaRue  
E-mail: Lionel.Larue@curie.fr

**2005** XIV<sup>th</sup> International Pigment Cell Conference (IPCC), to be held in Bethesda, MD, USA.  
**Contact:** Dr. Vince. Hearing  
E-mail: hearingv@nih.gov

If you know of future meetings that you feel would be of interest to the PASPCR membership, please let us know.

The *PASPCR Newsletter* is published quarterly by the PanAmerican Society for Pigment Cell Research. All views are those of the authors. For further information or to submit articles, please contact members of the Publications Committee.

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## **Corporate Sponsors**

**by Raymond E. Boissy**

The PASPCR would like to acknowledge and thank our Corporate Sponsors; the list below reflects contributions over the past 2 years. Financial gifts from these sponsors have allowed our Society to increase benefits to the membership far out of proportion to the actual dues collected from members. Monies contributed by these sponsors have been used over the years to support various PASPCR functions including our Young Investigator Award program, meeting travel stipends, annual meeting expenses and this Newsletter.

***GOLD Corporate Patrons***  
Procter and Gamble Co.  
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## **2004 PASPCR Membership Dues**

**by Raymond E. Boissy**

Please send in your 2004 membership dues if you have not done so already. Send in your dues now will make sure that you continue to receive *Pigment Cell Research* in a timely manner. If you have misplaced your dues notice, or did not receive one, please e-mail me at boissyre@ucmail.uc.edu.

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## **And now for the rest of the story**

**by Bill Oetting**

In several past issues of the *Newsletters*, I included articles written by PASPCR members on how they started a certain of research project, or an interesting event in their life that would be of interest to the PASPCR membership. This section has been missing in the last issues, not due to a lack of stories, but because I have not received any of these interesting stories to publish. If you wish to know how a particular line of investigation got started, or know of a story that would be interesting to readers of the PASPCR Newsletter, please email me at bill@lenti.med.umn.edu, and I will try to get **the rest of the story**.

## **Letter from the PASPCR President**

Fellow PASPCR members,

I start by wishing you a very happy New Year, and hope that the year 2004 brings us success as individuals, and as a society.

I want us to celebrate the achievements of the year 2003. Our society has witnessed a tremendous boost in its membership, and gained further recognition nationally. Thanks to the high scientific caliber of our research, we have managed to make pigment cell research a research discipline to be reckoned with. We continue to advance with our diverse approaches and to utilize state-of-the art technologies. Our annual meeting in Cape Cod was met with tremendous success, and hosted a panel of distinguished guest speakers. During this meeting, the newly established PASPCR/Aaron B. Learner Award was presented for the very first time. We hope this award will become part of our tradition for many years to come. The contributions of PASPCR together with those of ESPCR and JSPCR to Pigment Cell Research elevated our journal to a very respectable position vis-à-vis other scientific journals. These are the highlights of our successes in 2003. Major contributors to these successes are our officers Raymond Boissy and John Pawelek, the editor of PCR Vincent Hearing, the editor of our newsletter and our webmaster Bill Oetting, and our council members. However, these successes would not have happened without your participation and enthusiasm. The society is **you**, the members.

In the year 2004, we face new challenges and set new goals. First, I look forward to your participation in our annual meeting next June, and we need to make it even more successful than previous meetings. As a reminder for principal investigators, PASPCR provides the most friendly and hospitable forum for your students and postdoctoral fellows. Please provide them with the great opportunity to attend the meeting and present their scientific findings. Second, the current economic situation has made research funding more competitive and challenging than before. We need to work together as collaborators and mentors to insure the continuity of pigment cell research. Our senior PASPCR members should regard mentoring our young members as a duty. It takes time and effort, but it is an investment to strengthen the new generation of pig-

*(Continued next page)*

ment cell researchers. Third, we need to continue with our recruitment efforts to attract scientists who know about PASPCR but have not joined us yet as members.

Fellow members, I encourage you to submit your opinions, views, and suggestions to our newsletter. Please feel free to communicate with me or one of the other officers. We need to hear your voice. We also need to know more about each other. I suggest that we initiate a new column in the newsletter to introduce the various laboratories of PASPCR members. Tell us about your current research projects, your staff, and any special resource or expertise that you wish to share with other PASPCR members. I will be the first one to do so in this issue.

I end by wishing you again a very happy and fruitful New Year.

Your President  
**Zalfa Abdel-Malek**

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## Research in the PASPCR

Dear Members:

We are beginning a new section in our newsletter; short paragraphs stating the major research focus of our laboratories. Our hope is that this information will be useful to other members by telling others about our research projects and possibly opening doors for collaboration. Our first statement comes from Zalfa Abdel-Malek. I hope that each of you will be willing to provide a short paragraph for future Newsletters.

### Introduction to Zalfa Abdel-Malek's Research Laboratory

Zalfa Abdel-Malek is a Research Professor in the Department of Dermatology at the University of Cincinnati. Her research team consists of Ana Luisa Kadekaro, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, Silva Terzieva, Ph.D., Research Associate, and Renny Kavanagh, B.S., Research Assistant. The main research focus in the Abdel-Malek laboratory is on the response of human melanocytes from different pigmentary phenotypes to UV radiation, with special emphasis on the role of  $\alpha$ -MSH and endothelin-1 in this response. The Abdel-Malek laboratory is known for its expertise in culturing human melanocytes, keratinocytes and fibroblasts from neonatal and adult skin.

## PASPCR Members Please Vote for Council Members!

Six of our many excellent scientists have agreed to be placed in nomination for three PASPCR Council seats, soon to be vacated. You should receive a ballot in the mail. Please return this promptly to Ray Boissy. An active, well-functioning Council is essential to the continued vitality of our Society.

**John Pawelek, PhD**  
Chair, Nominating Committee

### Nominations for 2004:

**Greg Barsh, MD, PhD**  
Professor of Genetics and Pediatrics  
Stanford University School of Medicine  
*Research Interests:* Studies of the genetics of pigmentation as a model system to study basic aspects of cell and developmental biology.

**Murray Brilliant, Ph.D.**  
Lindholm Professor of Mammalian Genetics  
Department of Pediatrics  
University of Arizona College of Medicine  
*Research Interests:* Understanding the function of proteins that are encoded by genes (P and MATP) associated with albinism (OCA2 and OCA4).

**Marjan Huizing, PhD**  
Associate Investigator  
National Human Genome Research Institute  
National Institutes of Health  
*Research Interests:* Hermansky-Pudlak syndrome and related disorders of hypopigmentation and prolonged bleeding (Chediak-Higashi syndrome, Gray Platelet syndrome, Griscelli syndrome). The patient's cells allow for identification of intracellular membrane trafficking pathways, novel protein interactions, and functions of vesicular transport genes, thereby increasing understanding of lysosome related organelle biogenesis.

**Prashiela Manga, Ph.D**  
Instructor  
Department of Dermatology  
University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine  
*Research Interests:* Toward furthering the understanding of vitiligo. Identification of the survival pathways initiated by melanocytes following exposure to chemi-

cal toxins; and determination of whether disruption of these pathways leads to vitiligo.

**Seth Orlow, MD, PhD**

Professor of Dermatology, Cell Biology & Pediatrics  
NYU School of Medicine

*Research Interests:* Molecular pathogenesis of oculocutaneous albinism type 2 and ocular albinism. Identification via chemical genetics of small molecules that modulate pigmentation and their molecular targets. Molecular basis of melanoma resistance to cisplatin and arsenical compounds.

**Hee-Young Park, PhD**

Associate Research Professor

Department of Dermatology, Biochemistry, Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, and Graduate Medical Sciences Boston University School of Medicine

*Research Interests:* Intracellular signaling pathways that regulate pigmentation, with specific focus on protein kinase C and cAMP-dependent pathways in their ability to regulate gene expression of tyrosinase and tyrosinase activity. Current interests: The role of MITF in transcription regulation of protein kinase C-beta.

**We are looking for:**

items to include in the *PASPCR Newsletter*. Please send in information that you have on:

- Meetings of interest
- Reports on meetings you have attended
- News about PASPCR members
- Short stories
- Interesting graphics

or anything else you think that the PASPCR membership would be interested in reading. Please email your contributions to [bill@lenti.med.umn.edu](mailto:bill@lenti.med.umn.edu).

Thanks!

**The PASPCR Webpage Report  
by Bill Oetting**

The PASPCR website has received many visitors from all over the world. At present, the website is receiving over 20 hits/day. This is certainly not up to Google's standard, but it does represent a consistent interest in our society. It is noteworthy that over 40% of the visits are from individuals outside the United States. The table below shows the top 10 countries and the number of visits since May 21, 2003.

	<u>Region</u>	<u>Hits</u>	<u>% of hits</u>
1.	United States	2563	59.2 %
2.	Japan	187	4.3 %
3.	Netherlands, The	143	3.3 %
4.	United Kingdom	131	3.0 %
5.	Korea	118	2.7 %
6.	Canada	112	2.6 %
7.	China	97	2.2 %
8.	India	93	2.1 %
9.	Sweden	78	1.8 %
10.	France	76	1.8 %
	Unknown	117	2.7 %
	The rest	617	14.2 %

Below are some of the locations in which visitors have connected from.

- Australia (edu.au)
- Belgian Research Network, Brussel, Belgium
- Rogers Communications Inc., Canada
- Phoenixnet, China
- Imaginet, France
- OTÉnet, Greece
- New Skies Satellites, Hong Kong S.A.R.
- Bharti Enterprises, India
- Interbusiness/Telecom Italia, Italy
- PFU, Japan
- KORNET, Korea
- Kennisnet, Netherlands, The
- Oman Tel, Oman
- Song Networks, Sweden
- RIMA Telefonica, Spain
- Chunghwa Telecom Co., Taiwan
- Thailand (ac.th)

The PASPCR Webpage is an important resource, both for the PASPCR membership, as well as an opportunity to tell interested individuals about our society. If you have any suggestions to help improve our website, either to fix what is there, or to add information, please let me know, and I will try to incorporate your ideas.

**A message from the President of the International Federation of Pigment Cell Societies, to members of the ESPCR, JSPCR and PASPCR**

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

Dear Friends and Colleagues,  
Seasonal greetings, and a happy and peaceful New Year to all of you, on behalf of IFPCS and its Council. 2003 may have been another disturbing year in world politics, but at least it has seemed a good year for the Pigment Cell Societies and their research. Successful regional meetings were organized for the ESPCR by Jean-Marie Naeyaert and colleagues, in historic Ghent (Belgium), for the PASPCR by John Pawelek, Jean Bologna and their team, in scenic Cape Cod (Massachusetts), and (very recently) for the JSPCR by Genji Imokawa and colleagues, in cosmopolitan Tokyo. As usual, anyone unable to attend these meetings can find the abstracts published as supplements to issues of the journal *Pigment Cell Research*. For a different perspective, you can find some pleasant photographs of the ESPCR and PASPCR meetings, on their Society web sites.

News from the IFPCS: In 2003, Masako Mizoguchi and Lionel Larue completed their terms on IFPCS Council, and we thank them warmly for their active and valuable participation. In their place, we welcome Kowichi Jimbow for JSPCR, and Jean-Marie Naeyaert as the new ESPCR Secretary. Shigeki Shibahara becomes the new JSPCR President and Yasu Tomita the JSPCR Secretary-Treasurer. Progress continues apace with the organization of the 19<sup>th</sup> International Pigment Cell Congress, September 18-23, 2005, to be chaired by Vince Hearing (NIH, Washington) for PASPCR. The IPCC is the triennial meeting of our Federation, where all the member societies meet together. Please help to pass on news of this essential meeting to all researchers interested in this field. Planning is already well developed, with prospects of generous sponsorship through the successful advocacy of Dr Hearing and colleagues. The congress will not now be held in the NIH as envisaged, for good reasons including a large price increase, but will be in a congenial venue not far away, the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Reston. You can check the web site, [ipcc.info](http://ipcc.info), for regular updates. Looking even further ahead, it is a pleasure to announce that the 20<sup>th</sup> IPCC in 2008 will be organized by the JSPCR in Sapporo, and will be chaired by Prof. Kowichi Jimbow.

Meanwhile, in 2004, please support your regional Pig-

ment Cell Society conferences, and help to make these the scientifically broad and excellent, yet friendly and congenial, occasions we have come to expect. These will be in Newport Beach, California (PASPCR) in June, Paris (ESPCR) in September and Kumamoto (JSPCR) in November, 2004. Please see the society web sites for information, or contact the organizers, respectively: Dr Frank Meyskens <[flmeyske@uci.edu](mailto:flmeyske@uci.edu)>, Dr Lionel Larue <[Lionel.Larue@curie.u-psud.fr](mailto:Lionel.Larue@curie.u-psud.fr)> and Prof Tomomichi Ono (contact Dr Toshiro Kageshita, Secretary-General, <[toshiro@kaiju.medic.kumamoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:toshiro@kaiju.medic.kumamoto-u.ac.jp)>). Please come, and please also encourage colleagues who are not yet society members to join your regional society and take part in these first-rate and stimulating conferences. IFPCS Council will meet next in Kumamoto, so we in the Council look forward to meeting many members of the JSPCR in 2004.

Our IFPCS journal *Pigment Cell Research* goes from strength to strength, with further increases in subscription numbers and Impact Factor (now 2.2), as Vincent Hearing approaches the final year of his impressively successful term as Editor-in-Chief. From January 2005 we will be welcoming a new Editor-in-Chief, Dr Colin Goding (UK), and I am confident that he will take up the big challenge left by Vince's achievements, and will continue the journal's progress. Increasing readership and impact, more colour pages and continued rapid turnover of submitted manuscripts are just a few of the good reasons to submit your own work to *PCR*. Don't forget that you can also support the journal by citing recent *PCR* articles, and by encouraging your library and colleagues to subscribe to the journal. During 2003, the journal has also published two special issues: the Proceedings of the 2002 IPCC, and an issue commemorating the sad death of Giuseppe Prota, principal founder of ESPCR and past President of IFPCS and of ESPCR. This event was also commemorated at the ESPCR meeting, with a special dedicated session and a talk by Marco d'Ischia in memory of Prof Prota and his exceptional contributions. Returning to *PCR*, we continue to be indebted to *PCR*'s generous corporate sponsors Johnson & Johnson, L'Oréal, Shiseido and Unilever, who have all recently agreed not only to continue but to increase their level of annual support. This should enable the IFPCS to maintain the numbers of free *PCR* subscriptions it can provide, for the societies to allocate to their younger (or other deserving) members.

More information about the IFPCS, and its various components and interest groups, can be found at the IFPCS web site, [www.ifpcs.org](http://www.ifpcs.org), ably maintained by Dr Bill

Oetting. There are links to various related sites and resources. Note for geneticists: the IFPCS Mouse Coat Color Genes page, <<http://www.cbc.umn.edu/ifpcs/micemut.htm>>, has been extensively updated and enlarged this year to include all of the 130 or so known, mapped mouse pigmentary loci (cloned and uncloned). A particularly useful feature is that gene listings are directly hyperlinked not only to their entries in the Mouse Genome Database, but also to those in Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man (OMIM) for the corresponding human genes.

The IFPCS Special Interest Groups or SIGs have continued to be active - see <[www.ifpcs.org](http://www.ifpcs.org)>. The former IFPCS Melanoma Interest Group, chaired by Meenhard Herlyn, <[herlynm@wistar.upenn.edu](mailto:herlynm@wistar.upenn.edu)>, has now transformed into a full international society, the Melanoma Research Society. They held an outstanding Melanoma Research Congress in Philadelphia in June 2003, and will meet again in Arizona in November 2004. We wish the new society every success. The IFPCS Pigment Cell Development Group is planning another workshop at the NIH in April 2004; information from its chair Bill Pavan (NIH) <[bpavan@nhgri.nih.gov](mailto:bpavan@nhgri.nih.gov)>. All are welcome to join the group (no cost) or attend the workshop (some cost).

The IFPCS Pigment Cell Genetics Group is about to re-form, under its new chair Ian Jackson (Edinburgh) <[ian.jackson@hgu.mrc.ac.uk](mailto:ian.jackson@hgu.mrc.ac.uk)>, and a first provisionally planned activity will be a workshop at the 2005 IPCC. Lastly - not exactly an interest group - the IFPCS Women Scientists' Committee has also been reformed. This committee is available if needed, to advise or help women or minority scientists who are IFPCS society members. The new members are Dr Estela Medrano (PASPCR representative and chair), Prof. Paola Grammatico (ESPCR) and Prof Noriko Oshima (JSPCR). See <[www.ifpcs.org](http://www.ifpcs.org)> for their contact details.

In conclusion, I hope that you will take a look at the numerous IFPCS activities and resources, and will find something valuable. Any suggestions for further activities or improvements will always be welcomed - please contact me at <[dbennett@sghms.ac.uk](mailto:dbennett@sghms.ac.uk)>.

Once again, best wishes to everyone for a happy and successful 2004.

**Dot Bennett**  
President, IFPCS



### 12<sup>th</sup> European Society for Pigment Cell Research - Paris - September 2004

Dear Fellow Members,

Every year the *European Society for Pigment Cell Research* brings together over two hundred researchers and scientists from all over the world allowing them to focus on the experience of the pigment cell biology from a medical and fundamental point of view.

We are happy to inform you that the Institut Curie will be hosting the upcoming 12<sup>th</sup> meeting from September, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> through Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

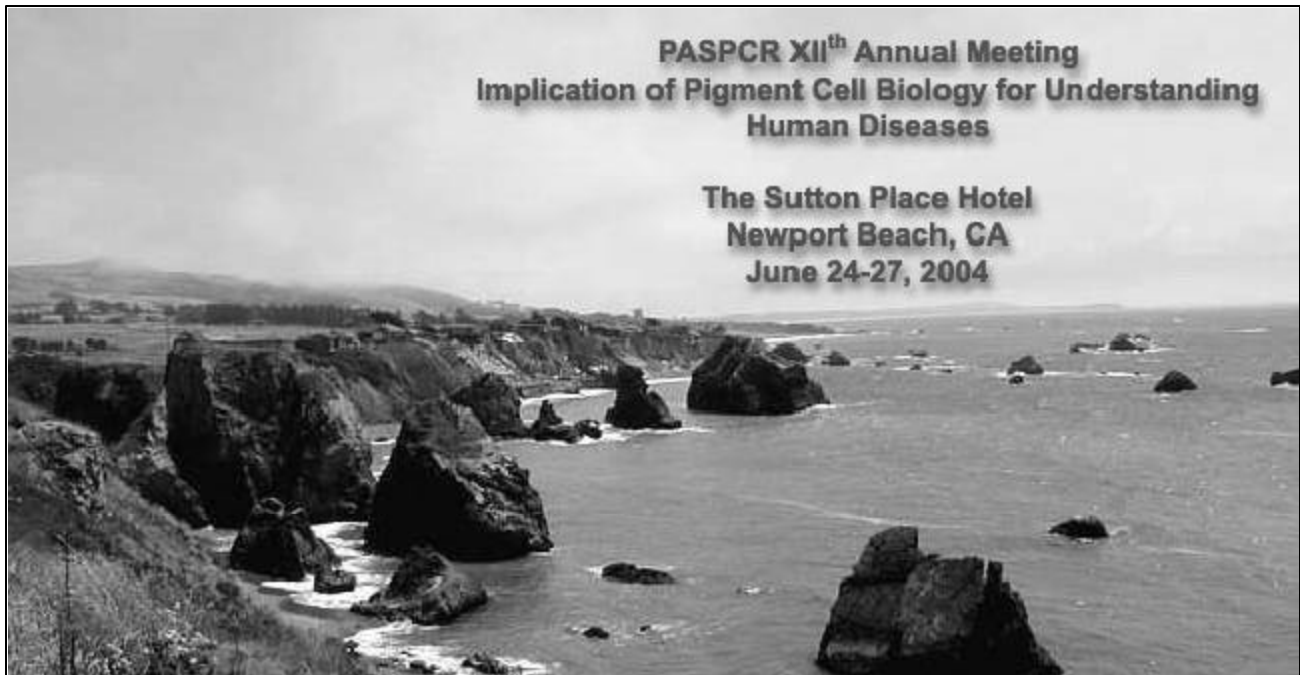
The topics discussed on the occasion of this meeting can be found at the congress website, as well as additional information, which will be regularly updated. The congress website can be found at: <http://espcr2004.curie.fr>

Your presence will enhance the scientific repercussions of these days dedicated to the formation of skin cancer through the biology of pigment cells the melanocytes and their tumoral derivatives.

We sincerely hope you can join us and look forward to welcoming you in Paris .

**Dr. Lionel LARUE**  
Institut Curie





Dear Colleagues,

The theme of this the 2004 PASPCR annual meeting is ‘*Implications of Pigment Cell Biology for Understanding Human Disease.*’ The overall objectives of the meeting are to expand ideas, approaches, and collaborations for members of the society by bringing together experts in disciplines relevant to pigment cell research and associated diseases such as melanoma, albinism, vitiligo, and other diseases of pigment cells. The meeting will focus on recent developments in the genetics, novel gene function, gene expression pattern, and post-transcriptional processing of melanocyte specific proteins, melanosome function, melanin structure, and implications of recent basic advances for understanding human pigmentary diseases. These areas have been particularly productive due to recent breakthroughs and rapid progress in microarray gene expression, mass spectrometry, atomic force microscopy, electron paramagnetic resonance, and other physical chemical biotechnologies.

We hope to see you in Newport Beach in 2004.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Frank Meyskens (UC-Irvine)*  
*Dr. Rogers Bowers (Cal State-LA)*  
Co-Organizers



**PASPCR XII<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**Implication of Pigment Cell Biology for Understanding**  
**Human Diseases<sup>(1)</sup>**

**The Sutton Place Hotel**  
**Newport Beach, CA**  
**June 24-27, 2004**

**Thursday, June 24, 2004**

- 12:00 – 12:45 p.m.    **Registration and Poster Session<sup>(2)</sup>**  
12:45 – 1:00 p.m.    **Welcome and Program Overview**  
Frank L. Meyskens Jr., M.D., University of California, Irvine  
Zalfa Abdel-Malek, Ph.D., \*\* President of PASPCR
- SESSION I:            The Genetics of Pigment Cell Diseases**  
**Moderators: William S. Oetting, Ph.D., University of Minnesota,**  
**and TBN<sup>(3)</sup>**
- 1:00 – 1:20 p.m.    ***The Epidemiology of Melanoma (Invited Lecture)***  
Margaret A. Tucker, Ph.D.,\* National Cancer Institute
- 1:20 – 1:30 p.m.    Questions
- 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.    **Competitive Platform Presentations**  
(10 minute presentations with 5 minutes for questions)
- 2:15 – 2:30 p.m.    **Break**
- 2:30 – 2:50 p.m.    ***BRAF and Melanocytic Diseases (Invited Lecture)***  
Daniel Pinkel, Ph.D.,\* University of California, San Francisco
- 2:50 – 3:00 p.m.    Questions
- 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.    **Competitive Platform Presentations**  
(10 minute presentations with 5 minutes for questions)
- 4:00 – 4:40 p.m.    ***State-of-The-Sciences Presentation***  
***Mitochondria, Redox, and Human Cancer***  
Douglas C. Wallace, Ph.D.,\* University of California, Irvine
- 4:40 – 4:50 p.m.    Questions

**Reception Immediately Following - Meet the Invited Speakers**

- (1) The Aaron B. Lerner Lecturer will be selected by an Awards Committee in Fall 2003.  
(2) Poster Session – Posters will be on display for observation during the conference. A designated time for poster review is also shown.  
(3) TBN – will be selected from competitive abstracts. New and junior investigators will be particularly emphasized.  
\* Non-members of PASPCR  
\*\* Members of PASPCR

**Friday, June 25, 2004**

7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

**SESSION II: Mechanisms of Melanocyte Proliferation and Differentiation**  
**Moderators: Zalfa Abdel-Malek, Ph.D., University of Cincinnati**  
**and TBN<sup>(3)</sup>**

**Morning Session**

8:00 – 8:20 a.m. ***Expression Profiling Reveals Novel Pathways in Melanoma Progression***  
**(Invited Lecture)** Ruth Halaban, Ph.D.,\*\* Yale University School of Medicine

8:20 – 8:30 a.m. Questions

8:30 – 8:50 a.m. ***Disregulation of NF- $\kappa$ B—Implications for Melanoma Tumorigenesis***  
**(Invited Lecture)** Ann Richmond, Ph.D.,\* Vanderbilt University

8:50 – 9:00 a.m. Questions

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. **Competitive Platform Presentations**  
(10 minute presentations with 5 minutes for questions)

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Break**

10:15 – 10:35 a.m. ***Senescence Signaling of Melanocytes (Invited Lecture)***  
Estela Medrano, Ph.D.,\*\* Baylor College of Medicine

10:35 – 10:45 a.m. Questions

10:45 – 11:05 a.m. ***Special Presentation***  
***Biology of Clinical Chemoprevention of Human Cancer***  
Frank L. Meyskens Jr., MD, \*\* University of California, Irvine

11:05 – 11:15 a.m. Questions

11:15 - **Poster Session**  
(posters will be displayed for the duration of the conference)

11:30 – 12:30 p.m. **Hosted Lunch**

**CONFERENCE ORGANIZER'S SESSION:**

**SESSION III: The Properties of Melanin and Melanosomes and its Potential for Understanding Pigment Cell Disease**  
**Moderators: Patrick J. Farmer, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, and TBN**

**Afternoon Session**

12:30 – 12:50 p.m. ***Melanosomes – Advances in Understanding Functional Aspects (Invited Lecture)***

Esteban Dell'Angelica, Ph.D.,\* University of California, Los Angeles

12:50 – 1:00 p.m. Questions

1:00 – 1:20 p.m. ***Structural Properties of Melanin (Invited Lecture)***

John D. Simon, Ph.D.\*, Duke University

1:20 – 1:30 p.m. Questions

1:30 – 1:50 p.m. ***Redox Properties of Melanin (Invited Lecture)***

Patrick J. Farmer, Ph.D.,\* University of California, Irvine

1:50 – 2:00 p.m. Questions

2:00 – 2:20 p.m. ***New Approaches to Characterizing Melanin (Invited Lecture)***<sup>(4)</sup>

Tad Sarna, Ph.D.,\* Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland

2:20 – 2:40 p.m. Questions

2:40 – 2:55 p.m. Break

2:55 – 3:45 p.m. **Competitive Platform Presentations**

(10 minute presentations with 5 minutes for questions)

3:45 – 4:25 p.m. ***State-of-the-Sciences Presentation***  
***Vasculogenic Mimicry***

Mary Hendrix, Ph.D.,\* University of Iowa

4:25 – 4:35 p.m. Questions

4:35 – 4:55 p.m. ***Special Presentation***  
***Melanosomes and PAR-2: Basic Science to Application***

Miri Seiberg, M.D.,\* Johnson & Johnson

4:55 – 5:05 p.m. Questions

Adjourn

5:05 – 7:00 p.m. Poster Displays and Speaker's Dinner<sup>(5)</sup>

<sup>(4)</sup> Dr. Sarna will be in Milwaukee at the EPR Center for the summer session

<sup>(5)</sup> Speaker's Dinner will begin at 8:00 p.m.

**Saturday, June 26, 2004**

7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

**SESSION IV: Newer Animal Models of Pigmentary Abnormalities and Melanoma**  
*Moderators: Roger Bowers, Ph.D., Cal State, Los Angeles, and TBN***Morning Session**8:00 – 8:45 a.m. *“Presidential Talk”*  
*Signaling Pathways of UV in Human Melanocytes: Role of*  
*Paracrine Factors*  
Zalfa Abdel-Malek, M.D., \*\* +University of Cincinnati

8:45 – 8:55 a.m. Questions

8:55 – 9:15 a.m. ***The Genetic Analysis of Pigmentation Using Zebrafish (Invited Lecture)***  
Steve Ekker, Ph.D.,\* University of Minnesota

9:15 – 9:25 a.m. Questions

9:25 – 9:45 a.m. ***New Animal Models (Invited Lecture)***  
Frances P. Noonan, Ph.D.,\* George Washington University

9:45 – 9:55 a.m. Questions

9:55 – 10:10 a.m. **Break**10:10 – 11:25 a.m. **Competitive Platform Presentations**  
(10 minute presentations with 5 minutes for questions)11:25 – 11:45 a.m. ***Special Presentation***  
***Polyamines & Cancer***  
Eugene Gerner, Ph.D., University of Arizona

11:45 – 11:55 Questions

11:55 – 1:00 p.m. **Hosted Lunch**+ Presidential Talks occur only in the last year of a president's tenure.  
Dr. Abdel-Malek's is 2001-2004

**SESSION V: Non-Malignant Abnormalities of Pigment Cells**  
**Moderators: William S. Oetting, Ph.D., University of Minnesota, and TBN**

**Afternoon Session**

- 1:00 – 1:20 p.m. *Neural Crest Cell Induction in Avians (Invited Lecture)*  
Martin Garcia-Castro, Ph.D.,\* California Institute of Technology
- 1:20 – 1:30 p.m. Questions
- 1:30 – 1:50 p.m. ***The Genetics of Albinism and Pigmentation Variation (Invited Lecture)***  
Murray H. Brilliant, Ph.D.,\*\*Arizona Health Sciences Center
- 1:50 – 2:00 p.m. Questions
- 2:00 – 2:15 p.m. Break
- 2:15 – 4:15 p.m. **Competitive Platform Presentations**  
(10 minutes presentations with 5 minutes for questions)
- 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. **Newport Harbor Sunset Cruise**

**Sunday, June 27, 2004**

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

**SESSION VI: Advances in Understanding the Biology of Melanoma and Its Consequences**  
**Moderators: Alistair Cochran, M.D., University of California, Los Angeles, and TBN**

- 9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. ***The Molecular Biology of the Sentinel Node (Invited Lecture)***  
David S. Hoon, MSc, Ph.D.,\* John Wayne Cancer Institute
- 9:20 – 9:30 a.m. Questions
- 9:30 – 9:50 a.m. ***The Histology of the Sentinel Node (Invited Lecture)***  
Alistair Cochran, M.D.,\*\* University of California, Los Angeles
- 9:50 – 10:00 a.m. Questions
- 10:00 – 10:40 a.m. **Competitive Platform Presentations**  
(10 minute presentations with 5 minutes for questions)

Adjourn

**Positions - Wanted and Available**

Postings for **Positions Available** will be open to all individuals and institutions so long as the position is related to pigment cell research. Postings for **Positions Wanted** will be open only to members of the PanAmerican Society for Pigment Cell Research or its sister societies (JSPCR and ESPCR). Send postings to Bill Oetting at bill@lenti.med.umn.edu. Please provide an expiration date for any submitted postings. Final decisions will be made by the Publications Committee of the PASPCR.

**Postdoctoral Associate Position**

A postdoctoral research position is available for work on the development of melanocytes and their malignant progression to cutaneous metastatic melanomas in this laboratory's melanoma-susceptible transgenic mouse model. The basis for newly recognized phenomena will be investigated in the areas of apoptosis, imprinting, hypoxia-inducible gene expression, and cell migration. Some of the results are expected to provide a basis for novel experimental treatments of mice with malignant melanoma. A recent Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. degree is required, with strong specialization in molecular and cell biology. Please send a C.V., summaries of publications, and names of three references to:

Dr. Beatrice Mintz  
Fox Chase Cancer Center  
7701 Burholme Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19111 USA  
FAX (215) 728-3574  
E-mail to Dr. Mintz via ha\_gillin@fcc.edu

**Department of Dermatology Chair**

The University of California, Irvine, College of Medicine seeks candidates for the position of Chair, Department of Dermatology. The candidate must be an accomplished investigator, clinician and teacher, eligible for appointment at the level of associate professor or professor, with leadership skills appropriate for a major university department. Send CV, plus names and addresses of at least three references to:

Frank L. Meyskens, Jr., M.D.  
Chair, Dermatology Search Committee  
c/o Kit Scott  
UCI College of Medicine  
Dean's Office  
246 Irvine Hall  
Irvine, CA 92697-3950

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**Postdoctoral Research Associate**

Fox Chase Cancer Center.

Two NIH-funded postdoctoral positions are available to work on the development of neural crest-derived melanocytes and enteric neurons in mice. We are interested in the signals required for proper migration and differentiation of these lineages during mouse embryogenesis and use various genetic manipulation techniques and existing mutants for our studies. Fox Chase Cancer offers competitive salaries to its postdocs and was recently named one of the best places to work for Postdocs (<http://www.fccc.edu/news/2003/Best-Places-for-Postdocs-02-20-2003.html>). Candidates with a recent PhD or MD/PhD with strong background in molecular biology, genetics or developmental biology are encouraged to apply. Please submit CV, and names of 3 references to:

Dr. Myung K. Shin  
Program in Cellular and Developmental Biology  
Fox Chase Cancer Center  
Philadelphia, PA 19111, USA  
Email: MK\_Shin@fcc.edu

**Postdoctoral Position**

Polarized Kit-ligand expression in the epidermis: Its role in human melanocyte homeostasis

A postdoctoral position (fully funded for the first year with the possibility of a 2 year extension) is immediately available in the Department of Pathology, Centre Medical Universitaire at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. The project is supervised by Dr. Bernhard Wehrle-Haller and Prof. Beat Imhof and is within the frame of a collaboration between the University of Geneva and Industry.

The aim of this project is to understand the role of kit-ligand in melanocyte homeostasis in the adult epidermis and how manipulation of kit-ligand expression or localization in keratinocytes affect melanocyte behavior. The project will employ cell-biological, pharmaceutical, biochemical as well transgenic approaches (mouse) to develop methods to modify Kit-ligand localization (polarity and cell surface expression) in vivo and to study melanocyte behavior in response to such altered Kit-ligand

presentation. For references and rationale see Wehrle-Haller and Imhof (2001, J. Biol. Chem. 276, 12667-74) and Grichnik et al., (1998, J. Invest. Dermatol. 111, 233-38).

The Centre Medical Universitaire provides a stimulatory research environment located within the City of Geneva. Research in the department is centered around problems of autoimmunity, wound healing, inflammation, cell-cell junctions and cell migration. Geneva, located at the lake of Geneva in close proximity to the French Alps, provides a rich multicultural environment facilitating social integration.

Interested candidates preferably having experience in one or more of the aforementioned domains should send their CV (e.g. e-mail) including names and contacting information of two references to:

Bernhard Wehrle-Haller PhD  
Department of Pathology  
Centre Medical Universitaire  
1. Rue Michel-Servet  
1211 Geneva 4  
Switzerland  
Tel/Fax: 0041 22 702 5735 / 5746  
Bernhard.Wehrle  
Haller@medecine.unige.ch

#### **Postdoctoral Research Position**

A postdoctoral position is available immediately to study the transcriptional co-repressor and co-activator activities of the oncogenic protein Ski in human melanomas (PNAS (USA) 97:5924-5929, 2000). Seeking individuals with experience in EMSA, *in vitro* transcription-translation, site-directed mutagenesis and yeast two-hybrid screening. Interested individuals should send inquiries and applications (including CV, a brief description of past experience and future research interests, and the name of three references) to:

Estela E. Medrano, Ph.D.  
Huffington Center on Aging  
Baylor College of Medicine  
One Baylor Plaza N-803.01  
Houston, TX 77030

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#### **Research Associate/Post Doctoral Fellow Position Available**

Position available for either an entry level postdoctoral fellow or a more senior research associate to study the molecular and cellular biology of the melanocyte in general and the pathophysiology of vitiligo in specific. The research project will focus globally on the role of survival factors and apoptotic regulators on the viability of melanocytes in the skin and in culture. In addition, the project will focus on the genetic and cellular susceptibility of melanocytes from patients with vitiligo to undergo apoptosis in response to various stimuli. Postdoctoral fellow candidate should have experience with routine molecular and cellular techniques including cell culturing, site directed mutagenesis, and protein biochemistry. Research Associate candidate should have similar experiences utilizing the melanocyte system. Candidate will become part of an interactive research group focusing on various aspects of pigmentation in the Department of Dermatology and on skin physiology in the Skin Sciences Institute within the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. Send curriculum vitae and list of three references to:

Raymond E. Boissy, Ph.D.  
Professor of Dermatology and Cell Biology,  
Neurobiology, & Anatomy  
Department of Dermatology  
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine  
231 Albert Sabin Way, ML-0592  
Cincinnati, OH, 45267-0592  
TEL: 513-558-6242  
FAX: 513-558-0198  
E-mail: boissyre@email.uc.edu

#### **Postdoctoral Fellows Cancer and Developmental Biology**

Two NIH-funded positions are available for fellows interested in studying the Hedgehog signaling pathway in development and disease using skin as a model system. One project centers on defining the function of the Hedgehog pathway during skin appendage morphogenesis (Dev. Biol. 205: 1-9, 1999); a second project focuses on understanding how deregulated activation of this pathway gives rise to basal cell carcinomas (Nature Genet. 24: 216-7, 2000). Applicants should have a solid background in molecular and cell biology, with experience in transgenic animal models desirable but not required. Interested

individuals should send a CV, letter of interest, and names of three references to:

Dr. Andrzej Dlugosz  
University of Michigan  
Department of Dermatology and  
Comprehensive Cancer Center,  
3310 CCGC, Box 0932,  
1500 East Medical Center Drive,  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0932  
Email: [dlugosza@umich.edu](mailto:dlugosza@umich.edu).

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**Postdoctoral Fellow** - Postdoctoral positions are available immediately to study post-embryonic development in zebrafish. NIH-funded research is aimed at identifying the genetic and cellular bases for development of the adult pigment pattern and somatic metamorphosis. The lab uses a wide variety of methods including genetic screening, genetic mapping and positional cloning, gene expression analysis, cell transplantation and classical histology. Postdoctoral fel-

lows would be expected ultimately to develop independent research programs and would have the opportunity to participate in ongoing genetic screens for mutants affecting post-embryonic development.

For more information see:

<http://www.biosci.utexas.edu/IB/faculty/parichy/research.htm>

<http://www.biosci.utexas.edu/IB/faculty/parichy/pubs.html>

Applications including CV and contact information for three references should be sent to:

David M. Parichy, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Sections of Integrative Biology and  
Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology  
1 University Station, C0930  
University of Texas  
Austin TX 78712  
[dparichy@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:dparichy@mail.utexas.edu)  
512 232-9143 T  
512 471-3878 F





## Bibliography:

The Bibliography published in this issue covers the period September, 2003 through November, 2003. If you notice a paper that was not detected by this search that should be included, please send it to us and we will include it in the next issue. By its very nature, assignment of a reference to a particular category is arbitrary and we urge you to read through all categories to make sure you don't miss any pertinent to your field.

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