

**In this issue...**

- FOCIS 2022 - Registration and Abstract Portal Open!
 - FOCIS 2022 - Submit Your Science Via an Abstract Proposal
 - FOCIS 2022 - Introducing the Keynote Speakers
 - AMGEN - Who is TSLP?
 - FCE Spotlight - Meet Dr. Per Marits, Karolinska Institute Sweden
 - U.S. Advanced Course in Basic & Clinical Immunology
 - FOCIS - Women in Clinical Immunology Committee
 - Journal of Experimental Medicine - Introducing CME Activities
 - FOCIS - Renew Your Membership by December 31
-

Mark Your Calendars!

The FOCIS Annual Meeting is the focal point of the translational immunology community, the place where researchers, clinicians, trainees, industry, and others engaged in the field, gather to share the latest advances in the understanding and treatment of immune-based diseases.

FOCIS is pleased to be returning to an in-person format at the Marriott Marquis San Francisco, June 21-24, 2022. The health and safety of attendees are our top priority. FOCIS leadership

and meeting organizers will continue to monitor the global, national, state, and local COVID-19 situation, and adjust as needed. FOCIS is developing an attendee code of conduct and an in-person safety measures and protocols guide that will be shared with attendees and the FOCIS community.

Register Now & Save!

[Back to Top](#)



[FOCIS invites you to submit an abstract for FOCIS 2022!](#)

Take advantage of the opportunity to share your science with the international FOCIS community and have your work reviewed by experts in the field. All abstracts must be **submitted electronically through the submission site** by Wednesday, January 19, 2022.

[FOCIS 2022 Registration and Travel Awards](#)

Presenting authors of accepted abstracts are required to register to attend the FOCIS 2022 Annual Meeting by April 8, 2022, to ensure the abstract is included in the abstract supplement and scheduled into the program.

Travel Awards are available to FOCIS members whose abstracts are chosen for oral presentations. The number and amount of the awards are based upon several factors including geographic location, placement of abstract within the FOCIS 2022 program and available funds.

Submit an Abstract

[Back to Top](#)



Register to Join Our Keynote Speaker Sessions

FOCIS is pleased to announce the FOCIS 2022 Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker schedule! The Annual Meeting brings together leading clinicians and researchers to deliver the latest breakthroughs across translational immunology.

Register today to secure the best rate possible and save your seat to our keynote sessions, Wednesday, June 21 through Friday, June 24, 2022.

Register Now & Save!

[Back to Top](#)

"TSLP MADE US DO IT"^{1,2}

Who is TSLP?

References: 1. Lambrecht BN et al. *Immunity*. 2019; 50:975-991. 2. Gauvreau GM et al. *Expert Opin Ther Targets*. 2020; 24(8):777-792.

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#dedicated

Novel research unlocks new way of looking at severe asthma and the inflammation cascade

For the millions of patients living with severe asthma, there is a critical need for new ways to think about this complex disease. Researchers have identified an epithelial cytokine called thymic stromal lymphopoietin (TSLP), which sits at the top of the inflammatory cascade. [Learn](#) about the role of TSLP in severe asthma.

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[Back to Top](#)

FCE Spotlight

Get to Know FCE Director Per Marits,
MD, PhD | Karolinska Institute Sweden

To introduce FOCIS members to Dr. Marits, we interviewed him about his career path, proudest achievements, involvement with FOCIS and his work with Karolinska Institute. Take a moment to read



excerpts from that interview below, or listen to the full interview or read the transcript, [here](#).

How did you first get involved in immunology?

Well, I was studying medicine and during the education, I encountered a person who was about to become my future mentor, who convinced me that immunology was the field of research that was the most exciting in the future. He had just returned from the US from a postdoc and was about to start a new research group at Karolinska Institute Sweden. And I joined his group, which I never had regretted. So, that was a great start to my research career.

Tell us about the research you're most proud of.

That's quite a difficult question because I've done so many different things, but I'm still quite proud of what we did during my PhD studies, where we went into the field of tumor immunology, somewhat before it had become really popular. We looked for tumor reactive lymphocytes in tumor draining lymph nodes from patients with solid tumors and also based on this finding, we performed a pilot study of adoptive T-cell therapy here in Sweden, which was quite early. And I remember that most of the oncologists were quite skeptical that immunology would actually play a role in treating cancer at the time. Well, time has proven them wrong. So, I'm quite proud of that.

What is the most important trait a researcher should possess and why?

I think an ability to believe in his or her own ideas is very important because there are so many things that can make you doubt your own idea, that it is going to fly, that it's going to work. When I insisted that I should read a few more papers before I actually did something, my supervisor always said you should do your experiments yourself. Before you have done the experiments, you cannot really say, irrespective of how many papers you read, you need to get your feet wet and try. I think an ability, a certain amount of self-confidence, is very important to succeed in the long-term.

[Listen to the full interview or read the transcript here.](#)

[Back to Top](#)



Join Us for In-Person Education

The agenda for the [2022 US Advanced Course in Basic and Clinical Immunology](#) is live on the FOCIS website!

Over the three days, thirteen faculty will explore major topics in cellular and molecular immunology – taking you from the bench to the bedside and back again. The program is a stepwise approach, beginning with basic concepts and cellular components and then cellular interactions and clinical translation.

During the in-person course, faculty seek personal connections and encourage conversations with attendees. Past attendees shared in the evaluation that the faculty “seemed deeply invested in interacting and getting to know the attendees” and that the course is a “comfortable environment to ask questions.” Plus, faculty stay on-site for the duration of the course leading to chance meetings and casual conversation outside the lectures and networking events.

[Join the Advanced Course >](#)

[Back to Top](#)



FOCIS Commits to Gender Equality in Immunology

The Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies is pleased to officially announce the launch of a new initiative: the Women in Clinical Immunology (WICI) Committee. The creation of this committee embodies FOCIS's ongoing commitment to ensure a fair, equitable, and welcoming environment for all engaged in the science and management of immunological disorders. This commitment is underscored by the stated mission, which is to foster understanding and awareness of gender issues, promote career development of women in immunology, and advance understanding of the role of sex and gender in immunological disease.

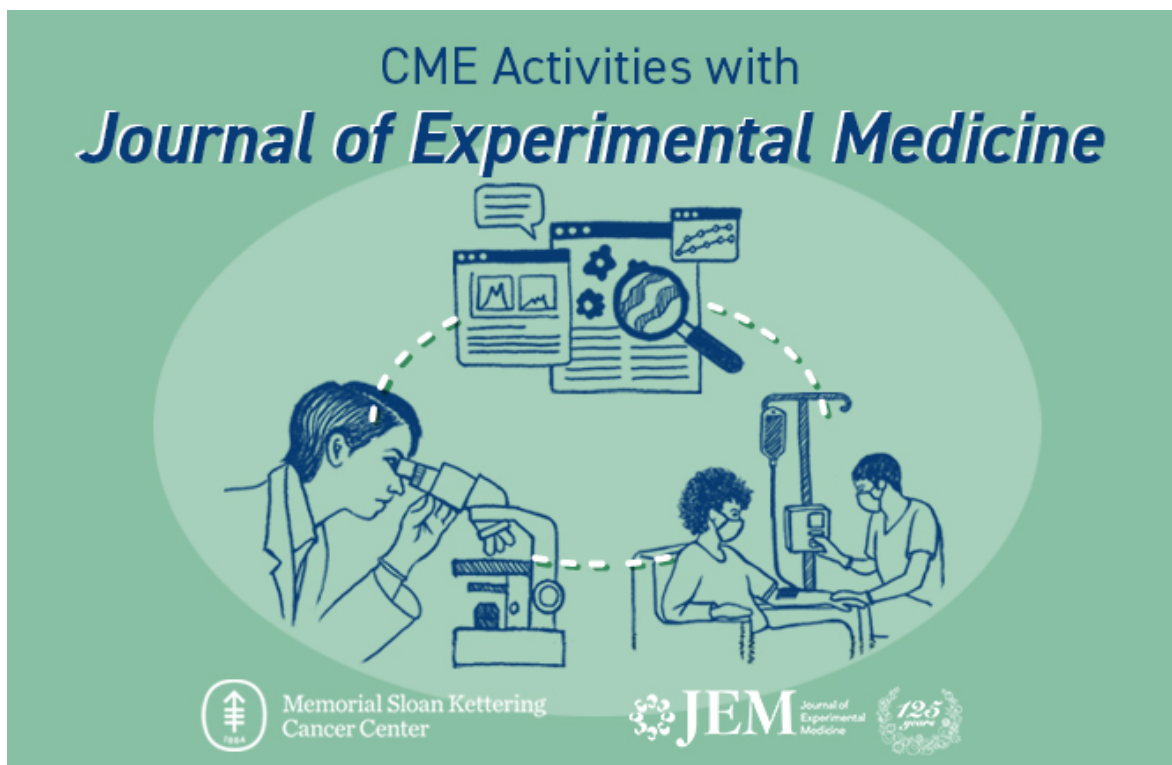
Championed by several successful immunology leaders, this committee is chaired by Dr. Elaine F. Reed, PhD, University of California – Los Angeles, and co-chaired by Dr. Terri Laufer, MD, University of Pennsylvania. They are joined by Founder and Past Chair, Dr. Maria-Grazia Roncarolo, MD, Stanford University, and incoming FOCIS President, Dr. Megan Sykes, MD, Columbia University. In addition to these core leaders, the committee will include a steering sub-committee made up of seven members nominated by the FOCIS Member Societies.

What's the next step for the committee? After confirming the open committee seats, the focus will turn to establishing initiatives and events that help drive the mission forward. WICI currently plans to have a presence at the FOCIS 2022 Annual Meeting in San Francisco this June, so stay tuned for future announcements. Additionally, later this year, WICI and other key FOCIS leaders will have a manuscript featured in *Frontiers in Immunology* entitled "The Women of FOCIS: promoting equality and inclusiveness in a professional federation of clinical immunology societies". In the coming months, the committee is looking forward to bringing its preliminary goals and initiatives to fruition, while working alongside the FOCIS Board of Directors to identify the future needs of the membership.

FOCIS is confident that the implementation of this committee will contribute well to our diversity, equality, and inclusion efforts. Any suggestions or questions in relation to the

committee can be directed to the FOCIS Executive Office at info@focisnet.org. Thank you for your support!

[Back to Top](#)



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Journal of Experimental Medicine (JEM) is pleased to present opportunities to engage in Continuing Medical Education (CME) in collaboration with Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Each Journal-Based CME activity consists of a full-text article that is free to read, a multiple-choice question test, and an evaluation/self-assessment. Those who participate in CME activities with JEM will be tested on their comprehension of the key concepts in the selected articles, with the objective of enriching their clinical practice and patient care through better understanding of scientific advances and new techniques in the fields covered by JEM. We are pleased to present these continuing medical education activities to all at no charge.

To begin the activities, visit our [Course Overview page at the MSK CME website](#). You do not need to be an MSK Employee to create an account.

[Back to Top](#)



Save

Renew now to earn an additional month of membership for free!



Connect

Plug into a network of leading immunologist, clinicians and scientists from across the globe!



Learn

Expand your knowledge bank with myriad educational opportunities year-round from FOCIS!

Renew Your Membership by December 31

Still need to renew your membership? Please ensure you renew by December 31, 2021 to avoid any disruption to your FOCIS member benefits, including additional cost savings on registration and abstract fees, educational opportunities both in-person and online, and connections to leading immunology talent globally!

[Click here](#) to sign into your account and renew today! Questions about membership? Contact info@focisnet.org and we will gladly assist you.

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[Back to Top](#)



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