



From FOCIS, happy holidays! Before the new year starts, take a look at some of FOCIS's great news and enjoy the final newsletter of 2023. We are anticipating some exciting things for 2024!

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## Register Now for the US Advanced Course

**Registration Deadline: January 31, 2024**

The 2024 Advanced Course in Basic & Clinical Immunology will be held February 4 - February 7, 2024, in La Jolla, California. Over three days, 12 speakers, invited for their renowned ability to span basic and clinical science, will take you from the bench to the bedside and back again.

[Learn more here](#)



**Register**

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## Don't Delay! Renew Your FOCIS Membership Today!



FOCIS members help contribute to the greater immunology community by supporting the FOCIS mission and the many educational opportunities that FOCIS offers. FOCIS member benefits include:

- Networking opportunities with our global community
- Member savings of over \$1,000 annually
- Free Annual Meeting abstract submissions
- [Find more benefits here!](#)

Active FOCIS memberships expire **December 31, 2023**. As a reminder, if you belong to a FOCIS [Member Society](#), you receive an even greater discount on your annual member dues.

[To save even more money check out our group membership option here!](#)

### **Group Membership**

The FOCIS Group Membership provides an opportunity for several members of your lab to take advantage of everything FOCIS has to offer at a discounted price. Group Membership includes one Regular Membership and up to four additional memberships for trainees, research associates, technicians, and other members of your lab. To learn more about FOCIS Group Membership, please click [here](#).

**Renew Your Membership**

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## **FOCIS 2024 Annual Meeting - All you need to know**

### **Welcome to San Francisco!**



We can't wait to hold the 2024 Annual Meeting in stunning San Francisco, California! Anticipating a nighttime exploration of the city or what comes after Friday, June 21, the last thematic symposia? [Check out this official site for visitor information!](#)

San Francisco is well-known for its breathtaking scenery and fantastic culinary scene. Awaiting your arrival is the [Golden Gate City!](#)

### **Submit an Abstract to FOCIS 2024**

You're invited to submit an abstract to the FOCIS 2024 Annual Meeting! Abstract submissions opened on October 25, 2023. The deadline to submit is **January 17, 2024**.

Application instructions can be found here: [Abstract FAQ](#)

# 2024 ABSTRACT TOPICS

## Submissions Due: January 17, 2024



➤ <b>Allergy:</b> Asthma, Food Allergy, Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Disease, Eczema	➤ <b>Immunology Across the Ages:</b> Immunology of Aging, Newborn Immunology, Inflammaging
➤ <b>Autoimmune Diseases:</b> Rheumatologic Diseases, General Autoimmunity, Diabetes and Other Autoimmune Endocrine Diseases, Autoimmune Hematologic Diseases, Autoimmune Skin Disease, Uveitis	➤ <b>Immunometabolism</b>
➤ <b>Autoinflammatory Diseases:</b> Eye, Skin, GI Tract, Systemic	➤ <b>Infectious Diseases:</b> Vaccines, Host-pathogen Responses, COVID-19, Post-infection Outcomes, Treatment
➤ <b>Basic Science of Immunology - Adaptive Immunity:</b> B Cells, Crosstalk, Signaling, T Cells	➤ <b>Mucosal Immunology:</b> Microbiome, Immunology of the Gastrointestinal Tract, IBD
➤ <b>Basic Science of Immunology - Innate Immunity:</b> Crosstalk, Cytokines/Chemokines, Innate Cells, Signaling	➤ <b>Neuroimmunology</b>
➤ <b>Immuno-engineering and Cellular Therapies:</b> Biospecifics, CAR-T and NK Cells, Gene Therapy, Nanoparticles, TCR T Cells, TILs, Regulatory T Cells, Regulatory APC, Organoid Models	➤ <b>Reproductive Immunology:</b> Maternal/Fetal Immunology, Immunology of Pregnancy Loss
➤ <b>Immuno-oncology:</b> Checkpoint Therapy, Immune Monitoring, Vaccines	➤ <b>Stem Cell and Organ Transplantation:</b> GvHD, Rejection, Biologics
➤ <b>Immunogenetics:</b> Epigenetics, Immunodeficiency: Primary or Acquired, Immune Dysregulation Disorders	➤ <b>Systems Immunology:</b> Molecular Networks, Cell-cell Interactomes, Multi-omic Tools, AI in Imaging, Structural Immunology, Correlates of Immunity, Single Cell

[Submit Abstract](#)

## FOCIS 2024 Registration is Open!



Join us in San Francisco June 18-21, 2024, at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis for the FOCIS 2024 Annual Meeting. FOCIS is THE meeting in translational immunology that will give you a competitive edge in your career. Interested in learning more? [Check out our website here!](#)

[Register Now](#)

## FOCIS 2024 Annual Meeting Hotel



**San Francisco Marriott Marquis**  
780 Mission St, San Francisco, CA 94103

*Discounted room rates are available until May 26, 2024, or until the FOCIS room block fills.*

[Check out the Hotel rates here.](#)



**Make Your Accommodations Today**

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### FOCIS 2024 Annual Meeting Featured Keynote Speakers



**Tuesday, June 18, 5:30-6:15 PM** - Robert A. Montgomery, MD, DPhil, FACS  
*NYU Langone Transplant Institute*

**Wednesday, June 19, 5:30-6:15 PM** - Megan Sykes, MD, FOCIS President  
*Columbia University*

**Thursday, June 20, 5:45-6:30 PM** - Eran Elinav, MD, PhD  
*Weizmann Institute of Science*

**Friday, June 21, 11:45-12:30 PM** - Aviv Regev, PhD  
*Genentech*

[Would you like to know more about our keynote speakers? See their bios by clicking this link!](#)

**To see them talk, register now!**

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### FOCISed 2024 Courses





**Monday, June 17, 2024:**

- [Basic Immunology in Medicine Course \(full day\)](#)
- [Systems Immunology Course \(full day\)](#)

**Tuesday, June 18, 2024:**

- [Cancer Immunity and Immunotherapy Course \(full day\)](#)
- [Big Data in Immunology \(ImmPort\) Workshop \(half-day, morning\)](#)

Advanced registration is required for all education programs. Register for one or two days of education – package rates are available!

 <p><b>Basic Immunology in Medicine</b> Monday, June 17</p>	 <p><b>Systems Immunology</b> Monday, June 17</p>	 <p><b>Cancer Immunity &amp; Immunotherapy</b> Tuesday, June 18</p>	 <p><b>Big Data in Immunology</b> Tuesday, June 18</p>
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**Register Now**

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## NEW to FOCIS! Virtual Research & Education Symposia



### Reminder Call for Virtual Symposia Proposals

FOCIS is still accepting proposals to organize a symposium. Please consider organizing a symposium to share your approach in advancing human health through immunology.

A symposium may be developed by those in the FOCIS community, including individual FCEs, groups of FCEs, FOCIS member societies, other FOCIS committees, or industry partners. It is free to apply. Please consider applying.

The symposium will be part of our new series, [FOCIS Research and Education Virtual Symposia](#)! FOCIS will host multiple online symposiums that focus on immunology-related themes, technologies, or areas of expertise.

*[Read the full article here!](#)*

**Learn More & Apply Here**

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## FOCIS Attends APAAACI & IUIS Congresses

FOCIS was thrilled to organize sessions at the APACCI & IUIS Congresses this fall.

## FOCIS Session at APAAACI 2023 Congress

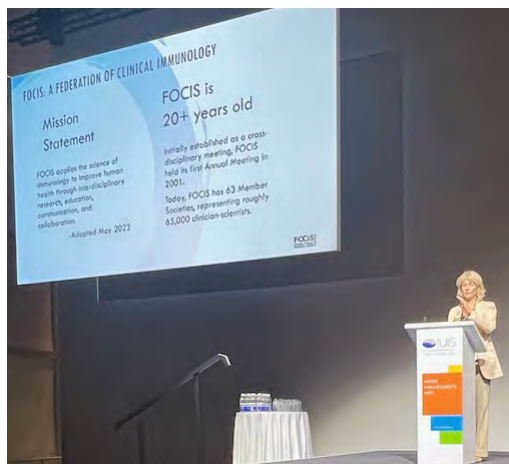
FOCIS hosted both a symposium and an educational course at the Asia Pacific Association of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology (APAAACI), 2023 International Conference, October 23-26, 2023, in Singapore.

## FOCIS Session at IUIS 2023 Cape Town

FOCIS also hosted a symposium on immunointerventions at the International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS), 18<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Immunology, in Cape Town, South Africa.

Additionally, at IUIS, FOCIS held a meeting to recruit Member Societies and FCEs. Please see some photos below from the event!

*Here is a photo of FOCIS President Professor Megan Sykes introducing FOCIS at the [#IUIS2023](#) congress in Cape Town, South Africa.*



*Also, Professor Olivier Boyer, international chair of FOCIS Centers of Excellence, announced the launch of the first FCE in Africa during the [#IUIS2023](#) meeting!*



*Dr. Mark Anderson is pictured below at the FOCIS exhibit booth at IUIS! There were many interested attendees there to learn more about FOCIS.*





*Click below to read the full articles on our sessions at both events!*

**FOCIS at APAAACI**

**FOCIS at IUIS**

## What's new with FOCIS FCEs

### FCE Collaboration Travel Grants Recipient Announcement

FOCIS awards the FCE Collaboration Travel Grant to facilitate communication and scientific exchange among centers in the FCE network by providing financial support for collaboration and / or research-sharing opportunities. This year we are pleased to announce two grant recipients – congratulations!



**Wassim Elyaman, PhD**  
[Columbia University](#)



**Mohsen Khosravi Maharlooei, MD**  
[Mayo Clinic](#)

Exciting News from the FOCIS FCE Community



**FOCIS Welcomes five new FCEs!**

**Centre for Advanced Clinical Immunology in Kenya**

**Academic Affiliations:** Kenya Institute of Primate Research (KIPRE), Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), Mount Kenya University, University of Nairobi, Moi University, and the Kenya Society for Immunology

**FCE Director:** Dr. Lucy Ochola

**Clinic for Immunology along Sant Joande Deu**

**Academic Affiliation:** University of Barcelona

**FCE Director:** Dr. Manuel Juan, MD, PhD

**Center of Systems Immunology (CSI) Erlangen**

**Academic Affiliations:** Erlangen Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg and University Hospital Erlangen

**FCE Director:** Prof. Dr. Med. Ricardo Grieshaber-Bouyer

**Program of Glycoimmunology**

**Academic Affiliations:** Institute of Biology and Experimental Medicine, and the University of Buenos Aires

**FCE Director:** Dr. Gabriel Rabinovich, PhD

**Toulouse Center for Immune-mediated and Infectious Diseases (TOLERANCE)**

**Academic Affiliation:** Toulouse University

**FCE Director:** Prof. Roland Liblau, MD, PhD

[Read the full article here!](#)

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Stay up to date with the latest news and updates from our FCEs!

### **FOCIS FCE: The University of Colorado**

The University of Colorado is proud to announce that their article "[A partial human LCK defect causes a T cell immunodeficiency with intestinal inflammation](#)" has been posted in the *Journal of Experimental Medicine*.

This article is included in Volume 221 posted on November 14, 2023. [Read more here](#).

### **FOCIS FCE: SYSIM**

Sorbonne University is proud to announce its upcoming event. Please read below a letter from the organization committee. [Read the post here](#).

*Dear Colleague,*

*We are delighted to announce the upcoming 3rd “**Promise of IL-2 Therapy for autoimmune and inflammatory diseases, allergy, transplantation and cancer**” Meeting. Building on the successes of our previous gatherings, this third edition will be held from September 4th to 7th, 2024, at the International Conference Center at Sorbonne University, located in the heart of Paris.*

*Our program, as in previous years, will offer a balanced approach ranging from basic immunology to clinical trial results in autoimmune and inflammatory diseases, allergy, transplantation, and cancer. This year, we will be running two sessions devoted to Treg cell-based therapies, with an emphasis on their relationship with IL-2.*

*Many key opinion leaders have confirmed their participation as speakers. The meeting is well attended, surpassing 300 participants from academia, industry, and business sectors including venture capitalists and consultants. This offers a unique perspective for fruitful interactions. [Please click here to view the program from our 2022 meeting, which will give you an idea of what to expect.](#)*

*We look forward to your participation in this important event.*

*Warm Regards,*

*The organizing committee: Abul Abbas, Christophe Benoist, Jeff Bluestone, Laurie Dempsey, David Klatzmann (chair), Thomas Malek, Shimon Sakaguchi, Qizhi Tang, George Tsokos, and Lucie Walker*

### **FOCIS FCE: Northwestern University**



## Center for Human Immunobiology inaugural retreat, a Northwestern University Immunology Community celebration!

This year, the Northwestern University immunology community gathered to present immunology-focused research projects at the first Center for Human Immunobiology (CHI) retreat. The event featured poster presentations from Northwestern faculty, trainees, and staff with a networking lunch. Stephanie Eisenbarth MD, PhD, Director of the Center for Human Immunobiology and Director of the FOCIS Center of Excellence at Northwestern University, welcomed attendees to the event and delivered an update on the state of the CHI. The retreat marked the Center's first year, which has brought together immunologists from more than twenty departments and divisions. [Read the full article here.](#)







## **FOCIS FCE: Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy**

A research article led by MIII-FCE scientists was published in the Journal of Infectious Diseases, the American Society of Infectious Diseases scientific journal. It was highlighted in the journal cover in the October 1, 2023 issue.

[They were highlighted in Volume 228, Issue 7.](#)

The article, supported by PATH and funded among others, by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, describes IgG responses against eleven SARS-CoV-2 proteins (structural and non-structural) that were assessed in inactivated virus-vaccinated individuals, inactivated virus-vaccinated breakthrough cases and COVID-19 convalescents. Vaccines that are based on completely inactivated viruses are very similar in composition to the infectious virus and therefore, the immune responses they elicit can be very similar to each other making it very difficult to distinguish both cases. [Read the post here.](#)

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## **2024 China Advanced Course**

FOCIS is proud to announce the China Advanced Course in Basic and Translational Immunology!

This course will be held January 9-12, 2024, in Beijing, China at Tsinghua University.

This course is designed for:

- Clinical fellows in disciplines related to immunology, including autoimmunity, allergy, infectious disease, oncology, primary immunodeficiency, and transplantation
- Postdoctoral fellows doing basic or translational research with an emphasis on human disease
- Scientists or other research and development personnel from biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies who are involved in developing new therapies for immunological disease



[Learn more here!](#)



## FOCIS Career Opportunities

### Open Rank Faculty Search

The La Jolla Institute for Immunology (LJI, San Diego, California) invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position at the rank of Assistant Professor or higher...[View Now>>](#)

### Group Leader at the CR2TI

The Center for Research in Transplantation and Translational Immunology is expanding and is now seeking a talented junior group leader to implement a new ambitious research program falling into CR2TI's main priorities...[View Now>>](#)

## Postdoctoral Scientist

The Grieshaber-Bouyer Lab is seeking a highly motivated postdoctoral scientist with published expertise in systems immunology, bioinformatics, and machine learning interested in continuing their scientific development...[View Now>>](#)

## Rheumatologist

The Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, as a private, non-profit research institution, our clinical activities are focused on systemic autoimmune rheumatic diseases and in offering outstanding, science-driven clinical care...[View Now>>](#)

## Physician-Scientist / Scientist Faculty

The Department of Laboratory Medicine at the Yale School of Medicine seeks a Physician-scientist for a full-time tenure-track faculty position in the Department. The successful candidate would be...[View Now>>](#)

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# Science Immunology



## FOCIS Highlights in *Science Immunology*

In every issue of *Science Immunology*, FOCIS publishes exceptional and interesting immunological research articles. The free articles are published under the 'Editors' Choice' article category. Browse and read the recent Editors' Choice articles linked below.

*Science Immunology* is a monthly, online-only, peer-reviewed research journal designed to facilitate understanding of the immune system by showcasing innovative advances in the expanding field of immunology, drawing from studies in all organisms and model systems including humans.

### Editors' Choice Articles

VOLUME 8 | ISSUE 89 | NOV 2023

["Training immunity" against nosocomial pathogens](#)

BY ALEXANDRA SCHÄFER, DAVID R. MARTINEZ

Non-antigen vaccines that broadly activate innate immune responses reduce mortality against hospital-acquired bacterial and fungal pathogens.

[Reaching macs-immun potential](#)

BY STEPHANIE TREZISE, ROBERT M. ANTHONY

Single-cell profiling of prenatal samples reveals multiple macrophage types and states, including microglia-like cells in non-neuronal tissues.

VOLUME 8 | ISSUE 88 | OCT 2023

[Neither naïve nor anergic, “autoimmune” not allergic](#)

BY ELIF ÇAKAN, SHIV PILLAI

Insulin-specific B cells called BND2 B cells accumulate in the peripheral blood of patients with early onset type 1 diabetes.

[From drab to Fab; PLP1's fit is redresses for MS](#)

BY ALEXANDRA C. BAYER, KEVIN C. O'CONNOR

Curated expression of proteolipid protein 1 (PLP1) is essential for multiple sclerosis-derived autoantibody recognition.

VOLUME 8 | ISSUE 87 | SEP 2023

[Everything everywhere all at once](#)

BY ASHA PILLAI

In successful melanoma immunotherapy, clonal TCRs can recognize multiple tumor-specific antigens simultaneously through cross-reactivity.

[The HLA advantage: Why COVID-19 benches you but not your co-worker](#)

BY NISHA SAIF, GABRIEL K. GRIFFIN

An HLA variant confers protective immunity against COVID-19 through cross-reactive T cells induced by seasonal coronaviruses.

VOLUME 8 | ISSUE 86 | AUG 2023

[Escape from the Pore](#)

BY XIANGYUN YIN, STEPHANIE C. EISENBARTH

Perforin-2 mediates endocytic escape in cross-presenting dendritic cells.

[Toddler's T cells are taught in muco-school](#)

BY FATEMEH KHANI-HABIBABADI, KEVIN C. O'CONNOR

Tissue-resident memory T cells accumulate in mucosal sites during infancy then mature through childhood.

VOLUME 8 | ISSUE 85 | JUL 2023

[TCRward personalized transplant therapies](#)

BY ASHIMA CHADHA, JONATHAN S. MALTZMAN

scRNA/TCRseq of kidney biopsies from acute cellular rejection reveals limited clonality and diverse T cell phenotypes.

[Fueling the fire of B cell activation](#)

BY PATRICIA M. SIKORSKI, LINDA L. KUSNER

Antigen activated naïve B cells undergoing germinal center responses have distinct metabolic requirements.



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## FOCIS Upcoming Community Events



### Gordon Research Conferences -Immune Mechanisms and Targeted Therapies in Food Allergy

**Sunday, January 7, 2024 – Friday, January 12, 2024**  
**Ventura, CA, USA**

The 2024 Food Allergy Gordon Conference aims to bring together the global community of basic science and clinical investigators, invested organizations, and stakeholders. Find more information here: <https://www.grc.org/food-allergy-conference/2024/>

**30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of The Transplantation Society (TTS 2024)**

**Sunday, September 22, 2024 - Wednesday September 25, 2024**  
**Istanbul, Turkey**

FOCIS is jointly sponsoring two awards for the TTS 2024 Congress.

The Award Application deadline is April 26, 2024.

[Read the full article on our website if you're interested in applying!](#)



**TTS 2024** ISTANBUL TURKEY  
September 22-25  
32<sup>nd</sup> International Congress of The Transplantation Society

**2024**  
**MENTEE - MENTOR**  
**AWARDS**

**FOCIS**  
Federation of Clinical  
Immunology Societies  
www.focisnet.org

**AWARD**  
**APPLICATION**  
**DEADLINE**  
**APRIL 26, 2024**

The Transplantation Society in collaboration with the **Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies (FOCIS)**, acknowledges the contribution of basic science to the field of transplantation by offering Mentee-Mentor awards.

International Basic and Translational Science Mentee-Mentor Awards' aim is to encourage young investigators to submit their research to TTS 2024 and help cover expenses to attend the Congress in Istanbul.

For more information about the awards and eligibility, visit our website at [www.tts.org/mentee-mentor-awards](http://www.tts.org/mentee-mentor-awards).

**TTS 2024 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**  
ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: March 18, 2024  
[www.tts2024.org/program/call-for-abstracts](http://www.tts2024.org/program/call-for-abstracts)

[Read the Full Article Here!](#)

*We hope you have a happy holiday and will see you next year!*

- the FOCIS team



**Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies (FOCIS)**

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