15th Annual "Advances in Inflammation Research" Symposium

October 12 & 13, 2017
Providence, RI

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Featured Speakers:

Wolfgang G. Junger, PhD
Professor of Surgery
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Boston, MA

Alicia M. Mohr, MD, FACS, FCC
Associate Professor of Surgery
University of Florida College of Medicine
Gainesville, FL

Matthias Nahrendorf, MD, PhD
Professor of Radiology
Massachusetts General Hospital, Center for Systems Biology
Boston, MA

Carole A. Parent, PhD
Raymond Ruddon Collegiate Professor in Cancer Biology and Pharmacology
University of Michigan Medical School
Ann Arbor, MI

Eric Schmidt, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
University of Colorado Denver-Anschutz Medical Campus
Aurora, CO

Thursday, October 12

George Auditorium, 593 Eddy Street, Rhode Island Hospital

1:45 - 2:00 Registration

2:00 - 2:15 Welcome and Introductions

2:15 - 3:15 Junior Investigator Presentations

3:15 - 3:30 Refreshment break

3:30 - 4:30 **Alicia M. Mohr, MD, FACS, FCC**
Injury-associated persistent anemia: Lessons Learned

Friday, October 13

Nursing Arts Building, 2nd Floor, Rhode Island Hospital

9:00 - 12:00 Meet-the-Professor sessions
One-on-one discussions with the guest speakers

12:00 - 12:45 Lunch with speakers & participants

70 Ship Street, 1st Floor Conference Room, Brown University

1:00 - 1:45 **Eric Schmidt, MD**
Circulating glycocalyx fragments influence organ injury and repair during sepsis

1:45 - 2:30 **Carole A. Parent, PhD**
Exosomes as key regulators of signal relay during chemotaxis

2:30 - 2:45 Refreshment break

2:45 - 3:30 **Matthias Nahrendorf, MD, PhD**
Myeloid cells and cardiovascular health

3:30 - 4:15 **Wolfgang G. Junger, PhD**
Regulation of immune function by purinergic signaling

Sponsored by the Division of Surgical Research, Department of Surgery
Rhode Island Hospital/Brown University

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Rhode Island Hospital, Division of Surgical Research, 593 Eddy Street, Providence, RI 02903
Email: Inflammation@lifespan.org

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Speaker Biographies

Wolfgang G. Junger, PhD

Dr. Junger is a Professor of Surgery at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in the Division of Acute Care Surgery, Trauma and Surgical Critical Care. Dr. Junger's research focuses on how severe injury causes inflammation and excessive activation of leukocytes, which can damage host tissues. This process leads to multiple organ failure, a leading cause of death in trauma patients. In those patients who survive this inflammatory process, a subsequent down-regulation of cellular immune function impairs the host's immune defense against invading microorganisms. Dr. Junger's laboratory studies the molecular and cellular mechanisms involved in these inflammatory and immunosuppressive responses with the ultimate goal to develop strategies to prevent post-traumatic complications.

Alicia M. Mohr, MD, FACS, FCC

Dr. Mohr is an Associate Professor in the Division of Acute Care Surgery in the University of Florida College of Medicine. Dr. Mohr's research interests are in basic as well as translational science. She is currently investigating the impact of chronic stress following injury and shock on erythropoiesis, examining the direct correlation between the magnitude and duration of the stress response that is seen following severe traumatic injury and resultant erythropoietic dysfunction. Dr. Mohr's clinical interests include trauma surgery, surgical critical care and emergency general surgery. These three disciplines encompass acute care surgery, the comprehensive care of emergent, critically-ill surgical patients.

Matthias Nahrendorf, MD, PhD

Dr. Nahrendorf is a Professor of Radiology and Director of the Mouse Imaging Program at the Center for Systems Biology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Nahrendorf's research pursues a deeper understanding of the consequences of ischemic injury, especially regarding how monocytes/macrophages impact acute healing and scar development and how an imbalance in the process fuels prolonged inflammation and then heart failure. Dr. Nahrendorf and his collaborators are also developing molecular imaging tools to noninvasively study regulators of heart failure biology and infarct healing processes. A long-term goal of the work is to devise new therapies for ischemic injury that reduce the action of inflammatory cells to what is necessary only to promote healthy healing.

Carole A. Parent, PhD

Dr.Parent recently joined the University of Michigan Medical School as the inaugural Raymond W. Ruddon Collegiate Professor of Cancer Biology and Pharmacology. She had previously served as Deputy Director of the Center for Cancer Research at the NIH's National Cancer Institute. Dr. Parent is a leader in the field of cellular chemotaxis research. Her work centers on the basic molecular mechanisms that regulate chemotaxis in Dictyostelium and mammalian neutrophils. Her research group has contributed significantly to defining the understanding of cell signaling relays in Dictyostelium and, more recently, in mammalian systems that contribute to cellular motility. Dr. Parent's research, focusing on how cells communicate with each other to amplify distant signals, has far-ranging impacts on physiological processes such as development and the immune response as well as on the future development of novel therapeutic agents to treat cancer.

Eric Schmidt, MD

Dr. Schmidt is an Associate Professor in the Division of Pulmonary Sciences and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Colorado. Dr. Schmidt's laboratory focuses on the mechanisms underlying sepsis and septic organ injury. He is particularly interested in the role of glycosaminoglycans in the onset, propagation, and resolution of septic lung, kidney, and brain injury. His research centers on the glycocalyx, a thin film of sugar molecules which coats the inside of vessels and protrudes out into the blood flowing through them. He helped establish a first-of-its kind Medical Physiology and Imaging Core, a suite of high-powered microscopes and cameras, allowing him to document in real-time what happens to glycocalyx inside a mouse's pulmonary vessels after it has developed sepsis. The results have been lauded as an important step forward in understanding ARDS.