

GABBA Parasitology Week 2011

The GABBA parasitology course will start next Monday, January the 24th. The main objective of this course is to familiarize students with the importance of parasites, both as the agents of devastating diseases and as very adequate tools to study many aspects of general biological phenomena. A well known example of the latter is the dichotomy between T helper 1 / T2 cells, first defined with *Leishmania* studies and which constituted a breakthrough in immunology. Other examples that could be underlined are the discoveries of the glycosylphosphatidylinositol (GPI) anchors or the occurrence of antigenic variation, both found and dissected for the first time in *Trypanosoma*.

To accomplish the objective referred to above we will refer to several parasites, *Plasmodium*, *Neospora*, *Trypanosoma* and *Leishmania*. Hopefully, during the week, you will refer understand why and how these organisms can cause important diseases, some of the work that is being carried out to prevent and or control such diseases and why it is so difficult to achieve this. During the week we will also ask the students to contribute to the fulfillment of our general objective by presenting some papers on a selected topic. These will constitute the basis of a general discussion on Thursday afternoon.

See you next Monday

Ana Tomás and Virgílio do Rosário

GABBA Parasitology Week 2011

January, 24th to 28th

Schedule:

Monday, the 24th (main auditorium)

9h30 – Introduction to the course. The parasite-host relationship. (Ana Tomás)

10h00 – “Towards a molecular definition of host tolerance to infection”.
(Miguel Soares)

LUNCH

14h00 – “Malaria: what is malaria and why is malaria a problem?” (Fátima Nogueira)

15h00 – “*Plasmodium*-mosquito vector interaction” (Henrique Silveira)

Tuesday, the 25th (main auditorium)

9h30 – “*Plasmodium* liver stage: from high-throughput to single molecule”
(Maria Manuel Mota).

11h00 – “Host-*Plasmodium* interactions: from lab models to the field”
(Miguel Prudêncio).

LUNCH

14h00 – “Vector control: population genetic approaches” (P. Salgueiro)

Wednesday, the 26th (auditorium B)

9h30 – “Innate and acquired immunity to the intracellular protozoan parasite
Neospora caninum” (M. Vilanova)

11h00 - "*Leishmania*, and its host cell, the macrophage" (Salomé Gomes)

LUNCH

Thursday, the 27th (main auditorium)

9h00 - "Quest for therapies for tropical neglected diseases" (Helena Castro).

10h00 - "Functional Genomics and proteomics in Parasitology" (João Rodrigues)

11h30 - "Functional genomic studies on tick borne diseases" (A. Domingos)

LUNCH

14h00 - Student paper presentation and discussion (Ana Tomás, Helena Castro, Filipa Teixeira)

Friday, the 28th

(auditorium B)

9h00 - "*Leishmania*: populations and recombination" (Isabel Maurício)

10h30 - "Acquisition of nutrients by *Leishmania* and relevance for pathogenesis" (Ana Tomás e Sandra Carvalho)

12h00 - IBMC Friday Noon Seminar (main auditorium)

"Homeostatic and adaptive responses to zinc deficiency in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*" (by David Eide)

LUNCH

(main auditorium)

14h00 - "Antigenic variation in *Trypanosoma brucei*" (Luisa Figueiredo)

People involved:

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