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AAI Invites Additions to List of Women Speakers

The AAI Committee on the Status of Women (CSOW) has revamped the format of the List of Potential Speakers and Chairs. (See the November/December 2013 AAI Newsletter, page 39.) The committee also announced a new process for individuals to have their names added to the list. The changes are intended to broaden the range of areas of expertise of AAI members and to make the list more accessible and accurate as a resource for enhancing opportunities for women as speakers or chairs at professional meetings.

Listings were originally limited to women serving as heads of immunological research labs, but the CSOW Speaker List is now open to women AAI members fulfilling leadership roles in non-research careers as well.

In addition to representing a broader range of leadership roles occupied by women, the list will be more accessible and more easily maintained. Individuals listed will be able to maintain their own entries as each now links to the individual’s Web page.

Viewers can determine how well the profile matches their need for a woman immunologist in a particular leadership role.

Women currently listed must supply their URLs to remain on the list. To be added to the list, contact Mary Bradshaw, AAI staff liaison for the CSOW (mbradshaw@aai.org).

The Proud History of AAI

Chronicling the AAI Legacy. AAI staff historians and scientists are rigorously researching, archiving, and publishing materials to preserve the proud heritage of the association. Articles posted in the history section of the AAI website, www.aai.org/about/history, include:

- The Founding of AAI
- The Science at the First AAI Annual Meeting
- The Founding of The Journal of Immunology
- “Studies in Anaphylaxis”: The First Article in The Journal of Immunology
- Elise Strang L’Esperance: Pioneer in Cancer Prevention and Recipient of Lasker Award
- Immunologists during the First World War: One Soldier-Scientist’s Experience—Stanhope Bayne-Jones
- The 1918–1919 Influenza Pandemic as Covered in The Journal of Immunology
- Anna Wessels Williams: Infectious Disease Pioneer and Public Health Advocate
- 100 Years of AAI: A Look Back at Two Early Immunologists in Hawaii
- PI in the Scotland Yard of Streptococcal Mysteries: Rebecca Lancefield
- From the Archives: What’s Old is New Again: Early Editors of The JI Act to Address Perennial Challenges in the Peer-Review and Editing Process
- A Legacy of Advocacy Is Born as AAI Confronts McCarthyism
- Creating a Buzz in the Field of Immunology: Mary Hewitt Loveless and the Development of Venom Therapy for the Prevention of Sting-Induced Anaphylaxis
- The Emergence of Immunology in Pittsburgh
- The 1913–2014 AAI Website
- The history section of the AAI website continues to evolve as a living archive. Current and future resources include:
  - AAI history articles published in the AAI Newsletter
  - Oral History Project—exclusive interviews offering a rare glimpse into the lives and times of influential immunologists
  - Digital Immunology Timeline, including all the images from the physical Centennial Timeline as well as citations for the scientific events
  - Profiles of notable AAI members, including AAI Nobel and Lasker recipients, and past presidents and officers
  - An eBook of commentaries on “Pillars” articles from The Journal of Immunology
  - AAI Story Booth—attendees’ favorite immunology recollections, recorded at IMMUNOLOGY 2013™ and IMMUNOLOGY 2014™
AAI Oral History Project Available Online

To provide contemporary investigators and the public a rare view into the lives and times of influential immunologists, AAI arranged for the award-winning Oral Historian Brien Williams, Ph.D., to interview past AAI presidents, beginning in the spring of 2012. Interviewees were asked about their family backgrounds, early interest in science, reasons for studying immunology, career and research highlights, challenges faced, balancing professional and private life, hobbies outside of the laboratory, major changes in immunology over the course of their careers, and the future of immunology and science in the United States. The sessions, typically one and one-half to two hours in length, were professionally recorded and edited in high-definition video.

“Scientific contributions live on as researchers continue to build upon the work of the past, yet present-day investigators often know little about the scientists responsible for them,” said AAI Historian John Emrich, Ph.D., who first conceived of the Oral History Project in 2011. “The ‘Pillars of Immunology’ series in The Journal of Immunology makes the connections between past and present science more explicit than they otherwise would be, but investigators rarely have the opportunity to hear about their predecessors’ motivations, their hardships suffered and overcome, their lives outside of the laboratory, or even their candid thoughts on the state of the field.”

To date, 25 past presidents have been interviewed. Their presidential terms span five decades, from that of Herman Eisen (AAI ’51, president 1968–69) to Leslie Berg (AAI ’94, president 2011–12). Included in this group were two past presidents in their 90s, Eisen and David Talmage (AAI ’54, president 1978–79, now deceased); six in their 80s; and four in their 70s.

The memories and reflections contained in these interviews constitute an important facet of the history of immunology that would likely be lost to future generations if not preserved in the AAI Oral History Project. As AAI continues to conduct interviews with additional presidents and other influential immunologists, members and the general public are invited to view the oral histories already recorded. Video clips and the full-length interviews, which have been optimized for playback on TVs, computers, and mobile devices, are available at www.aai.org/ohp.

Oral History Interviews Currently Available:

- Herman N. Eisen (1968–69)
- K. Frank Austen (1977–78)
- David W. Talmage (1978–79)
- Jonathan W. Uhr (1983–84)
- William E. Paul (1986–87)
- Max D. Cooper (1988–89)
- Henry Metzger (1991–92)
- Frank W. Fitch (1992–93)
- Irving L. Weissman (1994–95)
- Katherine L. Knight (1996–97)
- Roger M. Perlmutter (1999–2000)
- Philippa Marrack (2000–01)
- James P. Allison (2001–02)
- Laurie H. Glimcher (2003–04)
- Susan L. Swain (2004–05)
- Lewis L. Lanier (2006–07)
- Olivera J. Finn (2007–08)
- Arthur Weiss (2008–09)
- Betty A. Diamond (2009–10)
- Jeffrey A. Frelinger (2010–11)
- Leslie J. Berg (2011–12)
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