16th B Cell Forum

April 12 - 14, 2018

Hotel Rennsteig, Masserberg, Germany
16th B Cell Forum

April 12 - 14, 2018

Venue:

Hotel Rennsteig
Masserberg, Germany

Organisation:

Christian Kosan
Center for Molecular Biomedicine (CMB)
Department of Biochemistry
Faculty of Biological Sciences
Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena
Program

Oral and Poster presentations
Program

Thursday, April 12th, 2018

14:00 Begin registration
14:00 – 16:30 Poster Setup
15:00 – 16:30 Get-together (coffee, tea and cake)

16:30 Welcome (Jürgen Wienands / Christian Kosan)

Session I: Keynote Lecture
Chair: Christian Kosan

16:40 – 17:40 Surprise Speaker

17:40 – 17:50 Break

Session II: B cell development
Chairs: Nadine Hövelmeyer and Rudi Hendriks

17:50 Sialic acids are crucial for the Development and Function of B and T Cells - Characterization of the CMAS knockout mouse
Alexandra Weise, Erlangen

18:15 Increased IFNγ and IL-6 production by Btk-overexpressing splenic B cells is due to in vivo B cell activation
Jasper Rip, Rotterdam
18:40 Characterization of Plasma Cell Subsets in the Human Bone Marrow
Annika Wiedemann, Berlin

19:05 The transcription factor Miz-1 regulates early B cell development and maturation
Christian Kosan, Jena

19:30 – Dinner
Friday, April 13th, 2018

7:00 – 8:45 Breakfast

Session III: BCR signaling, survival and affinity maturation

Chairs: Lars Nitschke and Marta Rizzi

9:00 A new B cell tonic signal module found by CRISPR/Cas9-mediated B cell engineering
Michael Reth, Freiburg

9:25 Plasma membrane organization of B cell antigen receptors with tonic and chronic activity
Niklas Engels, Göttingen

9:50 N-glycosylation site analysis in anti-citrullinated protein antibodies points to altered selection mechanisms during autoreactive B-cell development
Hans Ulrich Scherer, Leiden

10:15 The scaffolding protein CIN85 controls BCR responsiveness and subsequent antibody responses in humans
Jürgen Wienands, Göttingen

10:40 – 11:00 Coffee/Tea Break
Session IV: Memory B cells and plasma cells

Chairs: Marc Seifert and Wolfgang Schuh

11:00  Biased IGH VDJ gene repertoire and clonal expansions in B cells of chronically hepatitis C virus-infected individuals
       Felicia Tucci, Essen

11:25  Functions of the transcription factor Miz-1 beyond GC reactions
       René Winkler, Jena

11:50  Plasma cells in germinal centres of human tonsils and spleens
       Birte Steiniger, Marburg

12:15  miR-148a: regulator of plasma cell differentiation and maintenance
       Katharina Pracht, Erlangen

12:40 – 13:30  Lunch

13:30 – 15:30  Outdoor activity
## Session V: B cell lymphoma and leukemia

**Chairs:** Berit Jungnickel and Michael Reth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15:30</td>
<td>Genetic and infectious mechanisms of B-cell lymphoma pathogenesis</td>
<td>Ralf Küppers, Essen</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:55</td>
<td>The non-canonical NF-κB signaling pathway contributes to the expansion and lymphomagenesis of CD40 activated B cells</td>
<td>Laura Kuhn, München</td>
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<td>16:20</td>
<td>T cells shape the B cell receptor (BCR) repertoire of murine chronic lymphocytic leukemia while BCR signaling strength controls age of onset</td>
<td>Simar Pal Singh, Rotterdam</td>
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16:45 – 17:30  **General Assembly of the Study Group**

17:30 – 19:30  **Poster session**

19:30 – 21:00  **Buffet Dinner**

20:55         **Poster award**

21:00         **Party**
Saturday, April 14th, 2018

7:00 – 9:00 Breakfast

Session VI: B cells in disease

Chairs: Isabelle Bekeredjian-Ding and Selina Keppler

9:00 Characterization of public antibodies after controlled human *Plasmodium falciparum* infection
Katharina Imkeller, Heidelberg

9:25 IL-10 down-modulates the skin inflammation of Epidermolysis bullosa acquisita: evidence for a role of protective plasma cells
Ann-Katrin Clauder, Lübeck

9:50 Candida albicans hyphae stimulate antibody and IL-6 production in B cells via TLR2/MyD88 signalling
Marta Ferreira-Gomes, Jena

10:15 – 10:30 Coffee/Tea Break

Session VII: B cells in disease II

Chairs: Andreas Hutloff and Reinhard Voll

10:30 *Anaeroplasma*, a member of the phylum *Tenericutes*, dictates mucosal TGF-β and IgA production
Alexander Beller, Berlin

10:55 Enhanced B cell activation promotes autoimmunity in ALPS patients
Julian Staniek, Freiburg
11:20 Epistatic interactions between mutations of Dnase1like3 and the inhibitory FcyRIIB result in early and massive anti-dsDNA autoantibody production
Thomas Weisenburger, Erlangen

11:45 - 11:50 Closure

11:50 - 13:00 Farewell Lunch
We would like to thank all our Sponsors for their support.
B Cells: Mechanisms in Immunity and Autoimmunity

June 17–21, 2018 | Maritim Hotel & Conference Center | Dresden | Germany

Scientific Organizers:
Lars Nitschke, University of Erlangen, Germany
Michael Roth, Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics, Germany
Robertta Pelanda, University of Colorado Denver, USA
David M. Tarlinton, Monash University, Australia

B cells play an important role in immunity and immunology research. New findings about the relevance and contribution of B cells to autoimmunity have reinvigorated interest in B cell immunology research. B cell functions unrelated to the production of antibodies have also been recently uncovered, indicating B cells operate in the context of both humoral and cellular adaptive immune responses. These B cell properties have stimulated a plethora of studies aimed at discovering the molecular mechanisms of B cell development and diversification, B cell activation, B cell memory responses and B cell tolerance induction. Affinity maturation of antibodies within the germinal center is now considered to be more complex than previously thought. The generation of broadly neutralizing antibodies against viruses in a few, but not all individuals, and the generation of autoantibodies during germinal center responses, have challenged existing dogmas. B cell metabolism and its intersection with the microbiome are stimulating and exciting areas only now beginning to be explored. Antibody-independent functions of B cells, for example in secreting inflammatory or regulatory cytokines, suggest B cells are relevant in many inflammatory and allergic diseases. This conference aims to address the mechanisms of B cell activation, B cell differentiation and B cell responses, and the contribution of B cells to the development of autoimmune diseases. Potential new treatment options for these diseases will also be covered.

Session Topics:
- B Cell Differentiation
- Innate Functions of B Cells
- Checkpoint Control of B Cell Signaling
- Diversification of Antibodies
- Germinal Centers and B Cell Memory Formation
- B Cell Metabolism and Intersection with the Microbiome
- B Cell Tolerance and Autoimmunity
- B Cells in Autoimmune Diseases and Targeting Strategies
- plus three workshops

Scholarship Application & Discounted Abstract Deadline: February 14, 2018
Abstract Deadline: March 14, 2018
Discounted Registration Deadline: April 17, 2018

Note: Scholarships are available for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows and are awarded based on the abstract submitted. Submitting an abstract is an excellent opportunity to gain exposure for your work. Abstracts submitted by the abstract deadline will also be considered for short talks on the program. For more information, please visit the website of the conference.

Meeting Hashtag: #KSbcell
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