



Minutes of the Acteria Alumni Club Meeting
Monday, September 28th, 2016 - 17:30 to 19:30
SFI 2016 - 50th Anniversary Congress
Cité des Sciences de la Villette, Paris

Alexander Eggel, Catherine Fridman, Anne Hosmalin, Jean-Marie Louzier, Thomas Marichal, Fiona Powrie, Federica Sallusto, Chris Schiering, Dietmar Zehn

Excused: Nicolas Manel, Stefanie Eyerich, Sandra Pahr, Elina Kiss

This was the first of a series of Alumni Club meetings, organized at the 50th Anniversary Congress of the French Society of Immunology, which included invited sessions organized by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Immunologie (DGfI) and the Swiss Society for Immunology and Allergology (SSAI). Those alumnis who could not attend gave message that they would be happy to participate in further meetings and activities later.

The meeting was in two parts : The public part was dedicated to speeches by each Alumni on their research progress, followed by a private part in order to discuss the expectations regarding Acteria Alumni Club.

The attendance to the Alumni speeches was good (the 100-seat room was almost full).

1. Acteria Alumni Session:

Anne Hosmalin, Hans Yssel chaired

- 17:05-17:20 Nicolas Manel, 2013 ACTERIA Early Career Research Prize in Immunology Institut Curie, Paris (FR)
- 17:20-17:35 Dietmar Zehn, 2015 ACTERIA Early Career Prize in Immunology Prize for work performed at CHUV, University of Lausanne (CH) – Currently at Technical University Munich (DE)
- 17:35-17:50 Chris Schiering, 2015 ACTERIA Doctoral Prize in Immunology Francis Crick Institute, London (UK)
- 17:50-18:10 Thomas Marichal, 2015 ACTERIA Early Career Prize in Allergology GIGA-Research Institute, Liege (BE)
- 18:10-18:25 Alexander Eggel, 2013 ACTERIA Doctoral Prize in Allergology Institute of Immunology, University of Bern (CH)

FONDATION ACTERIA

Tel +41 43 243 02 48
Fax +41 43 344 96 30

Gotthardstrasse 55
P.O. Box 1606
CH-8027 Zurich
www.acteria.org
info@acteria.org



2. Discussion on expectations regarding Acteria Alumni Club:

The existence of this Club is very much appreciated by the young scientists.

Purpose of the club:

- Keeping in touch: progress, carrier, possible articles
- Sharing experience as young scientists with other Acteria Alumni
- Sharing positive experience with other younger scientists, starting a "coaching" activity to help younger scientists - including recruiting them in their own laboratory!

Frequency of meetings:

Acteria Alumni Club meetings and/or Acteria Sessions will occur once a year:

1. At the ECI when new Prizes will be given out every three years.
2. The following year at the Swiss Society for Immunology and Allergology.
3. The third year, during another meeting of the National Immunology and/or Allergology Society of the EFIS. In 2017, the meeting is likely to occur during the DGfl 50th Anniversary Congress.

Organisation:

The participants suggested many different forms for Acteria Alumni sessions, which Acteria Alumnis will organize and chair, with reasonable support from FONDATION ACTERIA.

1. A specific Acteria Alumni Session like this year.
2. Invitations of the Acteria Alumni will be made at regular sessions, like at the WIRM meeting in Davos in 2014 and the SSAI-SORL meeting in Montreux in 2015.
3. A "Bright Spark" session involving other young scientist speakers; however, similar sessions have already been organized in many meetings.
4. A Happy Hour session with drinks and informal discussions.
5. A round table to talk about societal issues for young scientists at the beginning of their careers. Many young, bright scientists get discouraged nowadays in front of the uncertainties of funding and heavy requirements of a scientific career.

3. Other communication tools:

In addition, other activities were suggested to foster the Acteria Alumni Club:

1. A special, regular letter published by the EFIS website and/or Immunology Letters, with notes from Acteria Alumni
2. An Acteria Newsletter online, organized by EFIS with Acteria laureates as co-editors.
3. A Facebook or LinkedIn Acteria Alumni Club Group, where one can "like" (or not), click "I am willing to contribute to activities with the Acteria Alumni Club".

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4. Plans for the next two years:

- DGfI 2017 50th anniversary: ongoing discussions engaged with the Society
- ECI 2018 Amsterdam:

The organizers of this meeting will be contacted about the following possibilities, with Acteria sponsorship:

- Acteria Alumni might be specially invited for talks at a specific session or during different sessions;
- An Acteria Young Scientist Session on societal issues, organized and chaired by Acteria Alumni.

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