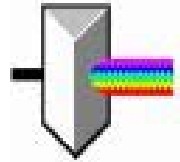


The Fluorescence Imaging Group (FIG) is a special interest group supporting the application, development and teaching of fluorescence imaging techniques including (but not limited to) Confocal and Multiphoton microscopy. The group will hold a variety of meetings that will cover issues of relevance to novices as well as experienced microscopists.



In this issue.....

- Editorial – FIG refocuses**
- Committee details**
- Seminars and Meetings**
- New Confocal Microscope Facilities in Melbourne**

Re-focussing

This newsletter comes to you from a new and invigorated FIG committee, and with a determination to reactivate the seminar series that we ran so successfully in 2000 and 2001. The committee has expanded its membership, and welcomes aboard Melanie Rug and Stephan Firth who will help in the running and planning of our various activities. Committee membership is, however, not closed, and we would welcome anyone else who would like to develop new initiatives or strengthen existing areas. Also, we appeal all of you (both in the scientific and the commercial community) to inform us of imaging activities, new technologies, relevant research and any scientists/imaging experts who may be visiting you so we can organize events around them. Details of the committee for 2003 follow should you wish to make contact with a member of the committee. At this stage, since we are still an informal group rather than a society, committee members are necessarily self-appointed rather than elected, and so if you would like to see things done differently, or wish to make suggestions, you are welcome to make your comments to a committee member, or otherwise please do join us on the committee.

Membership subscriptions were not collected during 2002 as the main event of the year was the Live Cell Imaging Workshop run by FIG at the November Multidimensional Microscopy Meeting. This was reasonably successful from the committee's point of

view: it was quite ambitious and the second large workshop run to be run by FIG (the first being the Deconvolution Workshop in February 2001). Members of the committee were extremely busy in 2002, teaching traveling, running workshops and setting up confocal labs. With respect to the latter, please note there are two new confocal facilities in Melbourne featuring state-of-the-art confocal spectral imaging. These are located at the Baker Heart Research Institute and Deakin University, details of which you can read about later over the page.

This year, there will be bi-monthly meetings as well as other events, and so we urge anyone interested in who is interested in or already undertaking microscopy/imaging in the life sciences to sign up as a member and attend the various functions we will put on. Membership is open to everyone, and is very reasonable at \$30 (ordinary membership), \$15 (student membership) or \$200 (corporate membership). Corporate membership covers all members of the company, and provides a good opportunity for your sales people, developers, or imaging experts to touch base with microscopists and biological imaging people in the scientific and industrial communities.

A FIG MEMBERSHIP form is attached for your convenience on the last page. Please print it out, fill in your details and post together with your cheque to the Treasurer, or bring it along to the next meeting. [Make cheques payable to FIG, and send to Dr Damian Myers, Dept Physiology, University of Melbourne Parkville, Melbourne 3010).

FIG Committee for 2003

Ian Harper, Chair: Ian.Harper@med.monash.edu.au
Andrew Clayton, Secr: Andrew.Clayton@ludwig.edu.au
Damian Myers, Treas: damianem@unimelb.edu.au
Stephen Cody, Listserv: Stephen.Cody@ludwig.edu.au
Alan Hibbs, Newsletter: ahibbs@biocon.com.au
Brian Jones, Newsletter: Brian.Jones@baker.edu.au
Melanie Rug: rug@wehi.edu.au
Stephen Firth: sfirth@deakin.edu.au

Please feel free to contact a committee member near you to learn more about meetings and activities, or if you wish to make suggestions or request training.

Seminars & Meetings 2003

The following meetings are some of the exciting seminars to be held in 2003. Unless otherwise stated, the seminars start at 4pm sharp. Venues open at 3:30, and seminars are followed by drinks and nibbles.

1 May. Two Speakers: Prof Keith Nugent (Head Dept. Physics, Univ. Melbourne) Inventor of iatia's QPm program – **"Phase microscopy: what is it and how does it work?"** **Stephen Cody** (Ludwig Inst.) **"DIC on your Confocal - Made Easy"**. Venue to be announced

8 May. Looking at TIRF: seminar and demonstration. Technical talk (Olympus) followed by application talk (Dr W Nesbitt, Dept Medicine, Box Hill). Total internal reflection microscopy: principles and application in cell signaling. Instrument viewing from 3pm, venue for instruments and talks is Olympus Australia, 31 Gilby Road, Mt. Waverley Vic 3149. Tel 9265 5451. RSVP: alicia.brandsden@olympus.com.au.

21 May FIG/Zeiss workshop at the Baker Heart Research Institute. Half-day seminar series covering important aspects of confocal imaging.

5 June. Dr Trevor Smith (Univ. Melbourne). Time Resolved Fluorescence imaging with Multi-photon Microscopy

3 July. Dr Andrew Clayton. (Ludwig Inst.). FLIM & rFLIM.

NEW CONFOCAL LOCI

Deakin University

The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology at Deakin University in Burwood has recently acquired a new Leica TCS SP2 AOBS Confocal system. This system uses the Acousto-Optic Beam Splitter (AOBS) instead of conventional filters for selecting the laser lines directed to the sample and is the first of its kind in Australia. The system features a Leica inverted DM IRE2 microscope, 100mW Ar (458, 476, 488, 496, 514nm), 1mW HeNe (543nm), 10mW HeNe (633) lasers, 20x multi-immersion, 40x oil, 63x water and 100x oil objectives. We have the latest Leica LCS software including the 3D, Physiology, Multicolor, and Materials packages. We will soon also install an objective heater and heated perfusion chamber for live cell microscopy.

Within the Centre we will be using this facility for a wide range of experiments, including: vesicular trafficking in polarized cell lines, mitochondrial division in protists, and white blood cell differentiation and leukaemias in zebrafish. The facility is available to external users, and we can provide cell culture facilities for those wishing to do live cell work. For all enquiries (use, booking, evaluation etc) please contact Stephen Firth (office 9244 6027, lab 9251 7348, email sfirth@deakin.edu.au).

The Baker Heart Research Institute

A Zeiss LSM 510 META confocal microscope was installed earlier this year, and more details will appear in the next newsletter. To support the LSM 510 META installation, Zeiss will conduct workshops on site at the Baker from 19-23rd May, with 19-21 May reserved for Baker people, and 22-23 open to Melbourne people outside the Baker. For more information, please contact Brian Jones (Brian.Jones@baker.edu.au) or Gavin Symonds (gsymonds@zeiss.com.au).

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Membership Application

- \$30 Ordinary member
- \$15 Student member
- \$200 corporate sponsor

Surname		Given Names		Title
Institute/Department				
Address				
Town/Suburb		State	Post Code	
Phone	FAX			<i>Please send completed form & payment to:</i> The Fluorescence Imaging Group c/o Dr. Damian Myers, Dept Physiology, University of Melbourne Parkville, Melbourne 3010
Email				

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