



Immunology & Health: A personalized medicine approach

Longer title: Immunology & Health: A personalized medicine approach

Description

The fundamental objective is to create a working relationship incorporating joint grant applications and student exchange between Sweden and Chile in the area of immunology and health. Long-term markers will be scientific publications, patents, joint doctoral graduation program and exchange of post-doctoral positions.

As a result of previous ACCESS meetings in health, three Swedish professors have been independently invited to Chile (U.Lund-U.Uppsala-U.Chile-PUC-U.Magallanes), joint articles have been published (Uppsala-PUC-U.Chile), students have had internships (Uppsala-PUC), and students entered the Uppsala Master's degree and doctoral programs and obtained post-doctoral positions. Chilean doctoral students and post-docs currently in Uppsala will be incorporated into the organization and invited to Chile to promote future student exchange (Ms. Camille Cabroiler and Dr. Maximiliano Arce).

1. Specific meeting in Punta Arenas (ACCESS Meeting)

1. Scientific meeting in subgroups separating into area such as vaccines, immune-oncology and allergies (this is flexible, dependent on the participants). The area of gender in science, both in respect to researchers and research models, will be incorporated. Common research interest, sharing of techniques, equipment and infrastructure will be discussed.
2. Joint Funding & Human resources: All participants will participate in meeting relating to funding opportunities and on postgraduate programs and potential strategies for student exchange and future joint doctoral programs (members of the vicerealty will be invited to this latter meeting) International Grants and Collaboration: The obvious candidate is the European Union HORIZON program. However, other national/international grants will be discussed. The Erasmus+ International Master in Innovative Medicine that promotes scientific exchange and joint co-tutors between Chile and Sweden (among other countries), with closing date two months after the meeting in Punta Arenas will be promoted.

Expected outcomes

During the meeting in Punta Arenas, “milestones” will be established for future follow-up (e.g. joint projects, international visits, student exchange). The PIs from Uppsala PUC, U.Chile, Magallanes and the Karolinska will be responsible for the follow up on all participants and documenting the advances set out in the meeting. A report will be sent to the vice-rectory of each participating University.

Possible site-visits

Although not currently in the program, as current travel schedule and participant availability is yet to be determined: In Santiago, previous to the meeting in Punta Arenas, the “Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy” (a Research Center of Excellence that harbors academics and scientists from the PUC, U. Chile and U. Nacional Andres Bello, among other Universities) could offer to host an open symposium with approximately 100 people attending. This seminar could give the participants the opportunity to present their science to the academic sector of Santiago. This event will be open to doctoral students, and a Chilean post-doc currently in Sweden could recount his experience in finding internships and an academic position in Sweden. A presentation on the IMIM international Master’s program could also occur. We could also advertise the arrival of the visiting professors and set up face to face meeting if requested. By eliminating the need for extensive “get to know you” presentations in Punta Arenas, this seminar will free up time in Punta Arenas to concentrate on future interactions and establish doctoral exchange programs.

Planned activities

Prior to Punta Arenas main scientific headings will be determine (e.g. Vaccines, Personalized medicine, Allergies). The participants will be assigned a group each with a responsible chairperson. The participants will then make a brief presentation of their work, highlighting the techniques, access to equipment (and biobank/patients if relevant), grant application options and student collaboration. With knowledge of participating professors doctoral students will present a summary of their thesis and how an international collaboration could be beneficial. Depending on the final number of participants in the session the group will come together at the end to discuss potential interactions.

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