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ALLERGISTS FOR ISRAEL NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Updates

July 2023

Letter from the Chairman

Dear Chaverim (Friends),

San Antonio was a spectacular time. The Friday night kiddush and the Sunday night gala event at the Hopscotch immersion museum was amazing. It was great catching up with old friends and meeting new ones. The Astra Zeneca lecture Sunday morning lox and bagel breakfast and lecture by Kevin Murphy was also very successful. The feedback from all those who attended as well as from our Astra Zeneca sponsor, was very positive. Kudos to Beth and Richard for organizing these events and all they do for AFI. They add their personal touch which makes participation at our AFI events a warm and comfortable experience. They have been such an integral part of our AFI family and do this so selflessly – I am blessed to have them in my life and AFI is thankful for their commitment. As discussed, Beth, Richard, and I are not getting any younger and in order to ensure the growth and sustainability of AFI, we are working with Impact AMS to help build a strong infrastructure for AFI. We will soon introduce new leadership opportunities for committee chairs and vice-chairs and executive board leadership positions. AFI is in a very strong position with a growing membership and both recurring and new sponsors from our industry colleagues.

We continue to fulfill our mission by supporting our Israeli colleagues. Recently, Yoram Faitelson, from Schneider's Children's Hospital received an AFI mini-sabbatical grant to attend the AAAAI meeting and then travel to Cincinnati where he spent one week at CCHMC and one week at Bernstein Allergy Group to learn food oral immunotherapy. He plans to open a food allergy OIT program at Schneider's Children's Hospital in Petah Tikvah. Yoram is a delightful person and I truly enjoyed working and socializing with him. I believe in the short time I spent with Yoram, we have developed a strong enduring friendship. We are very excited to see all the great things Yoram will soon accomplish. The future of AFI is very bright, especially with the increased engagement by our younger members who are the next generation of AFI. It has been an honor to take the AFI leadership reigns 20 years ago and to be able to continue advancing the vision of our dear and beloved colleague, Bill Silvers. Bill is still actively involved behind the scenes providing encouragement and support for AFI and I truly believe one day soon he will be among us in person.

As you may have heard, I was installed as the AAAAI President for 2023-2024 in San Antonio. I would like to share with you my presidential initiative which has been inspired by the volunteer work we do with AFI. My vision is to create a service branch for the AAAAI by addressing environmental disparities in

underserved populations through volunteerism. We are currently assembling a talented task force comprised of individuals with experience in volunteerism, education, research, public health, and community engagement. We hope to ultimately provide grants to our allergy colleagues throughout the US and Canada who have projects through which they can channel their expertise in Allergy and Immunology to impact their local communities. Metrics for successful outcomes and processes to ensure sustainability and scalability are being developed to ensure that these projects have a greater likelihood of succeeding long term. This is an ambitious initiative but one that is greatly needed for our professional organization, our specialty and healthcare in general. I look forward to working together with all our AFI members and friends to create community awareness of how Allergists can significantly impact a wide spectrum of environmental issues through volunteerism including healthcare access, food insecurities, indoor and outdoor air quality, housing disparities, and many more potential areas that have a direct or indirect effect on the management of our patients.

Stay tuned for our newly designed website which should make communication far more efficient and timelier and newsletters that will be more regularly disseminated. I look forward to seeing all of our Israeli colleagues and AFI members and friends at the ACAAI meeting in Anaheim and the AAAAI meeting in Washington, DC which I will preside over as President. Please join me in making these AFI events the best attended ever.

Shalom and Thank you for your support.

Jonathan

Member Spotlight

Dr. Chaim M. Roifman

Dr. Roifman has trained numerous fellows under him as head of the Immunology and Allergy in the Hospital for Sick Children. He has an ever growing enthusiasm for teaching and demonstrating "hands on" to his fellow doctors, fellows in training and any residents.

Dr. Roifman continues in serving as a mentor with sound advice on medical, professional as well as personal issues. Every fellow knows that Chaim is there for him to assist and support.

[Learn more here](#)

Wild Apricot Assistance

Please find some information below on how to log in to the new Wild Apricot website and update your membership profile.

You can log into your account from the upper right corner of any page of the website and update your member profile, email preferences, etc.

The first time you log in, use your email address as your username, and select the 'forgot password' option to set your new password.

Calling all volunteers!

[Sign up here](#)

Upcoming Events

2023 ACAAI Meeting in Anaheim: 11/9-11/13

Friday 6 - 8:30 pm: Kiddush

Sunday 7 - 8 am: Breakfast and talk

2024 AAAAI meeting in Washington DC: 2/23-2/26

Friday 6 - 8:30 pm: Kiddush

Sunday 7 - 8 am: Breakfast and talk

Sunday 6:30 - 9:30 pm: Gala

Includes health disparity forums in different parts of the world cohosted by the WAO

IAACI/AFI meeting in Jerusalem 2022



IAACI dinner at the EAACI meeting in Hamburg 2023



Industry News

[AFI provided a grant related to food allergy oral immunotherapy.](#)

Family Updates



Dr. and Mrs. Joshua Bernstein, son of Jonathan Bernstein, were married in Chicago on 5/28/2023.



Leo River Meisterman, grandson of Jonathan Bernstein, was welcomed into the world!

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About Allergists for Israel

Allergists for Israel was founded in 1985 with the evolving vision to develop camaraderie between our Allergy/Immunology colleagues by gathering nationally and internationally at national and International meetings and congresses, provide financial support for Israeli allergy fellows, clinicians and researchers for scholarly activities and work with our Israeli colleagues to develop and sponsor international Allergy/Immunology educational meetings in Israel. We welcome all nationalities and religions from around the world to participate with us to increase our knowledge in the specialty of Allergy/Immunology.

We'd love to hear from you for [future newsletters!](#)



ALLERGISTS FOR ISRAEL

An organization promoting educational and research exchange

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