



FASEB

Federation of American Societies
for Experimental Biology

Science
Research
Conferences

The Autoimmunity Conference

Organizer Bio: Dario A. A. Vignali, PhD

Frank Dixon Chair in Cancer Immunology and Vice Chair and Professor of Immunology, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, PA, USA

Dario A. A. Vignali's research focuses on molecular and cellular aspects of negative regulatory immune mechanisms, including regulatory T cells, inhibitory receptors, and inhibitory cytokines. His lab was instrumental in uncovering the role of LAG3 in mouse models of cancer, tolerance, autoimmunity, and immune regulation. His lab discovered the inhibitory cytokine IL35 and the NRP1:SEMA4A axis, which are key regulators of intratumoral Treg stability and function. His current research extensively uses systems immunology approaches to understand transcriptional regulation of effector T cell exhaustion and regulatory T cell function and fate in murine models of cancer and autoimmunity, and numerous human tumors.

Vignali is also Associate Director for Scientific Strategy, Co-Leader of the Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy Program and Co-Director of the Tumor Microenvironment Center in the UPMC Hillman Cancer Center in Pittsburgh. A Highly Cited Researcher (top 1% by citations; Clarivate Analytics) for the last four years (2016-2019), Vignali has published over 190 papers with over 33 as senior or co-author in high impact journals (IF>10). He has a strong record of extramural funding, which currently includes an NIH P01 and four R01 grants. His innovative, discovery-based research has led to 15 patent awards (11 in the US) and 11 pending patent applications worldwide. He is a co-founding scientist of several companies (Potenza Therapeutics [sold to Astellas], Tizona Therapeutics [sold to Gilead], Novasenta).

Lastly, as part of his commitment to train the next generation of immunologists, Vignali is the Director of the Cancer Immunology Training Program (NCI T32). He has trained, or is currently training, 46 postdoctoral research or clinical fellows and 14 graduate students, and several have successfully obtained extramural fellowships (14 total).