

30<sup>th</sup> September 2010,  
Washington

*"Harmonization of Immunological  
Monitoring Across Institutions"*

C.M. Britten

*CEDRIK M. BRITTEN*

The following relationships exist related to this presentation:

*50% Employee (University Medical Center of the Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz, Germany)*

*50% Employee (BioNTech AG, Mainz, Germany)*

# Today's Panel Discussion

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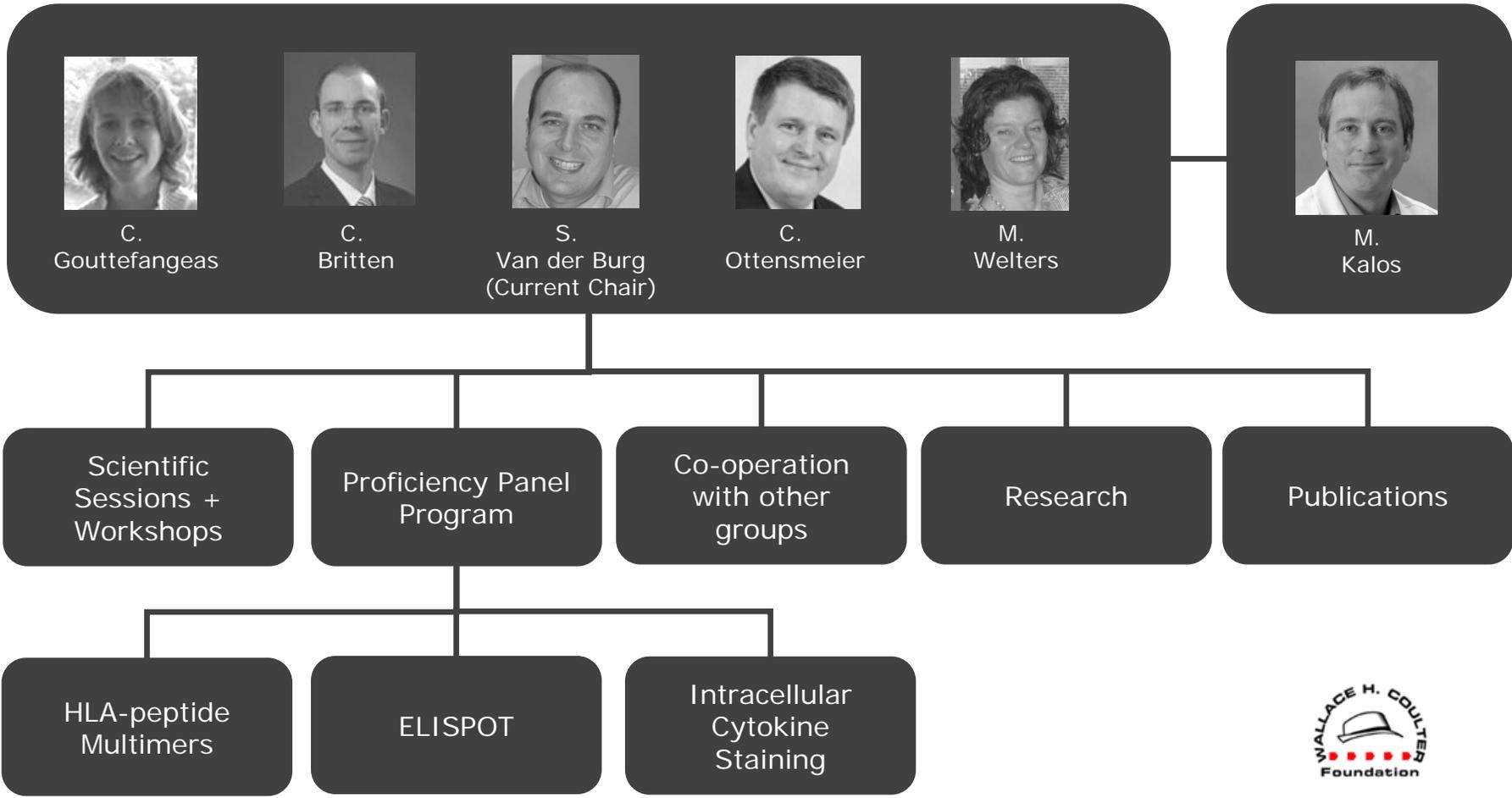


9:15 am-9:45 am Panel Discussion

*Panelists: Session 1 Speakers; Sylvia Janetzki and Michael Kalos*

- How can assays be “harmonized” across institutions ?
- What should be included in all publications which include immunological monitoring data?

# CIP - Activities



# Proficiency Panel Programs

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In 2005 two independent harmonization initiatives have launched their proficiency panel programs

## **CIMT Immunoguiding Program („CIP“)**

as part of the Association for Immunotherapy of Cancer  
([www.cimt.eu](http://www.cimt.eu))



## **CIC Proficiency Panel Program**

as part of the Cancer Research Institute  
(<http://www.cancerresearch.org/CancerVaccineConsortium.html>)

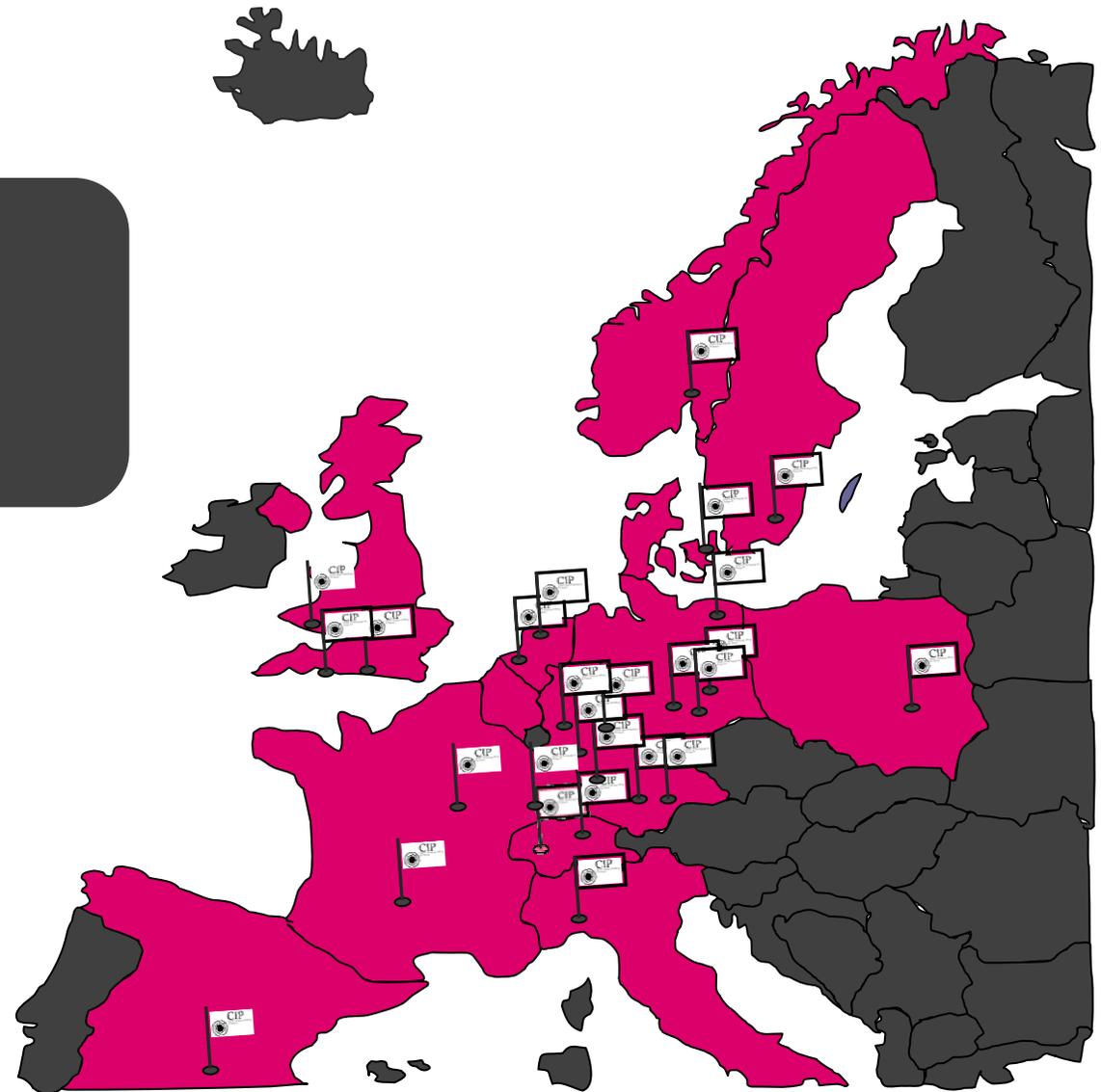


# CIP – Proficiency Panel Programm



## Participants

- 40 participating labs
- 12 European countries



# CIMT – Recent/New panels

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## **CIP\_ID07\_2009\_MUL** *(experiments completed)*

Assay(s): HLA-Peptide Multimers

Organizers: C. Gouttefangeas, K. Laske, S. Heidu (Tuebingen),  
S. Hardrup (Herlev)

## **CIP\_ID08\_2010\_GAT** *(experiments completed)*

Assay(s): Gating Panel (ICS Data)

Organizers: M. J. P. Schoenmaekers-Welters , S.H. van der Burg (Leiden)

## **CIP\_ID09\_2010\_ELI** *(recruiting completed)*

Assay(s): IFN-  $\gamma$  ELISPOT – Media used for thawing and freezing

Organizers: H. Filbert, S. Attig, C. Britten (Mainz)

## **CIP\_ID010\_2010\_ELI** *(recruiting will begin Q3/2010)*

Assay(s): IFN-  $\gamma$  ELISPOT for in vitro stimulated T cells

Organizers: L. low, A. Mander, C. Ottensmeier (Southampton)

## **CIP\_ID011\_2010\_MUL** *(recruiting will begin Q3/2010)*

Assay(s): HLA-Peptide Mutimers – Reference Samples

Organizers: S. Singh and S.H. van der Burg (Leiden)

# CIC – Proficiency Panel Program

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- 2005: 1<sup>st</sup> Elispot panel (36 labs)
- 2006: 2<sup>nd</sup> Elispot panel (29 labs)
- 2007: 3<sup>rd</sup> Elispot panel (35 labs)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Multimer panel (29 labs)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> ICS panel (28 labs)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> CFSE panel (21 labs)
- 2009: 4<sup>th</sup> Elispot panel (41 labs)
  - Serum task force
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Multimer panel (20 labs)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> ICS panel (31 labs)
- 2010: 1<sup>st</sup> ICS Gating Panel (in wide collaboration)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Luminex Panel (in collaboration)
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Elispot and 3<sup>rd</sup> Multimer Panel

## Aims of Proficiency Panel Programs

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### *„Quality Assurance (QA)“*

Provide immediate feed-back about performance relative to the group (or to a dynamic reference value)

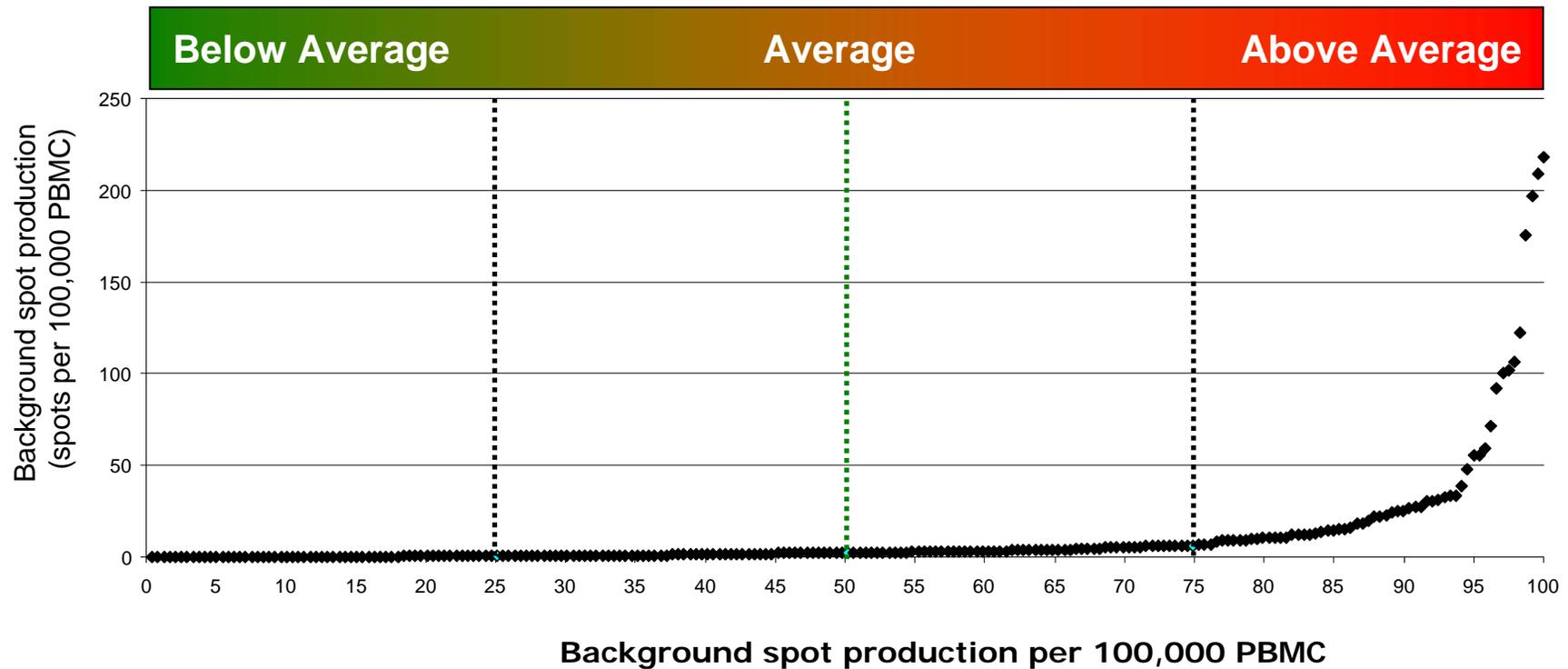
### *„Assay Harmonization“*

Use the collected data to systematically investigate the performance of subgroups and deduce harmonization guidelines.

### *„Protocol Optimization“*

Use the collected data to systematically identify critical process steps (stimulus for MIATA).

# QA: Background spot production expected from a virtual lab with average test performance



Percentile	Classified as	Spots
95th	Extremely high	55.40
75th	Upper end of average	6.33
<b>50th</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>2.17</b>
25th	Lower end of average	0.6
5th	Extremely low	0.07

**Average:**  
0.6 - 6 spots per 100,000 PBMC

**Median BG:**  
2 spots per 100,000 PBMC

## Harmonization - Response Determination

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Response Determination Method	Overall (no filters)	
	Response Detection Rate N=282	False Positive Rate N=196
S > 2-fold BG	74%	17%
S > 2-fold BG and > 5/100,000	59%	3%
S > 2-fold BG and > 10/100,000	49%	1%
S > 3-fold BG	66%	9%
S > 3-fold BF and > 5/100,000	54%	1%
S > 3-fold BG and > 10/100,000	45%	0%
S > 4-fold BG	59%	7%
S > 4-fold and > 5/100,000	49%	1%
S > 4-fold and > 10/100,000	42%	0%
S ≥ 4-fold and ≥ 5/100,000	49%	1%
T-test	76%	10%
DFR(eq)	75%	11%
DFR(2x)	61%	2%

Harmonization is needed to increase comparability of results generated across institutions

- Refrain from using allogeneic APCs
- Use triplicate wells for each antigen
- Introduce a resting time of the PBMCs before they are added to the ELISPOT plate
- Add an optimal cell number per well ( $\geq 4 \times 10^5$  lymphocytes per well recommended by CIP labs)
- Use serum-free test conditions
- Use a scientifically sound method for response determination (DFR method proposed by Moodie 2010)

# CIC - Initial Elispot Harmonization Guidelines

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- A. Establish lab Elispot SOP for:
  - A1. Counting method for apoptotic cells in order to determine adequate cell dilution for plating
  - A2. Overnight resting of cells prior to plating
- B. Use only pretested serum with optimal signal:noise ratio
- C. Establish SOP for plate reading, including:
  - C1. Human auditing during reading process
  - C2. Adequate adjustment for technical artifacts
- D. Only let well trained personnel conduct assay

Large-scale Harmonization activities can lead to

- dynamic **reference values** to rank test performance,
- **increased comparability** of results generated across institutions,
- **improved assay** performance in a group,

...and thus accelerate clinical development of new cancer immunotherapies.

**Beginners** and **highly experienced** labs can benefit from harmonization efforts.

# Minimal Information About T cell Assays (MIATA)

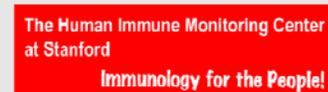
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*Announced at CIMT2009 and in Immunity in 2009*



*Reporting Framework*

*[www.miataproject.org](http://www.miataproject.org)*



*"MIATA"-minimal information about T cell assays."*

*Janetzki S, Britten CM, Kalos M, Levitsky HI, Maecker HT, Melief CJ, Old LJ, Romero P, Hoos A, Davis MM.  
Immunity. 2009 Oct 16; 31(4): 527-8.*

# MIATA – 5 Modules

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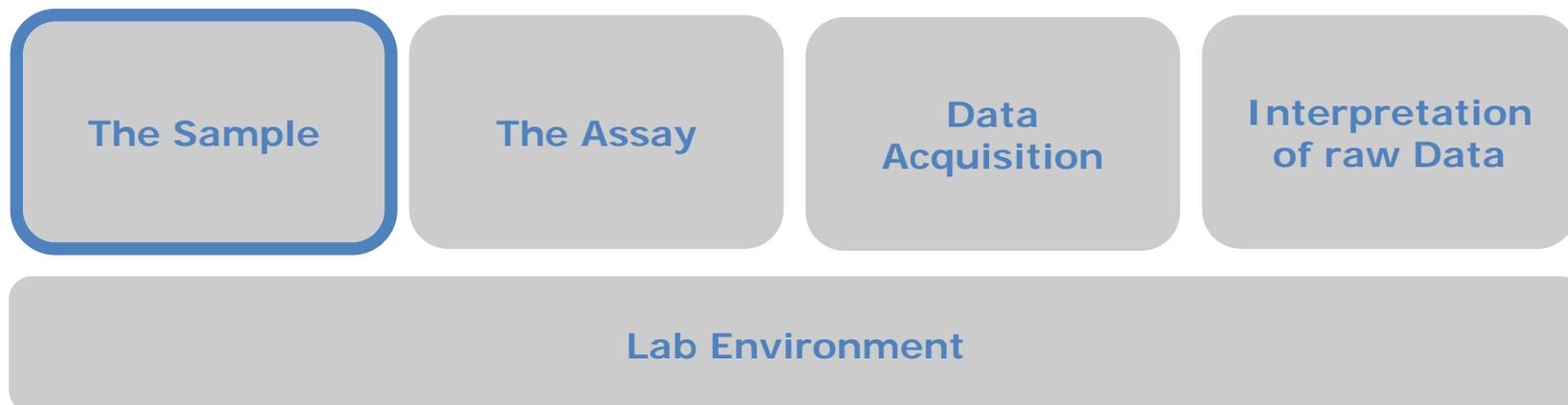
The Sample

The Assay

Data  
Acquisition

Interpretation  
of raw Data

Lab Environment



## ***The Sample - 1D: Quality of cell material:***

### **Required:**

mean recovery and viability of cell material  
method used to determine the cell recovery and viability

### **Optional:**

An expanded list of details on the quality control of the cell material that was tested (of great interest would be (i) specific cut-offs for recovery and viability (if applicable), (ii) how material was treated that did not reach the cut-off and (iii) the mean time laps at which viability was tested relative to the time of thawing and the experiment).

# MIATA – Consensus Workshop in Washington



## Facilitator:

A. Hoos

## Support:



## Moderators:

Module 1: C. Britten

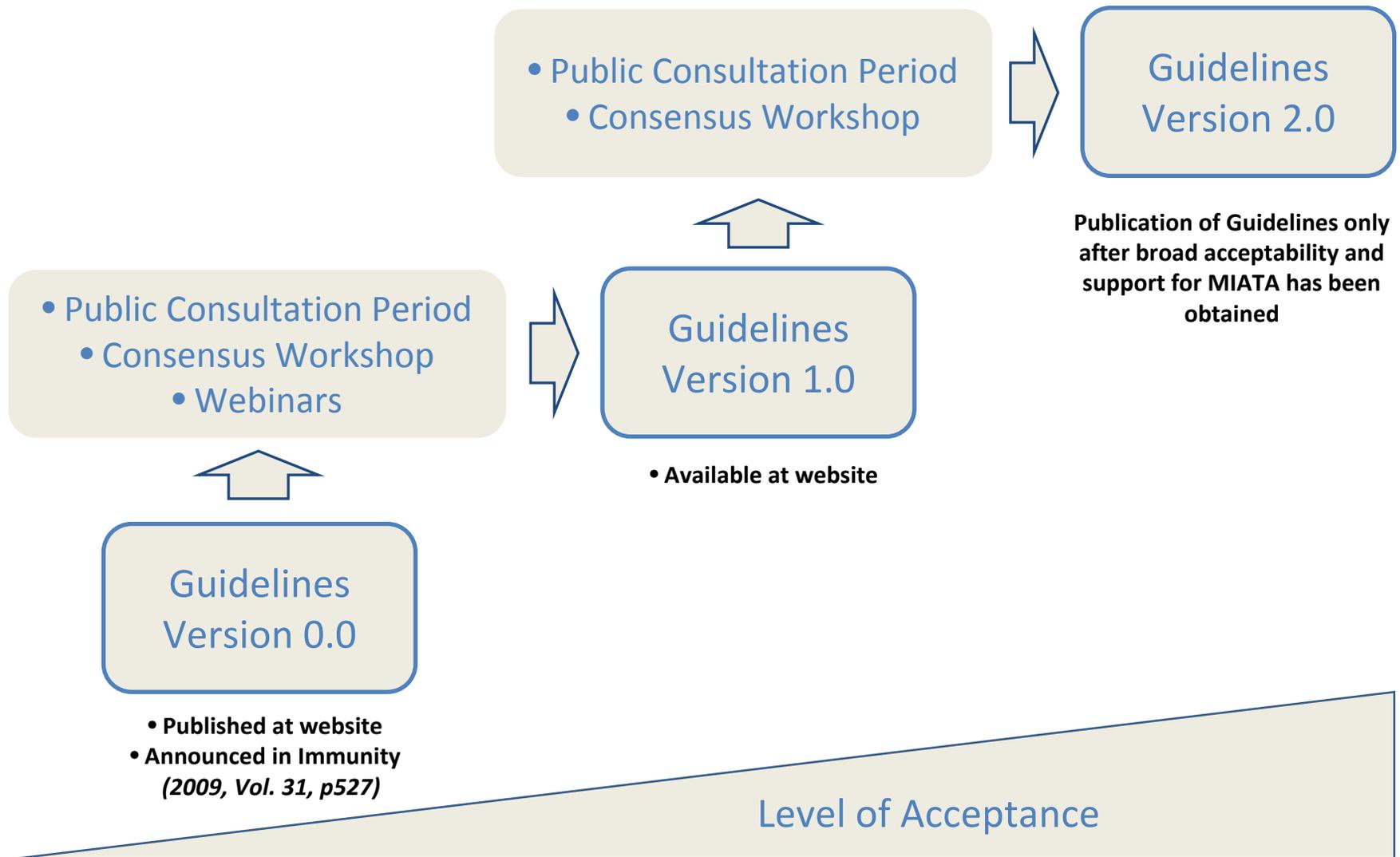
Module 2: S. Janetzki

Module 3: K. Odunsi

Module 4: S. van der Burg

Module 5: M. Kalos

# MIATA – Consensus Workshop in Washington



The assay harmonization efforts conducted over the past 5 years further led to the identification of several **critical experimental process steps**.

As a consequence of this **MIATA** was launched as a community driven reporting framework for T cell experiments.

Published reports of T cell experiments should include **sufficient information** on **all critical** test variables and process steps.

# CIMT – Co-operations / Acknowledgements

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## Response Determination for ELISPOT Assays

Zoe Moodie (SHARP, Seattle) and Leah Price (University of New York)

## ELISPOT – Serum Task Force

CRI/CIC (S. Janetzki)



## Reporting Framework for T cell Assays - MIATA

Core Team Members, Panelists and all Contributors



The Human Immune Monitoring Center  
at Stanford  
Immunology for the People!



## Biomarker development in immunotherapy

iSBTC-FDA Biomarker Task Force



# CIP – Team (WCF)

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**Thank you for your attention**

# CIMT – 9th Annual Meeting 2011

May 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> 2011 in Mainz

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## *Targeting Cancer: Road-Map for Success*

### *Confirmed speakers:*

J. Mac Cheever (University of Washington)  
Adrian Bot (MannKind Corporation)  
Thorwald van Hall (Leiden Medical Center)  
Lisa Butterfield (University of Pittsburgh)  
Francesco Marincola (Trans-NIH Center for Human Immunology)  
Jean-Yves Bonnefoy (Transgene)  
Phil Greenberg (Seattle)  
Vincent Brichard (GSK)  
Axel Hoos (BMS)

### *Topics include:*

Cellular Therapy  
Therapeutic Vaccination  
Therapeutic Antibodies  
Immunomonitoring  
New Targets  
Cancer Biology  
Immunotherapy  
Immunosuppressive Mechanisms  
Innate Immunity

