

## News@SIOP - SIOP Young Investigator NETwork (SIOP YI-NET) – August 2016

Founded at SIOP 2014 in Toronto, Canada, the SIOP Young Investigator NETwork (SIOP YI-NET) is now in its second year of activities. The YI-NET is led by five of the 2014 YI Award Winners, and has grown over the past year with new members joining from the 2015 YI Award Winner group as well as other YIs of SIOP who've contributed to our mission of developing a collaborative community of junior researchers and clinicians working in paediatric oncology.

### **Summary of YI-NET events at SIOP 2015 Cape Town**

At SIOP 2015 in Cape Town, South Africa, the YI-NET coordinated an Educational Day programme filled with lectures on topics of special interest to YIs as well as an expert lunch where YIs could enjoy lunch with their choice of one of ten experienced researchers with expertise in various fields of paediatric oncology. Also in Cape Town, the YI-NET hosted a Junior Investigator Collaborative Event at a local Cape Town venue, sponsored by the Texas Children's Cancer Center, with the purpose of fostering networking and collaboration among YIs as well as with experienced researchers. We were delighted that all of the YI-NET events in Cape Town were well-attended and hope that our events at future congresses draw many participants.

### **Educational Day 2016**

At SIOP 2016 in Dublin, Ireland, the YI-NET will hold their second YI Educational Day programme. The YI programme will contain lectures and workshops covering several topics essential for good quality research brought by experts from the top of our field. Please find the latest version of the programme at [http://www.siop2016.kenes.com/scientific-information-\(2\)/yi-programme#.VzttB5GLQhc](http://www.siop2016.kenes.com/scientific-information-(2)/yi-programme#.VzttB5GLQhc) Furthermore, YIs will have the opportunity to have lunch with experienced researchers and clinicians in an informal setting at the expert lunch sessions during the Educational Day. Registrants of the YI Educational Day can register for the free expert lunch session via <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/siop-lunch-session-educational-day-registration-24316254572>

### **Junior Investigator Collaborative Event 2016**

The YI-NET is coordinating the second annual Junior Investigator Collaborative Event at a local Irish venue during SIOP 2016. The Texas Children's Cancer Center has agreed to sponsor this event again this year as well as assist the YI-NET with planning and coordination during the event. We are planning for approximately 150 attendees, both YIs and experienced researchers. YIs can register for this event free of charge at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/siop-junior-investigator-collaborative-event-2016-tickets-24229504099>

### **Social media**

The YI-NET have launched a Facebook page (SIOP Young Investigators <https://www.facebook.com/siopyinet/?fref=ts>) Twitter account (SIOP YI Network [https://twitter.com/SIOPYI\\_Network](https://twitter.com/SIOPYI_Network)) and LinkedIn account ([https://www.linkedin.com/in/siopyinet?authType=NAME\\_SEARCH&authToken=gOP&locale=en\\_US&trk=tyah&trkInfo=clickedVertical%3Amynetwork%2CentityType%3AentityHistoryName%2CClickedEntityId%3Amynetwork\\_mynetwork\\_475903784%2Cidx%3A0](https://www.linkedin.com/in/siopyinet?authType=NAME_SEARCH&authToken=gOP&locale=en_US&trk=tyah&trkInfo=clickedVertical%3Amynetwork%2CentityType%3AentityHistoryName%2CClickedEntityId%3Amynetwork_mynetwork_475903784%2Cidx%3A0)) with content targeting YIs in paediatric oncology. The goal of these social media platforms is to inform YIs on new committee events and other information important to YIs in paediatric oncology (e.g. funding/fellowship



opportunities, current events) as well as to build a community of SIOP YIs on social media. We have the most followers on Facebook (~1,500 followers), with ~50 followers on Twitter and 500+ connections on LinkedIn. We have several committee members who are committed to posting new content regularly on our social media sites (daily on Facebook, and 2-4 days per week on Twitter); this has led to a great increase in those following the YI-NET social media sites over the past year.

### **Webpage / Discussion Forum**

With the launch of the new SIOP website and new webpage capabilities, the YI-NET has started a discussion forum with the purpose of having an ongoing discussion of among YIs in SIOP on topics of particular interest on to YIs. Since March, new discussion topics have been posted regularly with the intent to stimulate discussions, including posts on *“What is it like to perform research in countries other than your host country?”*, *“My experience with lecturing”*, *“Experience with grant writing – PhD student perspective”*, *“Balancing family life and research”*, and *“Balancing Multiple and Diverse Research Interests”*. To date, the members of the YI-NET have written these posts, however, we hope to expand the posts to include YI contributors outside of the committee.

### **Fundraising**

As many of the YI-NET activities require funding, we have increased our fundraising efforts this year. We are beyond grateful for the sponsorship of the Texas Children’s Cancer Center for the Collaborative Event at SIOP 2015 and now again for SIOP 2016. We are currently seeking sponsorship for our other activities including those of the Educational Day as well as providing travel scholarships for YIs from LMIC. If you know of any organizations or companies who may be interested in sponsoring the YI-NET, we are welcoming suggestions. Please contact us at [young\\_investigators@siop-online.org](mailto:young_investigators@siop-online.org)

