On behalf of the European Federation for Immunogenetics (EFI), the German Society for Immunogenetics (DGI), and the Local Organising Committee we cordially invite you to attend the 23rd EFI Conference in Ulm (Germany), May 9–12, 2009.

Within half a century, our knowledge of Immunogenetics has extended in many dimensions. Still, the ability of our immune system to distinguish between self and non-self is most relevant for our own individual survival – both, as human beings and researchers.

As usual, the errors committed by our immune system make things interesting and attract our attention: While its physiologic activity is called allo-recognition, the ›false positive‹ decisions appear as autoimmunity whereas the ›false negatives‹ lead to tolerance. Both ›false‹ reactions open revolutionary avenues to the treatment of severe diseases by transplantation.

EFI2009ULM will present the most recent results on the underlying mechanisms, and new perspectives to tackle the challenges of Allorecognition and Tolerance. The Conference will cover the most interesting aspects from genetics, basic research and cell engineering to clinical applications, in particular, organ and blood stem cell transplantation.

Situated on the beautiful river Danube, Ulm is more than 1100 years old and is the home of one of the oldest democratic traditions still existing in the world. The town’s most famous sights include the cathedral with the tallest spire in the world and the captivating old town with its picturesque fishermen’s quarter.

In contrast to the city’s age, the university is young and vibrant with a strong focus on medicine and science – not surprising since its location is within walking distance of the birthplace of Albert Einstein.

Join us and enjoy our kaleidoscope of nature and urbanity, ancient history and modern art, science and friendship. We are looking forward to seeing you in May 2009 in Ulm!

Joannis Mytilineos  
Co-chairman

Carlheinz Müller  
Co-chairman

Rainer Blasczyk  
Co-chairman
The scientific contents of the EFI2009ULM Conference will include four types of sessions: Plenary, Abstracts, Teaching and Workshops on Progress in Technology.

**Plenary**

The Plenary Sessions will focus on:
- Immunogenetics of Solid Organ Transplantation
- Immunogenetics of Stem Cell Therapy
- Immunobiology of Allorecognition
- Immunobiology of Tolerance
- Immunobiology of Autoimmunity

**Abstracts**

Abstracts are invited to be presented in Oral and Poster Sessions covering a wide variety of fields including:
- Organ transplantation
- Stem cell transplantation
- Gene and cell therapy
- Autoimmunity and allergy
- Immunity and infection
- Immunity and cancer
- MHC genetics, structure and function
- Cytokines, minors and other non MHC genes
- Population genetics
- Computational immunology
- Current technical achievements
- Quality assurance

**Teaching**

The Teaching Sessions will cover topics related mainly to histocompatibility testing as well as other technologies and 'hot' issues associated with organ or stem cell transplantation.

**Special**

In a Special Session the issue of Quality in European H&I Laboratories will be addressed, and the focus will be placed on options for a closer international co-operation in this field.
German Satellite Meetings

The DGI (German Society for Immunogenetics) and the ZKRD (German National Bone Marrow Donor Registry) will hold their annual meetings on May 8th and 9th, 2009, preceding the EFI2009ULM Conference. The language for these two satellite meetings will be German; their scientific programs will be covered within the EFI2009ULM Conference in English.

DGI / ZKRD

DGI – Deutsche Gesellschaft für Immungenetik
- DGI-MTA Workshop
- Treffen der ET-Labore
- Treffen der Gremien (Vorstand, Komitees)
- Mitgliederversammlung
- Prüfungen zum Fachimmungenetiker

ZKRD – Zentrales Knochenmarkspender-Register Deutschland
- Treffen der Sucheinheiten
- Jährliches Arbeitstreffen
- Workshops zu aktuellen Themen
Zusätzlich ist die Beteiligung von DGI und ZKRD an der Gestaltung der EFI2009ULM Teaching Sessions vorgesehen.

GENERAL INFORMATION EFI2009ULM

Social Events
- Saturday, May 9th: Welcome Reception Conference Center
- Sunday, May 10th: Concert in the Ulm Münster (Cathedral)
- Monday, May 11th: Gala Dinner Edwin-Scharff-Haus

Information
- Conference Venue: The “Congress Centrum Ulm” is located directly at the Danube river. 10 minutes walk from the city and 15–20 minutes walk from the main railway station. Comfortable bus connection to all points of interest.

- Industrial Exhibition: An Industrial Exhibition, Company Sponsored Lunch Symposia and Coffee Breaks, etc. will be offered. The Sponsorship brochure is available from the EFI2009ULM Conference Organisation.

- Conference Tours: Several Pre- and Post-Conference Tours to different places (Alps, Constance lake, Bavaria/Munich, Black forest, Mercedes Benz and Porsche museums/headquarters, etc.) will be available.

- Hotels: The “Maritim Hotel” will be the main Conference Hotel (adjacent to the Conference Center). Additional 3–4 star hotels are available in the twin cities of Ulm and Neu-Ulm. Reservation http://www.efi2009.net

Agency
- Organisation and Economic Agency of the Exhibition and Social Events: Kongress- und MesseBüro Lentzsch GmbH
Some views on Ulm, city of the EFI2009ULM Conference:
The Münster (Cathedral) with the Danube river, the Maritim Hotel, Ulm Townhall, and a glimpse at houses in the fishermen’s quarter.
### EFI2009ULM

**Saturday May 9th to Tuesday May 12th, 2009**

| **Organiser** | European Federation for Immunogenetics (EFI)  
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Immungenetik (DGI) |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------|
| **Chairmen**  | Joannis Mytilineos  
IKT Ulm,  
Germany  
Carlheinz Müller  
ZKRD Ulm,  
Germany  
Rainer Blasczyk  
Hannover Medical School,  
Germany |
| **Local Organising Committee** | Claudia Flach  
Ingrid Hofmann  
Freia Scholz  
Ursula Kallert  
Kerstin Mitterwald  
Andrea Vigh  
Sonja Schlegel  
Volker Rump  
Daniel Fürst |
| **Scientific Committee** | The EFI Scientific Committee will be appointed by the EFI board in April 2008 |
| **Contact** | Joannis Mytilineos, IKT Ulm, Helmholtzstrasse 10, 89081 Ulm / Germany  
Telephone: +49 731 150524, Telefax: +49 731 150513  
eMail: mail@efi2009.net |
| **Agency** | KMB Lentzsch GmbH, Seifgrundstraße 2, 61348 Bad Homburg / Germany  
Telephone: +49 6172 6796-0, Telefax: +49 6172 6796-26  
eMail: info@kmb-lentzsch.de |
| **Timelines** | **Registration (online – web based):** http://www.efi2009.net  
- Starting Monday, November 17th, 2008  
- Early Registration until Sunday, March 1st, 2009 |
| | **Call for Abstracts (online – web based):** http://www.efi2009.net  
- Starting Monday, November 17th, 2008  
- Until Sunday, January 18th, 2009 |
| **Sponsors** | ![Sponsor Logos] |
23rd European Immunogenetics and Histocompatibility Conference (EFI)

17th Annual Meeting of the German Society for Immunogenetics (DGI)

09 – 12 MAY 2009
Ulm, Germany

www.efi2009.net