American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP) Awards Andrei I. Ivanov, PhD the 2012 ASIP Cotran Early Career Investigator Award

Andrei I. Ivanov, PhD, of the University of Rochester has been selected as the recipient of the ASIP 2012 Cotran Early Career Investigator Award. The Cotran Early Career Investigator Award is partially supported by an unrestricted educational grant from Elsevier, an ASIP Corporate Partner. This award recognizes early career investigators with demonstrated excellence as an investigator with recently established or emerging independence and with a research focus leading to an improved understanding of the conceptual basis of disease. The award is named in honor of Dr. Ramzi S. Cotran (1933-2000), a leader of pathology formerly of Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and a Past President of ASIP.

Dr. Ivanov is interested in the mucosal barrier and epithelial intercellular junctions, and understanding mechanisms of junctional remodeling during intestinal epithelial damage and restitution. Dr. Charles Parkos of Emory University commends Dr. Ivanov’s “outstanding scholarship in the field of epithelial cell biology, as well as his conceptual approach to improving the understanding of mechanisms of epithelial inflammation.” Dr. Parkos also comments that Dr. Ivanov’s research has been “highly productive, resulting in 29 publications since 2005” in highly respected journals. Dr. Parkos emphasizes that not only is Dr. Ivanov’s research highly productive, but his work is highly cited in the scientific literature. In addition to his research, Dr. Ivanov is actively involved in service on a national level, including the ASIP, for which he has participated as a Program Committee member, session chair, and minisymposium speaker. Dr. Parkos describes him as “dedicated, reliable, and conscientious,” who is certain to “have a major impact on the field.”

Dr. Sean Colgan of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center has come to appreciate Dr. Ivanov’s “intellect, curiosity, and dedication,” and states that he is “among the most innovative and creative scientists in the cell biology field today.” Dr. Colgan is also impressed with Dr. Ivanov’s teaching and mentorship skills, as well as his leadership skills, stating that “one of his great strengths is his ability to connect with young scientists. He has an inviting and genuine personality, and people are drawn to his rigorous approach to science.” Dr. Colgan feels that the Ivanov laboratory “has become a magnet for bright, young scientists.”

Dr. Ivanov received his M.Sci. degree from Belarussian State University in Minsk, Belarus in 1987 and completed his PhD at the Institute of Photobiology, Belarussian Academy of Sciences in Minsk, Belarus in 1996. He then completed postdoctoral training at University of Edinburgh, St. Joseph’s Hospital in Phoenix, AZ, and Emory University. Dr. Ivanov then accepted a faculty position at the University of Rochester where he is Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine.

Dr. Ivanov presented his award lecture on Molecular Engines that Build and Break Epithelial Barriers” on Monday, April 23, 2012 at the ASIP Annual Meeting (at Experimental Biology 2012) in San Diego, CA. He received the Cotran Early Career Investigator Award during the ASIP Awards Presentation and Membership Business Meeting.