Feb. 11 – 13, 2007
Sheraton Hamilton
Hamilton, Ontario

www.allergen-nce.ca

Second Annual Research Conference
INNOVATION from cell to society²

Proud Platinum Sponsor of the
AllerGen NCE Inc.
Second Annual Research Conference.
GlaxoSmithKline

Your partner in Respiratory Care is pleased to support AllerGen’s second annual conference, Innovation from Cell to Society.

The heights we reach depend on the depth of our roots.

At McMaster, we know complex issues require integrated solutions. Digging deep is second nature to us. Our innovative and multi-disciplinary approach to research has earned us international acclaim. But more than that, it’s helped to save lives and contribute to the nation’s social and economic well-being.

It is indeed fitting that McMaster University is home to AllerGen, a dynamic centre of excellence that shares our philosophy and approach to research.
Message from the Board Chair

On behalf of AllerGen’s Board of Directors, I would like to welcome you to the Network’s Second Annual Research Conference: Innovation from Cell to Society.

Since April 2005, the AllerGen Network has attracted more than 150 forward-thinking investigators from across Canada and around the world, that are working collaboratively in this dynamic research network that includes partner organizations from across sectors and patient groups, towards the shared goal of improving the lives of Canadians suffering from allergic and related immune diseases. This conference highlights the work of these researchers and their research and knowledge translation partners. I trust you will find the conference program informative, enjoyable and above all, inspiring.

Mr. Lynton R. Wilson
Chairman of the Board,
CAE Inc.

Message du président du conseil d’administration

Au nom du conseil d’administration d’AllerGen, je vous souhaite la bienvenue à la deuxième conférence de recherche annuelle du Réseau, Innovation de la cellule à la société.

Depuis avril 2005, le réseau AllerGen a réussi à rassembler plus de 150 éminents chercheurs canadiens et internationaux œuvrant à l’approfondissement des connaissances sur les maladies allergiques et immunitaires. Avec l’appui d’importants organismes partenaires, incluant des représentants de groupes de patients, ces chercheurs collaborent dans le but commun d’améliorer la qualité de vie des Canadiens souffrant d’affections allergiques et immunitaires. La conférence annuelle a pour objet de présenter le travail des chercheurs, exposer la recherche de pointe et souligner les activités de transmission du savoir. J’ai pleinement confiance que vous trouverez le programme de la conférence instructif, profitable et motivant.

Lynton R. Wilson
Président du conseil d’administration,
CAE Inc.
Message from the Scientific Director & CEO

Judah A. Denburg
Scientific Director and CEO
AllerGen NCE Inc.
Message from the Scientific Director & CEO

Judah A. Denburg
Scientific Director and CEO
AllerGen NCE Inc.
Welcome to AllerGen’s second annual research conference—Innovation from Cell to Society.

This year’s conference offers the opportunity to review the latest scientific advances in the field of allergic and related immune disease. It is also the occasion to share your experience and best practices to improve the quality of life of thousands of Canadians across the country.

I congratulate the Network for its ability to mobilize an impressive array of researchers, clinicians, and partners from all sectors to develop new diagnostic tests and better medications to improve the health and quality of care for allergic and immune disease sufferers. By advancing knowledge, building capacity, transferring results and commercializing research, AllerGen brings an invaluable contribution to the advancement of Canadian society.

On behalf of Canada’s New Government, it is my pleasure to thank you for your ongoing dedication and to wish you a productive and enjoyable conference.

Maxime Bernier
Ottawa, le 11 février 2007

Bienvenue à la seconde conférence annuelle du réseau AllerGen—Innovation : de la cellule à la société.

La conférence de cette année offre l’occasion de passer en revue les dernières percées dans le domaine des maladies allergiques et immunitaires. C’est également l’occasion de partager les expériences et les pratiques exemplaires qui rendent possibles une meilleure qualité de vie pour des milliers de Canadiens partout au pays.

Je tiens à féliciter le Réseau qui a réussi à mobiliser un impressionnant groupe de chercheurs, de cliniciens et de partenaires de tous les secteurs pour trouver de nouveaux outils de diagnostic et de meilleurs médicaments pour les personnes atteintes de maladies allergiques et immunitaires. En permettant de faire avancer le savoir, de développer les capacités, de transférer les connaissances et de commercialiser la recherche, AllerGen apporte une contribution inestimable au développement de la société canadienne.

Au nom du nouveau gouvernement du Canada, je vous remercie de votre engagement soutenu et je vous souhaite une conférence productive et agréable.

Maxime Bernier

AllerGen NCE Inc. is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people suffering from allergic and related immune diseases.

AllerGen will create an enduring network of allergy and immune disease experts whose discovery and development efforts contribute to reductions in the impact of allergic and related immune diseases nationally and globally.

To catalyze and support discovery, development, networking, capacity building, commercialization and knowledge translation that contribute to reducing the morbidity, mortality and socio-economic burden of allergic and related immune diseases.

1. Catalyze and support innovative research that contributes to the discovery of the causes of, and ways to prevent, control or eliminate allergic and related immune diseases.

2. Create new opportunities for the training of highly qualified entrepreneurial personnel in allergy research, patient care, innovation and the health system, and advance professional and lay knowledge about allergic and related immune diseases.

3. Catalyze and facilitate the development of new research platforms, tools, processes, products and services arising from discoveries, and promote their commercialization, their use and their influence on public policy.

4. Develop and maintain networking and partnership arrangements that enable knowledge and technology exchange and exploitation (KTEE).

5. Provide responsible, cost effective and accountable management, administration and support to all aspects of AllerGen’s activities.
### Conference Program

**Sheraton Hamilton Hotel**

#### Sunday, February 11

5:00 pm

#### Monday, February 12

7:30-9:00 am

**Breakfast Buffet**

Centre-East Ballroom Foyer, 2nd Floor

9:00-9:50 am

**Opening Ceremonies**

Centre-East Ballroom, 2nd Floor

**Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Lynton Wilson  
Chair, Board of Directors, AllerGen NCE Inc.

**Overview of AllerGen**

Dr. Judah Denburg  
Scientific Director and CEO, AllerGen NCE Inc.

**Messages from Invited Guests**

**Hon. David Sweet**  
MP Ancaster, Dundas, Flamborough, Westdale

**Hon. Marie Bountrogianni**  
MPP Hamilton Mountain

**Dr. Peter George**  
President, McMaster University,

**Dr. John Kelton**  
Dean and Vice-President, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University

**Dr. Steve Collins**  
Associate Dean of Research, McMaster University

9:50-11:00 am

**Opening Keynote Speaker**

"Our genomic future"

Centre-East Ballroom, 2nd Floor

**Dr. J. Craig Venter**  
Chairman and President, J. Craig Venter Institute, Rockland Rockville, Maryland

11:00-11:30 am

**Break and Poster Viewing**

East Ballroom & Foyer, 2nd Floor

11:30 am-12:30 pm

**Research Symposium**

Centre-East Ballroom, 2nd Floor

**Gene-environment interaction: How nature and nurture combine to increase risk for allergy and asthma**

Panel discussion moderated by Dr. Thomas Hudson, Scientific Director and President, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research

**Dr. Peter Paré**  
Professor of Medicine, University of British Columbia

**Dr. Denise Daley**  
AllerGen HQEP, University of British Columbia

**Dr. Yohan Bossé**  
AllerGen HQEP, McGill University

12:30-1:30 pm

**Luncheon and Poster Viewing**

East Ballroom & Foyer, 2nd Floor

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**Dr. John Frank**

Dr. John Frank, an expert in population health, social policy and work-related disability, is the inaugural Scientific Director of the Institute of Population and Public Health at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Recently recognized with the Honorary Life Membership Award from the Canadian Public Health Association, Dr. Frank is being honoured for his outstanding service to the community and in the advancement of public health knowledge and practice. Discussing the development of national birth cohorts in Canada, Dr. Frank will speak to the challenges and opportunities in the development of AllerGen’s planned birth cohort, the Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development Study.

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**Dr. Michael Meaney**

Dr. Michael Meaney, an expert on maternal care and its role in stress development, is the Director of the Maternal Adversity, Vulnerability and Neurodevelopment Project at Montreal’s McGill University. Dr. Meaney’s research focuses on how differences in maternal care can modify an individual’s brain development and his ability to deal with disease and stress in later life. A James McGill Professor of Medicine at Douglas Hospital Research Centre at McGill University, Dr. Meaney has received numerous awards, including the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Senior Scientist Award and a Distinguished Investigator Award from the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Affective Disorders.
O Canada

Our home and native land
True patriot love in all thy sons command
With glowing hearts we see thee rise
the true north strong and free
From far and wide
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee
God keep our land glorious and free
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee

O Canada
Terre de nos aïeux
ton front est ceint de fleurons glorieux
Car ton bras sait porter l’épée
il sait porter la croix
Ton histoire est une épopée
des plus brillants exploits
et ta valeur, de froid trempée
Protégera nos foyers et nos droits
Protégera nos foyers et nos droits

Dr. J. Craig Venter

A visionary in the field of genomic research, Dr. J. Craig Venter is widely recognized as one of the most important scientists for his invaluable contributions in the effort to spell out the three billion “letters” of the human genome—the biochemical recipe, encoded in our DNA, that leads to the development of a human being.

Dr. Venter founded The Institute for Genomic Research in 1992 where he and his team decoded the genome of the first free-living organism using their new whole genome shotgun technique. In 1998, Dr. Venter founded and was first president of Celera Genomics where he sequenced the human genome (as well as the genomes of the fruit fly, mouse, and rat) using the whole genome shotgun technique, new mathematical algorithms, and new automated DNA sequencing machines. To continue his groundbreaking research, Dr. Venter founded in 2002 the not for profit J. Craig Venter Institute. One of the exciting projects at his institute is the Sorcerer II Expedition, a global oceanographic expedition launched in 2003 to obtain and study microbes from the world’s seas and soils. This ongoing mission is yielding insights into these new organisms that make up the vast realm of life on this planet.
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<td>1:30-2:30 pm</td>
<td>Networking Reception</td>
<td>East Ballroom &amp; Foyer, 2nd Floor</td>
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<td>2:30-3:30 pm</td>
<td>Break and Poster Viewing</td>
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<td>4:00-5:30 pm</td>
<td>Research Symposium, education and knowledge translation in food allergy, anaphylaxis and asthma</td>
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**Environmental and social determinants of allergy and asthma**

**Moderator:** Dr. Frances Silverman, Professor, University of Toronto

- **1:00-1:15 pm** "Socio-economic status and asthma control"  
  Dr. Wendy Ungar  
  Associate Professor, University of Toronto

- **1:15-1:30 pm** "Effectiveness of home interventions to reduce asthma morbidity in low-income children"  
  Dr. Tim Takaro  
  Associate Professor, Simon Fraser University

- **1:30-1:45 pm** "Challenges of characterizing acute and chronic pollutant exposures of city dwellers across multiple microenvironments"  
  Dr. Jeff Brook  
  Air Quality Research Branch, Environment Canada

**Research Symposium**

**Moderators:** Dr. Paul O’Byrne, Chair, Department of Medicine, McMaster University, and Dr. Louis-Philippe Boulet, Professor of Medicine, Université Laval

- **2:00-2:15 pm** "Models of industry-supported academic research: AllerGen’s Clinical Investigator Collaborative"  
  Dr. Gail Gauvreau  
  McMaster University

- **2:15-2:30 pm** "Clinical Investigator Collaborative industry partner: Corporate perspectives of academic collaborations"  
  Dr. Allan Hamilton  
  Research and Development, Boehringer Ingelheim

- **2:30-2:45 pm** "Interface with lung health"  
  Dr. Fiona Webster  
  Assistant Director, Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health

- **2:45-3:00 pm** "Developing desensitizing vaccines for allergic diseases: The university spin-out route"  
  Dr. Mark Larché  
  McMaster University

- **3:00-3:15 pm** "Partnerships in clinical research in allergy and asthma"  
  Moderators: Dr. Paul O’Byrne, Chair, Department of Medicine, McMaster University, and Dr. Louis-Philippe Boulet, Professor of Medicine, Université Laval

- **3:15-3:30 pm** "Work-related allergy and asthma"  
  Moderator: Dr. Linn Holness, St. Michael’s Hospital

- **3:30-3:45 pm** "Animal models of work-related allergy and asthma"  
  Dr. Jeremy Scott  
  University of Toronto

- **3:45-4:00 pm** "Work-related allergy and asthma: Public health issues"  
  Dr. Jeremy Beach  
  University of Alberta

- **4:00-4:15 pm** "Chemical sensitizers in the workplace"  
  Dr. Stuart Tarlo  
  University of Toronto

**Research Symposium**

**Moderators:** Dr. Paul O’Byrne, Chair, Department of Medicine, McMaster University, and Dr. Louis-Philippe Boulet, Professor of Medicine, Université Laval

- **4:15-4:30 pm** "Work-related allergy and asthma: A beginner’s guide"  
  Dr. Michael Kobor  
  University of British Columbia

- **4:30-4:45 pm** "Gender, sex and the development of allergy and asthma"  
  Dr. Piyush Mandhani  
  McMaster University

- **4:45-5:00 pm** "An immunology platform for a national birth cohort study of allergy and asthma"  
  Dr. Tobias Kollmann  
  University of British Columbia

**Presentations by Students**

**Research Symposium**

**Moderators:** Dr. Paul O’Byrne, Chair, Department of Medicine, McMaster University, and Dr. Louis-Philippe Boulet, Professor of Medicine, Université Laval

- **5:00-5:15 pm** "Bringing research on food allergy into clinical practice"  
  Dr. Susan Waserman  
  McMaster University

- **5:15-5:30 pm** "Asthma education in Canada"  
  Ms. Shwana McGhan  
  University of Alberta

- **5:30-5:45 pm** "Advocating for anaphylaxis legislation"  
  Ms. Laurie Harada  
  Anaphylaxis Canada

- **5:45-6:00 pm** "Social determinants of successful knowledge translation"  
  Dr. Miriam Stewart, CIHR Institute of Gender and Health; and  
  Dr. Jeff Masuda, McMaster University

**Networking Luncheon**

**Research Symposium**

**Moderators:** Dr. Paul O’Byrne, Chair, Department of Medicine, McMaster University, and Dr. Louis-Philippe Boulet, Professor of Medicine, Université Laval

- **6:00-6:15 pm** "Work-related allergy and asthma in Canada: Diagnosis and recognition"  
  Dr. Catherine Lemière  
  University of Montreal

- **6:15-6:30 pm** "Animal models of work-related allergy and asthma"  
  Dr. Jeremy Scott  
  University of Toronto

- **6:30-6:45 pm** "Work-related allergy and asthma: Public health issues"  
  Dr. Jeremy Beach  
  University of Alberta

- **6:45-7:00 pm** "Chemical sensitizers in the workplace"  
  Dr. Stuart Tarlo  
  University of Toronto