Molecular regulation of human hematopoietic stem cells
van Galen, Peter

Citation for published version (APA):
Acknowledgements

It was Hans Clevers who first recommended the laboratory of John Dick in Toronto for my Masters internship. Like a ripple effect, this simple suggestion has had a profound impact on my life. After my arrival, it was evident that the atmosphere of collaboration and collegiality that John has created in his lab is amazing. I have always felt at home in the lab and the group is like a family.

First I would like to thank John, whose leadership is characterized by continuous optimism and support. From him, I have learned what an ideal research environment should be. I will always look back on the last 5 years with nostalgia. I am also grateful for being cosupervised by Maarten van Lohuizen: your input and confidence have been invaluable throughout my PhD, especially during our talks when I was in the Netherlands.

The constructive criticism by Ben Neel and Jason Moffat during my committee meetings taught me to be aware of the context and background of my work and improved the scientific rigor of what I have done. The same holds true for Brad Wouters.

Eric Lechman and Kolja Eppert were the first ones to introduce me to the world of experimental hematology. Thank you for teaching me all the basics and the many hours we spent in the isolab transformed into a man-cave by maximum volume classic rock. This brings me to Olga Gan, who implements Russian approaches to uphold discipline but with a good heartedness that is indispensable for the lab atmosphere.

Although they have moved on, Sergei Doulatov and Michael Milyavsky are inextricably connected to my time in the lab. Their most memorable qualities are political incorrectness and thoughtfulness, respectively, and they share exemplary scientific insight.

I will strive to be as organized and focused as Elisa Laurenti; I am very happy to see where you have gotten and you will achieve great things in the future. I am also happy to consider Nathan, Stephanie and Jenny as friends: my work would not have been possible without your genuine helpfulness. I have greatly valued input from Jean, Karin, Stephanie X, Erno, Faiyaz, Liran, Sasan and Liqing during many spontaneous discussions at different levels of intensity – at labmeetings, while “sacking” or in the office.

As well, I would like to thank Daft Punk without whom I could not have pipetted all those 384-well plates, Pantera and AC/DC to alleviate stress, and Weezer who always bring me to a good mood.

A steadfast pillar of support is my family, Els & Wim, Emi & Hylco and Anne & Sander, who are sometimes even more enthusiastic about my work than me. Slavko & Mara, Andrijana & Stephan and Jela & Adam are always there to spend some quality time away from the lab, for which I am grateful.

The most significant consequence of the ripple effect is my encounter with Antonia. Thank you for keeping me focused, preventing me from doing illogical experiments, and for being the main source of my happiness every day.