Announcements[1]

Employment Opportunities

Postdoctoral Position Available.—A postdoctoral position is available, at the Department of Neurogenetics, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, for qualified candidates to study the epigenetics of complex diseases, such as inflammatory bowel disease, schizophrenia, and diabetes (see Trends Genet 17:142–146; Schizophr Bull 25:639–655; Neuropsychopharmacology 23:1–12; Gut 47:302–306). Highly motivated individuals with a record of productivity and the ability to work well with others are encouraged to apply. A strong background in molecular biology is required. Experience in epigenetic research is desirable but not mandatory. Applicants should submit a summary of their research experience, a curriculum vitae, and the names of three references to Dr. Art Petronis, Neurogenetics Section, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, University of Toronto, 250 College Street, Toronto, ON M5T 1R8, Canada; e-mail: arturas_petronis@camh.net

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Postdoctoral Research Associate/Associate Research Scientist, Human Genetics and Genomics.—Our laboratory utilizes sequencing and other molecular approaches in tackling assorted collaborative projects in such areas as cancer genetics, microbial virulence, and cardiac disease. The successful candidate will spearhead a large-scale project either to identify gene variants associated with human disease or to lead the sequencing of a prokaryotic or model organism. We are looking in particular for someone with strong managerial skills to supervise a large team of investigators and to ensure a smooth high-throughput sequencing operation. At least 2 years of postdoctoral experience and basic computer skills are required. Candidates must have experience in molecular biology and, ideally, in genomics, including sequencing. Please send a curriculum vitae and three letters of recommendation to Dr. James Russo, Columbia Genome Center, Columbia University, RPB 406AA, 1150 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York, NY 10032; e-mail: jjr4@columbia.edu

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Director of Molecular Genetics.—The Genetics Center in southern California (Disneyland area) has an immediate opening for a director of its molecular genetics laboratory. Candidates should have a Ph.D. and/or an M.D. degree, should have or be eligible for the California Genetics Laboratory Director license, and should have significant DNA-based testing experience. The Genetics Center is a comprehensive center with molecular genetics and cytogenetics laboratories, plus genetics counseling and extensive genetics clinics. The Genetics Center is celebrating its 15th anniversary and has recently moved into a new building with facilities custom built for us. We are a CME provider with an active continuing-education program. For more information, visit our Web site (http://www.geneticscenter.com). We offer full benefits, a very pleasant environment, and competitive salaries. Please call and/or send your resume to Robert Meyer, Vice President, Genetics Center, 211 South Main Street, Suite E, Orange, CA 92868; phone: (714) 288-8520; fax: (714) 288-8525, e-mail: nzadeh@aol.com

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Meetings

Genetics and the Senses.—The Third Annual Genetics & Human Disease Symposium, focusing on "Genetics

1. Announcements are published free of charge for members of The American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG). Please mail announcements to The American Journal of Human Genetics, Emory University School of Medicine, 1462 Clifton Road, Room B28, Atlanta, GA 30322-3050; fax them to (404) 712-9984; or send via E-mail to ajhg@emory.edu. Submission must be received *at least 7 weeks* before the month of issue in which publication is requested. They must be double spaced with a 1½-inch margin on all sides. The maximum length is *250 words*, excluding the address for correspondence. Please include a cover letter indicating the name of the sponsoring ASHG member.

and the Senses," will be held Thursday, September 27, 2001, at the Administration Building and Auditorium at Woodruff Health Sciences Center at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. Guest speakers and topics will include: Mark Bear, Ph.D., "Mechanisms of Visual Cortical Plasticity"; J. Anthony Movshon, Ph.D., "Innate and Environmental Influences on Visual Development"; Karen Steel, Ph.D., "Murphy's Law and the Genetics of Deafness"; Joseph S. Takahashi, Ph.D., "Molecular Neurobiology and Genetics of Circadian Clocks in Mammals"; Huda Zoghbi, M.D., "Math I: Can a Sixth Sense Lead to a Gut Feeling?"; Robert F. Margolskee, M.D., Ph.D., "Making Sense of Taste: On the Trail of a Sweet Receptor"; and Randall Reed, Ph.D., "Genetic Re-engineering of Olfaction." With the exception of Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit, registration for this symposium is free. However, all participants must register by August 31, 2001. Payment of $25 for CME credit may be made at the door. For more information and online registration, see the symposium's Web site (http://www.bimcore.emory.edu/ghd01).

International DNA Sampling Conference.—The 3d International DNA Sampling Conference will be held in Montreal, Canada, September 5–8, 2002. The conference will be hosted by the Center for Research in Law of the University of Montreal, the Health Law Institute of the University of Alberta, and the Network for Applied Genetic Research of Quebec. This conference will bring together leaders, researchers, and policy-makers to examine the following themes: "Population Genetics and Community Genetics," "Research: DNA Sampling and Banking," "Public and Private Databases," "Discrimination," "Benefit Sharing," and "Patents." For additional information please visit the conference Web site (http://www.humgen.umontreal.ca/conference/en/) or reach us by telephone at (514) 343-2142.

Election Results

Standing Committee on Human Cytogenetic Nomenclature, 2001–2006.—Elections for the Standing Committee on Human Cytogenetic Nomenclature were held at the 10th International Congress of Human Genetics, in Vienna, Austria, on June 16, 2001. The following members were elected for the period 2001–2006: Niels Tommerup, Denmark (Chairman); Lynda Campbell, Australia; Christine Harrison, United Kingdom; David Ledbetter, United States; Albert Schinzel, Switzerland; Lisa Shaffer, United States; and Angela Vianna-Morgante, Brazil. Issues regarding human cytogenetic nomenclature can be addressed to any member of the committee.

Research Materials Available

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) Aging Cell Repository.—The NIA Aging Cell Repository has assembled panels of primate materials for distribution. These panels contain samples from the following nonhuman primates: ring-tailed lemur, black-handed spider monkey, woolly monkey, red-bellied tamarin, pig-tailed macaque, rhesus macaque, orangutan, gorilla, chimpanzee, and bonobo. These samples are available as either fibroblast cultures or DNA. Additional information can be obtained at our Web site (http://locus.umdnj.edu/nia) or by contact with the repository: The NIA Aging Cell Repository, Coriell Cell Repositories, 401 Haddon Avenue, Camden, NJ 08103; telephone: (800) 752-3805 within the United States, (856) 757-4848 from other countries; fax: (856) 757-9737; e-mail: ccr@arginine.umdnj.edu

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Coriell Cell Repositories.—The Coriell Cell Repositories, through the NIGMS Human Genetic Cell Repository and the NIA Aging Cell Repository, have a collection of >600 cell lines and DNA samples, representing 83 diseases with characterized mutations that could be used as standards. These include diseases caused by expansion of trinucleotide repeats, such as dentatorubral-pallidoluysian atrophy (for which 3 samples with known repeats are available), myotonic dystrophy (13 samples), Friedreich ataxia (10 samples), fragile-X syndrome (26 samples), Huntington disease (13 samples), SCA1 (2 samples), and SCA3 (2 samples). The collection also includes 40 different mutations in the *CFTR* gene, 20 unique mutations in the *BRCA1* gene, 6 mutations in the *BRCA2* gene, and 4 mutations in the *APC* gene. Samples from patients with hemochromatosis (19 samples), muscular dystrophy (11 samples), and spinal muscular atrophy (3 samples) have also been molecularly characterized. In addition, specimens carrying the factor V Leiden mutation (4 samples), the MTHFR thermolabile variant (3 samples), and the 20210G→A polymorphism in the prothrombin gene (2 samples) are included in the collection. Standards are also available for apolipoprotein E and Rh D genotyping. Finally, the collections include five cell lines with mutations in multiple genes; two have mutations in three different genes (one has mutations in *MTHFR, F2,* and *F5,* and the other has mutations in *MTHFR, F2,* and *HFE*), and three cell

lines have identified mutations in two genes (*MTHFR* and *DMPK, HFE* and *F5,* and *CFTR* and *HFE*). The samples in these resources, validated by certified expert molecular laboratories, are valuable reagents for laboratories performing molecular genetics testing and may also be useful for quality assurance programs. Detailed information about these samples, including ordering instructions, is available in an electronic catalog (http://locus.umdnj.edu/ccr). For additional information, contact Coriell Cell Repositories, Coriell Institute for Medical Research, 401 Haddon Avenue, Camden, NJ 08103; telephone: (800) 752-3805 in the United States, (609) 757-4848 from other countries; fax: (609) 757-9737; e-mail: ccr@arginine.umdnj.edu