Announcements[1]

Employment Opportunities

Research Associate.—The University of Southern Californias Institute for Genetic Medicine, located in Los Angeles, is seeking a motivated and independent research associate to plan, design, and conduct highly technical and complex research projects and experiments involving analytical genomic principles, including microarray spotting, gene expression profiling, and other nucleic acid molecular technologies. The research associate will report to and consult with the principal investigators involved as needed. Responsibilities include analyzing research data and providing interpretations, contributing to the development of research documentation for publication, creating operating procedures, developing scientific quality controls for the Advanced Technology Genomics Core Facility, and supervising other researchers as needed. Applicants must have a Ph.D. or an M.D. (or an equivalent foreign degree) in an appropriate scientific discipline, plus 1 year of related entry-level research (or research assistant) experience. Candidates must possess the ability to perform job duties. To apply, visit http://www.usc.edu/bus-affairs/ers/jobs/H10102.html. The University of Southern California is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Section Head (Director) of Cytogenetics Laboratory.—The Program of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine of the London Health Sciences Centre, London, Ontario, Canada, is seeking a section head (director) for the cytogenetics laboratory. The section head will have a university appointment in the Department of Pathology, University of Western Ontario, at a level commensurate with his or her academic record. Applicants must hold an M.D. or Ph.D. degree and be certified or eligible for certification in cytogenetics by the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists. Additional qualifications in molecular genetics are desirable. Comparable qualifications from the American Board of Medical Genetics are also acceptable. The successful candidate will be responsible for the daily operations of the cytogenetics laboratory. He or she will also be responsible for providing leadership in the planning and development of a new cytogenetics laboratory that will soon be constructed in a new facility. The laboratory evaluates a richly varied case mix, including prenatal, postnatal, and cancer samples originating from London and southwestern Ontario, a population exceeding 1.5 million. The London hospitals and the University of Western Ontario provide unparalleled opportunities for clinical, basic, and translational research and interaction with a large and diverse academic faculty. Applicants should be committed to excellence in service and teaching and should have appropriate communication skills. Candidates should submit an application (including a curriculum vitae and the names of three references) by May 31, 2004, to Dr. Bertha M. Garcia, Program Leader, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and Chair—Department of Pathology, University of Western Ontario, London Health Sciences Centre, 339 Windermere Road, London, ON, Canada N6A 5A5.

Clinical Research Faculty.—The Department of Human Genetics at Emory University School of Medicine, a dual basic science/clinical department, is seeking a board-certified physician to lead clinical research efforts in fragile X syndrome. Emory has the largest National Institutes of Health–funded research program on fragile X syndrome in the country and now wishes to expand the translational research component of this effort. We seek a board-certified M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. with training in either developmental pediatrics or clinical genetics to join the Division of Medical Genetics and also to par-

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, Department of Human Genetics, Emory University School of Medicine, 615 Michael Street, Room 301, 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 $1\frac{1}{2}$-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.

ticipate in its clinical services. Experience in clinical trials and behavioral/cognitive deficits would be useful but is not required. Appointment will be made at the assistant professor level or higher, depending on qualifications. Applicants must possess or be eligible for medical licensure in the state of Georgia. For more information, visit the departments Web site (http://www.genetics.emory.edu). Send (via e-mail) a curriculum vitae and the names of three references to Dr. Stephen T. Warren (apetro@genetics.emory.edu). Emory University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Staff Clinician in Genetics and Pharmacogenetics.—The Molecular Neurobiology Branch (MNB) of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA-IRP) seeks a staff clinician for genetic and pharmacogenomic studies concerning human addiction. The clinician will develop and implement protocols for genetic and pharmacogenomic clinical research protocols, assess data, and aid publication. He or she will work with the MNB chief to maintain a state-of-the-art program to identify roles of human genetic variations in individual differences in drug responses and vulnerability to addiction and related phenotypes. The clinician will ensure safe and ethical delivery of clinical interventions, as well as care and support of human research subjects. Requirements include a M.D. or D.O. degree from an approved institution and possession of (or eligibility for) a Maryland medical license. Desired qualifications include board certification/eligibility, a Ph.D. degree and/or clinical research experience, and U.S. citizenship or permanent residency. The salary range for this position is $75,000 to $174,500, with full federal benefits, commensurate with clinical and research experience and accomplishments. Please send a curriculum vitae with a bibliography, a statement of clinical research interests and goals, a copy of your doctoral degree (with a certified English translation if not in English and equivalency certification by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates or another recognized source), and five letters of recommendation from noncollaborators to Morgan DuBrow, Human Resources Specialist, Box 31057, Myrtle Beach, SC 29588; telephone: (843) 903-4158; fax: (843) 903-4158; e-mail: MDUBROW@intra.nida.nih.gov. The deadline for application is May 31, 2004. With nationwide responsibility for improving the health and well-being of all Americans, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) oversees the biomedical research programs of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and those of NIH research institutes. DHHS and NIH are equal opportunity employers.

Faculty Positions in Human Genetics.—The Department of Human Genetics at Emory University School of Medicine is currently seeking physician scientists for tenure-track appointments at the assistant or associate professor level. Applicants must be certified (or eligible for certification) by the American Board of Medical Genetics (ABMG) and must possess an M.D. or an M.D./Ph.D. Successful candidates will join a rapidly expanding research program in human genetics and genomics under the leadership of Steve Warren, Ph.D., as well as a fully reorganized and vibrant clinical division under the leadership of David Ledbetter, Ph.D., Division Director, and Paul Fernhoff, M.D., Medical Director. The Division of Medical Genetics within the Department of Human Genetics is fully accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) for genetic residencies and by the ABMG for training in all subspecialties. The successful applicant would have at least 75% of his/her time devoted to research and teaching, with the remainder of time devoted to patient care. Any area of contemporary human genetics research is acceptable, with primary consideration being given to evidence of future research success and innovation. Generous start-up packages and competitive salaries are available. Candidates should send (preferably by e-mail) a curriculum vitae, as well as descriptions of research and clinical experience and future research plans, to Faculty Search Committee, Department of Human Genetics, Emory University School of Medicine, 615 Michael Street, Suite 301, Atlanta, GA 30322; e-mail: facsearch@genetics.emory.edu. Letters of reference will be requested at a later date. Emory University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Postdoctoral Positions in Human Genetics.—Five laboratories in the Department of Human Genetics at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA, are currently seeking postdoctoral candidates. Successful candidates will join laboratories in a vibrant and rapidly expanding department that includes both basic science and clinical activities in human genetics and genomics. Current faculty seeking postdoctoral candidates are (1) Andrew Escayg (aescayg@genetics.emory.edu), whose research utilizes human and mouse genetics to identify novel genes and pathways that underlie a variety of inherited human neurological disorders, including epilepsy, ataxia, and migraine; (2) Judy Fridovich-Keil (jfridov@emory.edu), whose laboratory has two positions currently open, one involving studies of the metabolic disorders transferase-deficiency and epimerase-deficiency galactosemia, using yeast and mammalian cell systems, and the other involving studies of the yeast multiple KH-domain RNA-binding protein Scp160p; (3) David Ledbetter (dledbetter@genetics.emory.edu), whose focus is on molecular cytogenetics, including

mechanisms and consequences of human chromosome abnormalities, telomeres, centromeres, and genomewide assessment of gene-dosage imbalance by arrayCGH; (4) Xiao-Jiang Li (xiaoli@genetics.emory.edu), who investigates the molecular mechanisms of Huntington and polyglutamine neurodegenerative diseases; and (5) Steve Warren (swarren@genetics.emory.edu), whose research includes clinical, biochemical, and genetic studies of fragile X and fragile X tremor/ataxia syndromes, as well as microRNAs in human disease. Candidates should e-mail a curriculum vitae, including the names and contact information of at least three references, directly to the principal investigator of the laboratory in which they are interested. Emory University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

CONFERENCE

Medical Genetics and Birth Defects International Conference in Beijing, China.—The International Conference on Medical Genetics 2004 (ICMG 2004) Advances in Birth Defects: Diagnosis, Prevention, and Intervention will be held July 15–17, 2004, in Beijing, China. Top experts in this rapidly emerging field will give presentations. Abstracts are being accepted for oral presentations and posters. The conference is co-organized by the North American Association of Chinese Medical Geneticists; the Chinese Society of Medical Genetics; the College of Basic Medical Sciences, Peking University; and the College of Life Sciences, Fudan University. For more information, please visit the conference Web site (http://www.bjmu.edu.cn/conference/index.htm); telephone: 011-86-10-82802441; e-mail: mli2@tulane.edu or tjchen@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

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Fourth International Meeting on the Genetic Epidemiology of Complex Traits.— The Fourth International Meeting on the Genetic Epidemiology of Complex Traits will be held April 4–7, 2004, in Cambridge, United Kingdom. Speakers will include Gonçalo Abecasis, Laura Almasy, John Blangero, David Clayton, David Goldstein, Jaakko Kaprio, Newton Morton, Leena Peltonen, David Reich, Joe Terwilliger, and Rudi Westendorp. Program, registration, and poster-submission details are available online (http://www.twin-research.ac.uk/). Questions related to registration and accommodations should be sent to Christel Barnetson (christel.barnetson@kcl.ac.uk). For abstract submissions, please contact Lizzy Oelsner (Lizzy.Oelsner@gstt.nhs.uk).

Ninth International Workshop on Multiple Endocrine Neoplasias (MEN2004).—The Ninth International Workshop on Multiple Endocrine Neoplasias (MEN2004) is being held as a satellite meeting to the annual Endocrine Society meeting from June 20 to June 23, 2004, in Bethesda, MD. Registration details, a call for abstracts, and program information are available on the MEN2004 Web site (http://www.MEN2004.org). This meeting, which is organized with support from five National Institutes of Health (NIH) institutes (NICHD, NIDDK, NHGRI, NCI, and NINDS) and the NIH Office of Rare Diseases (ORD), focuses on multiple endocrine neoplasia type 1 (MEN1), multiple endocrine neoplasia type 2 (MEN2), and other hereditary endocrine tumors (Carney complex, von Hippel-Lindau, Cowden disease, paraganglioma, familial acromegaly, familial hyperinsulinism, etc.). The organizers are Constantine Stratakis and Stephen Marx, with an international advisory committee of Raj Thakker, Maria Luisa Brandi, Bob Gagel, Charis Eng, and others. Detailed contact information for the organizers is as follows: Stephen Marx, M.D., Building 10, Room 9C-101, NIH, Bethesda, MD 20892; telephone: (301) 496-5051; fax: (301) 496-0200; e-mail: StephenM@intra.niddk.nih.gov; and Constantine Stratakis, M.D., Ph.D., Building 10, Room 10N-262, NIH, Bethesda, MD 20892-1862; telephone: (301) 402-1998; fax: (301) 402-0574; e-mail: stratakc@mail.nih.gov. Registration information, travel tips, and other information are available upon request from Heather Zeitlin; telephone: (301) 592-2115; e-mail: HZeitlin@AIR.org

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Twelfth International Clinical Genetics Seminar.—The Twelfth International Clinical Genetics Seminar will take place in Athens, May 21–25, 2004. The main theme of the seminar will be prenatal diagnosis. The purpose of the seminars, which were initiated in 1976, is to bring together scientists from different specialties with the intention of studying in depth one or two areas of clinical genetics. A dozen 30-min lectures are accompanied by oral presentations on the topic. Ample time for discussions is anticipated. The topics to be discussed in the seminar include preimplantation diagnosis, prenatal diagnosis of various genetic conditions (cytogenetic abnormalities and metabolic, blood, and cardiovascular disorders), and recognizable syndromes, as well as fetal metabolic imprinting, ethics of prenatal diagnosis, and psychological impact of prenatal diagnosis. Faculty will include Joyce Harper, Joy Delhanty, Const. Deltas, Emmanuel Kanavakis, Howard Cuckl, Stylianos Antonarakis, Philoppos Patsalis, John Wolstenholme, Lewis Holmes, Robert Desnick, Dimitris Loukopoulos, and others. We are pleased to invite you to attend and actively participate in the seminar. For more information, please contact C. S. Bartsocas, M.D, P.O. Box 17177, GR-10024 Athens, Greece; telephone: +30-6944-344717; fax: +30-210-3627777; e-mail: cbartsok@cc

.uoa.gr; or ERA Limited, 8 Alexandrou Soutsou Street, 10671 Athens, Greece; telephone: +30-210-3634944, +30-210-3632950; fax: +30-210-3631690; e-mail: info@era.gr

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Molecular Biology of Hearing and Deafness Conference.—A fifth meeting on the applications of molecular biology to the investigation of the auditory system will be held from September 30 to October 3, 2004, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Bethesda, MD. For more information, please visit the conference Web site (http://cme.ucsd.edu/heardeaf/) or contact the University of California, San Diego, Office of Continuing Medical Education, La Jolla, CA 92093-0617; telephone: (888) 229-6263 or (858) 534-3940; fax: (858) 534-7672; e-mail: ocme@ucsd.edu

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Awards

Young Investigator and Pilot Research Awards.—The Cure Autism Now (CAN) foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to funding biomedical research toward the discovery of effective treatments and a cure for autism and related disorders. We solicit proposals that advance the state of knowledge in critical areas of autism, from basic research to clinical applications. Our goal is to support outstanding projects that involve innovative approaches and the application of cutting-edge technologies. Applications are encouraged both from scientists already focusing on autism and from those new to the field of autism. All proposals must have direct and immediate relevance to autism and related disorders. Scientific disciplines include, but are not limited to, animal models, biochemistry, cellular physiology, clinical research, developmental neurobiology, environmental factors, epidemiology, gastroenterology, genetics, immunology, microbiology, molecular biology, neural plasticity, neuroanatomy, neuroimaging, pathology, systems neuroscience, toxicology, and virology. Through the Young Investigator Awards, CAN encourages promising young scientists to enter the field of autism research. Applicants must be no more than 4 years out of an M.D. or Ph.D. program and must work under the supervision of an established investigator. The mentor need not be directly involved in autism research but must provide a research environment in which the young investigator can perform research with direct relevance to autism. Funding is available at a maximum of $80,000 for 2-year awards ($40,000/year) in postdoctoral fellowship support ($1,000/year may be used for conferences). Indirect costs are not supported by Young Investigator Awards. Through the Pilot Research Awards, CAN seeks to support established investigators from within, as well as outside of, the field of autism. Research proposals that target promising hypotheses and that use innovative approaches and technologies are a priority. In addition, we encourage studies focused on generating preliminary data or replication of previous findings, leading to larger studies and federal funding. These awards are available to investigators at any stage in their career. Funding is available at a maximum of $120,000 for 2-year awards ($60,000/year). Indirect costs are limited to 10%. Principal investigators must have an academic and/or nonprofit institutional appointment. Only one application is allowed per investigator or laboratory. Funding for year 2 is contingent on a midcycle report indicating satisfactory progress and availability of funds. Letters of intent are due by March 1, 2004. CAN will invite/decline full application submissions by April 16, 2004. Invited full applications are due June 15, 2004. Awards are announced in November 2004 and funded in February 2005. Guidelines and application cover sheets are available on the CAN Web site (http://www.cureautismnow.org), by e-mailing research@cureautismnow.org, or by calling the CAN foundation at 1-888-8AUTISM. Electronic submission is required unless otherwise arranged. Please see our Web site for additional funding opportunities, such as Treatment-Related Awards, Innovative Technology for Autism Awards, and Autism Biomaterials Awards from the Autism Genetic Resource Exchange (http://www.agre.org).

Call for Abstracts

National Society of Genetic Counselors 23rd Annual Education Conference Call for Abstracts.—Abstracts that are of interest to the genetic counseling profession and related fields are being accepted for consideration as platform or poster presentations for the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC) Annual Education Conference to be held in October 2004. Abstracts will be accepted beginning April 5, 2004, and ending June 4, 2004. Students and nonmembers, as well as full members of NSGC, are encouraged to submit abstracts. Monetary awards will be given for best full-member and student-member abstracts. Guidelines and instructions for submission of abstracts can be found on the NSGC Web site (http://www.nsgc.org), using a link to the abstract submission form. Questions may be addressed to the 2004 NSGC Abstract Committee co-chairs: Janice Berliner, M.S. (telephone: [908] 522-5925; e-mail: berlinjl@umdnj.edu), or Nathalie McIntosh, M.Sc. (telephone: [781] 736-3108; e-mail: mcintosh@brandeis.edu).

Cell Lines and Panels Available

National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Human Genetic Cell Repository.—The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Human Genetic Cell Repository was established at Coriell Institute for Medical Research in 1972 and contains >8,700 cell lines, including almost 500 OMIM classifications. The cell lines and DNA derived from them can be distributed to all qualified investigators. The resources are divided into cell lines derived from individuals with inherited diseases, apparently healthy controls, and individuals with diverse ethnic backgrounds. Samples are available of >25 ethnic origins. Panels of DNA samples from many of these populations are available.In the last year, the NIGMS Human Genetic Cell Repository has introduced three new panels to the Human Variation Collection: (1) The Han People of Los Angeles Panel of 100 is a selection of 50 male and 50 female samples. Each sample is from an individual of Han ethnicity who is unrelated to all others in the panel and all four of whose grandparents were born in Taiwan, China, or Hong Kong. (2) The Mexican-American Community of Los Angeles Panel of 100 is a selection of 50 male and 50 female samples. Each sample is from an individual who is unrelated to all others in the panel and either three or four of whose grandparents were born in Mexico. (3) The Caucasian Panel of 200 consists of 200 self-declared Caucasians who are unrelated and are apparently healthy. There are 99 females and 101 males in this panel. This panel is an expansion of the Caucasian Panel of 100 and can be ordered separately from the original Caucasian Panel of 100. In addition, the Caucasian panel used for the HapMap project is available as a 96-well plate. This panel consists of 30 trios selected from the CEPH families. Information about ordering cell lines and panels can be obtained from the catalog on the NIGMS Human Genetic Cell Repository Web site (http://locus.umdnj.edu/nigms/). Further information can be obtained from Donald Coppock, Ph.D., Coriell Institute for Medical Research, Coriell Cell Repositories, 403 Haddon Avenue, Camden, NJ 08103; telephone: (800) 752-3805; e-mail: dcoppock@cimr.umdnj.edu

Lecture

C.C. Li Lecture Series, Inaugural Lecture.—Dr. Ching Chun (C.C.) Li, outstanding population geneticist, teacher, defender of the autonomy of science, and member of the Faculty of the University of Pittsburghs Graduate School of Public Health for 52 years, passed away on October 20, 2003. C.C.s life and work had a profound influence on many members of the human genetics community. To honor the memory of C.C. Li, the Graduate School of Public Health and the Department of Human Genetics have established the C.C. Li Lecture Series. The inaugural lecture will be given by Dr. Aravinda Chakravarti, Henry J. Knott Professor and Director of the Institute of Genetic Medicine at Johns Hopkins University and a longtime student and colleague of Dr. Li. The lecture, entitled Genes for Common Diseases: Association Studies, will be presented on Friday, April 16, 2004, at 3 P.M. in Auditorium G23, Graduate School of Public Health, 130 DeSoto Street, Pittsburgh, PA. A reception will follow. Please join friends, family, and colleagues of C.C. in celebrating his work. For more information, contact Jeanette Norbut by telephone at (412) 624-9951 or by e-mail at jeanette.norbut@hgen.pitt.edu