

Announcements¹

MEETING

Nail Patella Syndrome Conference, 2003.—The Sixth International Nail Patella Syndrome (NPS) Conference will be held in St. Louis, MO, on June 27–28, 2003. The conference will be hosted by Nail Patella Syndrome Worldwide, a nonprofit group established to increase awareness of NPS and to provide relevant clinical and scientific information for physicians and families. Parents, family members, and interested professionals are all welcome. Scientific presentations will cover the clinical and molecular genetics, radiology, orthopedics, ophthalmology, nephrology, and neurology of NPS. The conference will provide a valuable opportunity for family members and parents to interact with each other and with medical professionals. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Select in St. Peters/St. Charles, MO. Further details are available at the Web site of Nail Patella Syndrome Worldwide (<http://www.nailpatella.org>).

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Assistant Director of Clinical Cytogenetics.—The Department of Pediatrics at Washington University School of Medicine is recruiting a board-eligible or board-certified clinical cytogeneticist to join the faculty of the Division of Medical Genetics. The responsibilities mostly include the oversight of the daily diagnostic operations of the laboratory and participation in the teaching of medical students, residents, or fellows. The laboratory

performs all the standard cytogenetic and FISH tests in amniotic fluids, chorionic villus sampling, products of conception, peripheral bloods, and bone marrows. The staff of the Division of Medical Genetics consists of three medical geneticists, four Ph.D. geneticists, and three genetics counselors. Comprehensive molecular diagnostic and biochemical laboratories are on site. The faculty appointment and compensation through Washington University will be commensurate with the qualifications and experience. Washington University in St. Louis offers an excellent benefits package and is an equal opportunity employer. Interested applicants must send a letter with a curriculum vitae (including three references) to the laboratory director, Dr. Jaime Garcia-Heras, Division of Medical Genetics, Department of Pediatrics, Campus Box 8116, 4942 Parkview Place, St. Louis, MO 63110; e-mail: garcia-heras_j@kids.wustl.edu. AA/EOE M/F/D/V.

Genetic Counselor.—A genetic counselor position in the clinical genetics division of pediatrics at Arkansas Childrens Hospital/University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is immediately available. Candidates should be board eligible/board certified. This is primarily a clinical position, although teaching opportunities (medical students, nurses, and residents) are constantly available (and encouraged) for the interested individual. Some adults are seen. Prenatal genetics is not part of our clinic. The counselor is responsible for preparing pedigrees and reviewing patient information prior to the clinic, interviewing the patient/family at the time of the clinic, working with the clinical geneticist, and providing follow-up counseling/letters once a diagnosis has been made. Currently, the division includes a clinical geneticist, a clinical biochemical geneticist, a counselor, and a genetic nurse specialist. Additional recruitment is in process. Although the clinics are located at Childrens Hospital, the counselor is part of the University staff, with full benefits and a competitive stipend. For further information, please contact Mary Curtis, M.D., Clinical Genetics Division, Arkansas Childrens Hospital, 800 Marshall Street, 512-

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 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.

22, Little Rock, AR 72202; telephone: (501) 364-2966; fax: (501) 364-1564; e-mail: curtismarya@uams.edu

Molecular Cytogeneticist—The Division of Human Genetics in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of California, Irvine, has a junior faculty position available, at the assistant adjunct professor level, for an individual with interest and experience in the application of molecular cytogenetics and genomic microarray techniques to investigation of the etiology of complex genetic disorders. Currently, the emphasis is on the use of these techniques and the analysis of polymorphic DNA markers to search for chromosomal deletions, duplications, and rearrangements in individuals with autism. The successful candidate should possess a Ph.D. in a related discipline or an M.D. The University of California, Irvine, is the only full-service academic hospital in an extended geographic region and serves an enormous patient base. It is located in thriving Southern California, which offers diverse cultural and recreational opportunities. Interested candidates should send a cover letter, a curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation to M. Anne Spence, Ph.D., Professor and Vice Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, UCI Medical Center, 101 The City Drive, Orange, CA 92868. The University of California, Irvine, is an equal opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity.

Molecular Cytogeneticist.—The Division of Human Genetics in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of California, Irvine, has a postgraduate researcher position available for an individual with interest and experience in the application of molecular cytogenetics and genomic microarray techniques to investigation of the etiology of complex genetic disorders. Currently, the emphasis is on the use of these techniques and the analysis of polymorphic DNA markers to search for chromosomal deletions, duplications, and rearrangements in individuals with autism. The successful candidate should possess a Ph.D. in a related discipline or an M.D. The University of California, Irvine, is the only full-service academic hospital in an extended geographic region and serves an enormous patient base. It is located in thriving Southern California, which offers diverse cultural and recreational opportunities. Interested candidates should send a cover letter, a curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation to M. Anne Spence, Ph.D., Professor and Vice Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, UCI Medical Center, 101 The City Drive, Orange, CA 92868. The University of California, Irvine, is an equal opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity.

Postdoctoral Position.—A National Institutes of Health-funded postdoctoral fellowship is available immediately to investigate the role of the transcription factor LMX1B in mammalian development. Mutations in LMX1B cause nail patella syndrome, which is characterized by nail and patellar hypoplasia and nephropathy. Recent findings suggest additional defects in eye and nervous system development. Current work is focused on (1) how variation in and around the LMX1B gene may relate to phenotypic severity, (2) detailed analysis of the LMX1B promoter and the control of gene expression, (3) identification of molecules that interact with LMX1B, and (4) pathophysiology of the syndrome in light of recent molecular findings. The successful applicant will have a Ph.D. (or equivalent) in genetics, developmental biology, neuroscience, molecular biology, or a related field. Experience in one of the following areas would be beneficial but not essential: transgenic mice, in situ hybridization, manipulation of large-insert clones, yeast two-hybrid analyses, or DNA footprinting. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Funding for this position is in place through June, 2005. Please send a resume, a statement of research interests, and the names of three references to Iain McIntosh, Ph.D., McKusick-Nathans Institute of Genetic Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, 600 North Wolfe Street, Blalock 1012, Baltimore, MD 21287-4922; fax: (410) 614-2522; e-mail: imcintos@jhmi.edu

Assistant Professor in Behavioral Genetics.—The Institute for Behavioral Genetics at the University of Colorado at Boulder invites applications for a tenure-track appointment at the assistant professor level, with a joint appointment in an appropriate academic department. Applications at all levels may also be considered from those who would strengthen the Institutes diversity. Candidates who employ state-of-the-art molecular genetic methods to study complex behaviors in humans or in animal models will be given special consideration. The appointee will participate in the research and teaching missions of both the Institute and his or her academic department. Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, a statement of research and teaching interests, sample research papers, and at least three letters of recommendation to the Behavior Genetics Search Committee, Institute for Behavioral Genetics, University of Colorado, 447 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309-0447. Inquiries should be addressed to John K. Hewitt, Chair, Behavior Genetics Search Committee; telephone: (303) 492-0742; e-mail: John.Hewitt@Colorado.edu. Application review will begin immediately, and the position may remain open until filled. The appointment will begin in August, 2003, or as soon as possible thereafter. Candidates who have previously applied for a position with

the Institute should submit a new application to be considered for the current position. The University of Colorado at Boulder is committed to diversity and equality in education and employment.

Research Positions in Lysosomal Diseases.—Postdoctoral positions are available to develop and evaluate gene-, protein-, and small molecule-based therapies in animal models of lysosomal storage diseases. Strategies to target the CNS, cartilage and bone, and the monocyte/macrophage system are currently under investigation. Studies are also underway to determine the role of inflammation and cell signaling in lysosomal disease pathogenesis. Applications are invited from individuals holding Ph.D. and/or M.D. degrees, with prior research experience in molecular genetics, cell biology, biochemistry, and/or gene therapy. Special consideration will be given to individuals with a neurobiology background. Please send a curriculum vitae and the names of three references to Dr. Edward H. Schuchman, Department of Human Genetics, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, 1425 Madison Avenue, Room 14-20A, New York, NY 10029; fax: (212) 849-2447; e-mail: Edward.Schuchman@mssm.edu

Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics.—The Carver College of Medicine at the University of Iowa invites applications for a nontenure faculty position as an assistant professor of clinical pediatrics in the Department of Pediatrics/Division of Medical Genetics. The successful applicant will serve as an attending physician, providing clinical genetics services to the citizens of the state of Iowa at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and the Iowa Regional Genetic Consultation Service. This position provides clinical exposure to a variety of genetic disorders and an atmosphere of collaboration with a variety of medical disciplines, including ophthalmology, otolaryngology, and internal medicine. The successful candidate will join a team of six board-certified clinical, cytogenetic, and molecular geneticists, a renowned cytogenetics laboratory, a growing clinical-molecular laboratory, and a professional staff consisting of nine genetic nurses/genetic counselors, a pediatric nurse practitioner, dietitian, and administrative/support staff. In addition to general clinical-genetics clinics, there is a prenatal genetics program, a familial cancer consultation clinic, a connective-tissue-disorder clinic, a metabolic genetics clinic, a neuromuscular clinic, a craniofacial/cleft clinic, and a telemedicine project. Applicants should have an M.D. degree and board eligibility or certification in clinical genetics is required. Experience in the diagnosis and management of patients with metabolic disorders and board eligibility or certification in

clinical biochemical genetics is desirable but not necessary. Applicants with a strong desire to educate medical professionals are sought. Submit a curriculum vitae and a description of any clinical research interests to Frank H. Morriss, M.D., Professor and Head, Department of Pediatrics, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, 200 Hawkins Drive, Iowa City, IA 52242. The University of Iowa is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer, and candidates who are women or members of minority groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

Postdoctoral Fellow/Medical Genetics.—The Hayward Genetics Center at Tulane University Health Sciences Center has an opening for a postdoctoral fellow in Medical Genetics. The Human Genetics Program has an active clinical genetics service with training provided at Tulane University Hospital and Clinic, the Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans, and outreach clinics at several southeastern Louisiana health units. Laboratory rotations will include both clinical laboratory and research laboratory experiences in biochemical genetics, cytogenetics, and molecular genetics. Additional research experiences with Center faculty and associates throughout the medical school will also be available. Requirements include completion of at least 2 years of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)-accredited residency, as well as the ability to obtain medical licensure in the state of Louisiana. Interested persons should send a curriculum vitae and the names of three references to Hans Andersson, M.D., Hayward Genetics Center SL#31, 1430 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70112; e-mail: handers@tulane.edu. Tulane University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, and applications from qualified women and minority group members are especially encouraged.

POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING

Postdoctoral Training Program in Statistical Genetics.—The Training Program in Statistical Genetics (<http://watson.hgen.pitt.edu/T32/>) at the University of Pittsburgh provides postdoctoral training at the interface of human genetics, statistics, and psychiatry, under support from the National Institute of Mental Health. We seek postdoctoral trainees who desire advanced training in statistical genetics and/or its application to complex phenotypes, such as those in psychiatry. We will consider applicants who have excellent backgrounds in either biology or statistics. The goal of our program is to train multidisciplinary statistical geneticists who can advance

the methods for discovering genes affecting complex traits. Training support will usually be for 2 years. U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible to apply. Applications should include a statement of research interests, experience, and training goals; three letters of recommendation from graduate faculty; and a synopsis of previous academic training, such as transcripts. We currently have several positions open. Applications should be addressed to Daniel E. Weeks, Ph.D., Department of Human Genetics, University of Pittsburgh, A302A Crabtree Hall, 130 DeSoto Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261; telephone: (412) 624-5388; fax: (412) 624-3020; e-mail: dweeks@watson.hgen.pitt.edu

CONFERENCE

Tenth Biennial Congress of the Southern African Society of Human Genetics.—The 10th Biennial Congress of the Southern African Society of Human Genetics will take place at the Riverside Hotel, Durban, South Africa on May 11–14, 2003. International guest speakers include Prof. Mirielle Claustres (Laboratoire de Genetique Moleculaire, France), Prof. Michael Cohen (Dalhousie University, Canada), Prof. Dian Donnai (University of Manchester, United Kingdom), Prof. Bill Hauswirth (University of Florida, U.S.A.), Prof. Carmen Padilla (National Institute for Health, Philippines), Prof. Brad Therrell (National Newborn Screening and Genetics Re-

source Center, USA). If you are interested in attending the conference and would like some additional information, please contact the Conference Secretariat: telephone: +27-31-2601607/1182; fax: +27-31-2601606; e-mail: Genetics2003@nu.ac.za. For more information, see the conference Web site (<http://www.interaction.nu.ac.za/Genetics2003/>).

TRAINING PROGRAMS

Medical Genetics and Pediatrics/Genetics.—The UCLA intercampus postdoctoral research and clinical training programs in medical genetics utilize the resources of its affiliated campuses and teaching hospitals. The program is open to academically oriented applicants with M.D., Ph.D., D.D.S., or equivalent degrees. A wide variety of research training opportunities in molecular, biochemical, immuno-, cancer, cyto-, somatic cell, and population genetics are available. Five-year combined pediatrics/genetics and 2-year clinical genetics residencies are also available at each of the affiliated hospitals. These programs meet all the requirements of the American Board of Medical Genetics and Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (RRC). Application forms are available from David Rimoin, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Pediatrics, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, 8700 Beverly Boulevard, Room NT4221, Los Angeles, CA 90048, or at our Web site (<http://www.uclamedgeneticspostdoc.com>).