

Announcements¹

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Instructor in Neurogenetics.—The Division of Neurogenetics in the Department of Neuroscience at the Mayo Clinic Jacksonville uses pedigree-based linkage, population genetics, and bioinformatic methods to identify and implicate genetic mutations in human neurological disease. Subsequent functional analysis includes molecular, cell, and transgenic approaches. Projects are dedicated to understanding the molecular basis of parkinsonism and related neurological disorders. At present, we seek a highly motivated individual to carry out postdoctoral research. The successful candidate must be creative and must have the ability to find and apply innovative methods to biological questions. Individuals with a Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. are eligible to apply. They must have experience in three or more of the following areas: molecular genetics, statistics, epidemiology, genomics, computational biology/bioinformatics, and neuroscience. They must have excellent verbal and written communication skills. In the short term, the successful applicant will be encouraged to be part of and direct a small research team; in the longer term, the applicant is expected to seek and obtain independent funds. This is an outstanding training opportunity to make the transition from a senior postdoctoral associate to assistant professor. Mayo Clinic Jacksonville is one of the leading research establishments in neurodegenerative disorders in North America. The Division of Neurogenetics and adjacent Mayo research laboratories are well funded and well equipped. The campus and laboratories are located in sparse pine woodlands, a few minutes from the ocean, white sandy beaches, and the intercoastal waterway of northern Florida. Prospective applicants should send their resume, including the names of three referees, with a 1–2 page letter documenting their past research interests and accomplishments, to Dr. Matthew Farrer, Director, Division of Neurogenetics, c/o Pat Joy (secretary), Department of Neuroscience, Mayo Clinic Jacksonville,

4500 San Pablo Road, Jacksonville, FL 32224; fax: (904) 953-7370; e-mail: farrer.matthew@mayo.edu. For more information, see our Web site (<http://mayoresearch.mayo.edu/mayo/research/mcj/FarrerLab.cfm>).

Clinical Geneticist.—St. Joseph Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix, an affiliate of University of Arizona College of Medicine, invites applications for a faculty position in the Division of Medical Genetics of the Department of Pediatrics. The Division is staffed by three board-certified medical geneticists and three board-certified genetic counselors and operates clinics and clinical services at the major teaching centers in Phoenix. Clinics offered include general genetics, biochemical genetics, neurogenetics, craniofacial, spina bifida, sickle cell, and neurofibromatosis, as well as a consultation service. All levels of experience will be considered, with salary commensurate with experience. Experience in clinical biochemical genetics is desirable but is not a requirement. Phoenix is the nation's sixth largest city and offers a wealth of sports and cultural activities. Arizona offers a warm and sunny climate with year-round recreational opportunities. A start date of July 2006 is anticipated. A letter of interest and a curriculum vitae should be sent to Kirk Aleck, M.D., St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, 222 West Thomas, Suite 304, Phoenix, AZ 85013.

CONFERENCE

International Congress of Global Chinese Geneticists.—The International Congress of Global Chinese Geneticists will be held August 2–4, 2006, in Beijing, China. The Congress is co-organized by Peking University, the Association of Chinese Geneticists in America, the Chinese Society of Medical Genetics, the Taiwan Human

1. Announcements are published free of charge for members of The American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG). Please e-mail announcements to ajhg@ajhg.net. 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.

Genetics Society, the Hong Kong Society of Medical Genetics, the National Genome Institute of Singapore, Fudan University, Zhejiang University, and Wenzhou Medical College. The mission of the congress is to promote global communication and collaboration among Chinese geneticists and geneticists around the world. The Congress program will be focus on pharmacogenomics, developmental genomics, functional genomics, bioinformatics and biostatistics, genetic ethical issues, molecular basis of human diseases, clinical genetics, cancer genetics, and stem cell research, presented in symposia, plenary sessions, platform presentations, and poster presentations. For more information, please contact Dr. Marilyn M. Li (mli2@tulane.edu) or Professor Youxiang Chiu (chiuyouxiang@sohu.com).

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Cure Autism Now's Young Investigator Awards 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 to 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. All proposals must have direct and immediate relevance to autism and related disorders. Areas of interest include but are not limited to biomarkers, clinical research, cognitive/behavioral sciences, developmental biology, diagnosis/assessment, environmental factors, epidemiology, gastroenterology, genetics, immunology, model systems, molecular/biochemical pathways, neural plasticity, neuroanatomy, pathology, and physiology. Young Investigator Awards: CAN seeks 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 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 per year) in postdoctoral fellowship support (\$1,000/year may be used for conferences). Indirect costs are not supported by Young Investigator Awards. Pilot Research Awards: CAN seeks to support established investigators from within as well as outside the field of autism. Research proposals targeting promising hypotheses, using 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 per 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 two is contingent upon a midcycle report indicating satisfactory progress and availability of funds. Letters of intent are due by March 3, 2006. CAN will invite/decline full application submissions by April 14, 2006. Invited full applications are due June 9, 2006. Awards are announced in November 2006 and funded in February 2007. Guidelines and application cover sheet are available at the CAN Web site (<http://www.cureautismnow.org>), by e-mail (research@cureautismnow.org), or by calling CAN at (888) 8AUTISM. Electronic submission is required. Please see our Web site for additional funding opportunities regarding Treatment-Related Awards, Innovative Technology for Autism Awards, and Autism Biomaterials Awards from the Autism Genetic Resource Exchange (<http://www.agre.org/>).

SYMPOSIUM

50 Years of 46 Human Chromosomes: Progress in Cytogenetics.—A symposium celebrating the 50-year anniversary of Tjio and Levan's discovery of the normal number of chromosomes in humans will be held at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, MD, on July 20–21, 2006. Invited speakers will give presentations covering the spectrum of disciplines in cytogenetics, from constitutional to neoplastic disorders, chromatin structure and function, and evolving technologies. Further information, including details of a poster session, and registration are forthcoming and will be posted at the symposium Web site (<http://www.chrworkshop.com>).