

CollegeNews



ACMG Celebrates Its 20th Anniversary at the ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting

At this year's Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting, the ACMG celebrates its 20th Anniversary. Please join us at the ACMG On-Site booth to help celebrate two decades of "Translating Genes Into Health." We will be displaying the commemorative issue of *Genetics in Medicine*, have an exhibit featuring pieces of ACMG history, recognize and give thanks to those who have contributed to our success and be distributing and selling commemorative items.

NBSTRN Introduction and Reception

The NBSTRN will be hosting a reception during the ACMG annual meeting this year in Vancouver, BC. This reception will offer the opportunity for everyone to drop by and learn about the Newborn Screening Translational Research Network and to celebrate all of the progress we have made. The reception will be held Saturday evening, March 19th from 6:00 to 7:30 at the Convention Centre in Room 114-115. There will be an opportunity to review the Virtual Repository of Dried Blood Spots, and ask any questions you may have. We hope you use this as an opportunity to visit with colleagues and enjoy the evening, while walking through our gallery of information.

Great Start for Summer Scholars Program

According to the Royal College of Physicians in the United Kingdom, there should be one full time equivalent (FTE) clinical geneticist per 250,000 citizens. Following the most recent certification cycle in the United States, there is currently only one FTE clinical geneticist per approximately 608,000 Americans—less than half of the minimum needed to serve the country adequately!

To address this critical workforce issue, the ACMG Foundation and ACMG have launched the Summer Genetics Scholars Program to introduce rising 2nd year medical students to the most diverse and exciting field in medicine today – medical genetics.

The purpose of the 2011 ACMG Foundation Summer Genetics Scholars program is to encourage qualified medical students to consider careers in medical genetics by providing hands-on experience in clinical and laboratory settings, research and patient-oriented services.

The ACMG Foundation is immensely grateful to Ucyclid Pharma, Inc. for generously being the lead contributor to this important program. We would also like to thank BioMarin Pharmaceutical, Inc. and Amicus Therapeutics, Inc. for their additional support. The Summer Genetics Scholars Program would not happen without the support of our Corporate Partners.

For more information on the Summer Scholars program or for an application, please visit the ACMG Foundation website, www.acmgef.org.

For information on contributing to this program, please contact the David Cotter, the ACMG Foundation Director of Development, at dcotter@acmgfoundation.org or 301-718-2014 x132.

ACMG Foundation launches Treatment Guidelines Development Fund

The acceleration of scientific discovery over these last few years has put increasing demands on ACMG to intensify its work in the development of practice guidelines, particularly to be able to respond quickly as new therapeutics for genetic diseases emerge.

The ACMG Foundation has established a fund to develop and disseminate best-practice guidelines that respond to and incorporate frequent, new scientific discoveries in the diagnosis, management, and treatment of genetic conditions – a group of medical problems now spanning the lifecycle from genetic disease detected by newborn screening to common problems of adulthood, such as heart disease and diabetes, to gene-based responses to medications. Depending on the disease and the questions being asked, guidelines will cost between \$50,000-\$100,000 each.

For more information on donating to the Guidelines Fund, please contact the ACMG Foundation at acmgf@acmgfoundation.org.

ACMG Foundation creates an Endowment Fund

In March 2010, the ACMG Foundation Board of Directors approved the creation of an endowment fund, which is another tool to help our friends and supporters leave a legacy and lasting impact on the medical genetics community. Among other things, the endowment fund enables donors to fund perpetual, named programs. For example, you can endow a perpetual, named travel award for a donation of \$40,000 or more. An endowed project is funded from the interest earned on the principle donation, which is held in the endowment fund. The ACMG Foundation assumes an average 5% annual return. So for a project with an annual cost of \$50,000, a donor would need to endow it with a contribution of \$1,000,000 or more.

For more information about how the endowment fund can help you leave a lasting legacy and impact on the medical genetics community, please contact David Cotter, the ACMG Foundation Director of Development, at dcotter@acmgfoundation.org or 301-718-2014 x132.

A black and white graphic for the "American College of Medical Genetics Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting". It features a collage of images: a DNA double helix on the left, a city skyline at night in the center, and a modern building facade on the right. The text "American College of Medical Genetics" is at the top right, "Save the Date" is in large letters in the center, "American College of Medical Genetics Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting" is below it, and "March 27 - 31, 2012 Charlotte, North Carolina" is at the bottom right. A banner at the bottom left reads "Medical Genetics: Translating Genes Into Health®".