National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

Division of Intramural Research

Research and Training at the NIDCR

The NIDCR intramural division pursues seminal problems in biomedical research that are difficult to tackle in university or industrial settings. To do so, a team of 35 senior and tenure track investigators, 125 postdoctoral fellows, and 75 staff scientists and technicians conducts basic, translational and clinical research in cell, molecular and developmental biology; microbiology and immunology; and neurobiology. A sampling of advances by NIDCR intramural investigators and their collaborators in the past few years includes:

• Discovered many genes involved in craniofacial development and growth.

• Discovered mechanisms that mediate branching morphogenesis of organs, including salivary glands, and identified roles for FGFs, extracellular matrix, and matrix receptors.

• Identified key proteins and physiological processes involved in regulating salivary gland fluid secretion, such as ion transporters, Ca2+ channels, and water channels.

• Demonstrated that macrophages are an important source of HIV during opportunistic infections, and that a Kaposi’s sarcoma virus-encoded receptor plays a central role in AIDS-associated malignancies.

• Identified a 1Gf- dependent pathway for induction of Foxp3+ regulatory T cells.

• Identified receptors for sweet, sour, bitter and umami tastants, demonstrating that, at the periphery, taste perception is hard-wired into separate subsets of cells.

• Elucidated the signaling pathways by which small GTPases of the Rho family regulate gene expression in the nucleus.

• Identified and characterized post-natal stem cells from bone marrow and dental tissue, which re-form skeletal tissues and participate in repair of other damaged tissues.

NIDCR intramural researchers work in recently renovated, well-equipped laboratories on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland. They are part of a larger scientific community at NIH comprising more than 1200 senior and tenure track investigators, 3800 postdoctoral fellows and 420 graduate students. As members of this community, they contribute to and benefit from an environment rich in intellectual and physical resources.

The intramural division at NIDCR is organized into six thematic research groups:

- Cell and Developmental Biology Laboratory
- Craniofacial and Skeletal Biology Branch
- Gene Therapy and Therapeutics Branch
- Oral Infection and Immunity Branch
- Oral and Pharyngeal Cancer Branch
- Sensory Biology Laboratory

The interests and expertise of scientists in these groups overlap significantly, leading to collaborations that are facilitated by the physical proximity of the laboratories. Collaborative initiatives are currently being developed to address the skeleton and associated structures, craniofacial tissue remodeling and salivary gland biology.

The NIDCR intramural division is committed to training the next generation of researchers and clinicians, and provides training opportunities on campus for recent college graduates, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

Postdocs receive an initial 2-year appointment, with possible extension up to 5 years. A variety of programs provide summer support to undergraduates and dental and medical students. Information about NIDCR intramural training opportunities is available at http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/Funding/Training/TrainingOpps.htm or by contacting the director of education, Dr. Deborah Philp, (dphilp@dir.nidcr.nih.gov).

Additional information about NIDCR intramural research can be found at http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/Research/Intramural.htm.
DIRECTOR, PSI STRUCTURAL GENOMICS KNOWLEDGEBASE
National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)

NIGMS is seeking an individual to serve as the Director of the PSI Structural Genomics Knowledgebase (SG-KB), a key component of the Protein Structure Initiative (PSI). The PSI is a national research program in the emerging field of structural genomics. The long-range goal of the PSI is to make the three-dimensional atomic-level structures of most proteins easily obtainable from knowledge of their corresponding DNA sequences. The PSI SG-KB will serve as a headquarters for scientific data and knowledge generated by the PSI-funded centers, so that they may be widely available to the scientific community. Information about the PSI may be found at: http://www.nigms.nih.gov/Initiatives/PSI.htm.

Requirements: The position will be a part-time temporary assignment for up to two years, with the possibility of an extension for up to two additional years. Individuals at an accredited U.S. public or private college or university, or technical institution of higher learning are eligible to apply. Students and employees from foreign universities are not eligible for consideration. Individuals detailed to the NIGMS remain employees of the outside organization, and may only serve in an advisory or consultative capacity.

Candidates must have a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in a field relevant to the position. The ideal candidate will have scientific knowledge and research experience in one or more of the following fields: molecular biophysics, structural biology, genomics, bioinformatics, and computational biology. In addition, candidates should possess experience in broad networking interactions and collaborations in the above research fields, a proven track record in directing and/or managing a large scientific database or large research project, as well as strong leadership ability and effective communication skills.

How to Apply: To be considered for this position, send to the e-mail address below a CV, bibliography, and a vision statement (not to exceed three pages) that presents your views on how to maximize the usefulness and impact of the Knowledgebase for the greater biological community.

NIGMSCV@mail.nih.gov

Applications must be received by the closing date: March 30, 2007. The National Institutes of Health inspires public confidence in our science by maintaining high ethical principles. Individuals detailed to NIH are subject to Federal government-wide regulations and statutes, as well as agency-specific regulations described at http://ethics.od.nih.gov. We encourage you to review this information. You may contact Kimberly Allen with questions regarding this announcement on 301-594-2755.

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Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health
National Cancer Institute

The Center for Cancer Research (CCR), National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institutes of Health (NIH), is seeking applicants for an available Staff Scientist position.

The selected individual will provide senior scientific support for Drs. Carol Clayberger and Alan Krenskey on studies related to the regulation of expression of the chemokine RANTES (Mol Cell Biol. 2007; 27:253-66; J Clin Invest. 2002;110:119-26; J Biol Chem. 2002;277:30055-65; Immunity. 1999;10:93-103). The successful candidate will have a doctoral degree with at least five years experience post degree. Candidate must have a strong background in molecular biology with training in transcriptional regulation and epigenetics. Experience with animal models and/or immunology is preferred. All applicants should submit a letter indicating their interest; a statement of research interests; current curriculum vitae and complete bibliography; and the names and addresses of five references (include email addresses) by March 30, 2007.

Applications should be sent to: nciccrjobs@mail.nih.gov. Please indicate “Clayberger Staff Scientist” in the subject line.