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Office of Education, Division of Intramural Research National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute **FELLOWS NEWSLETTER**

The Fellows Newsletter is published monthly by the Office of Education, Division of Intramural Research, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and distributed to NHLBI DIR members to promote the interest of DIR Fellows.

Office of Education, DIR, NHLBI

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From the Director of the Office of Education

I would first like to remind all of you to save the dates for the 2009 Fellows Retreat, to be held once again in Annapolis on April 2-3. The Keynote speaker will be Nobel Laureate Dr. Peter Agre of Johns Hopkins University. One major Scientific Talk will be given by Dr. Geoff Rosenfeld of the University of California San Diego, whose lab is developing molecular strategies to generate genome-wide, integrated transcriptional responses to the signaling networks that regulate development and homeostasis. We will invite scientists from local companies to attend the poster session so those of you who are interested in industrial positions can increase your contact network.

As the Summer draws to a close, we are planning other events for the coming year, and so I once again invite all Fellows who are interested to come and join the Fellows Advisory Committee which meets the 2nd Monday of each month.

What's next

By

Herbert M. Geller, Ph.D.

Many scientists would say that their postdoctoral years were the best of times. While this seems obvious, it means that fellows need to recognize and deal with the uncertainty of their future as early as possible in their postdoc studies.

Fellows deal with this situation in several different ways. Joe, for example, seems to cope very easily – he simply takes the attitude that something will come along and so he is focusing entirely on his research, believing, somewhat correctly, that publications are the currency of survival in research. Lee, on the other hand, is taking a more pro-active approach, clearly defining her goals and evaluating what she needs to achieve them. However, most fel-

lows are somewhere in between, thinking about possibilities, but not yet certain about which ones most appeal to them.

In truth, very few fellows leave NHLBI without going to another job or for further formal training. So this does raise the comfort level somewhat. But too many fellows are like Sam, who is going into his fifth year as a Visiting Fellow and has not yet started a job search, and is quite anxious since he knows that he must leave within a year. So what can be done to make sure that this is not you?

The first thing would be to set a goal of three, or at most, four years, here. Academic search committees look at productivity as well as future goals and potential for excellence. Thus, you need a steady stream of publications. While it's hard to predict timing, gaps in publication can-

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New NHLBI Fellows



Xuan Chi, Ph.D. is a postdoctoral fellow in the Laboratory of Developmental Biology under the mentorship of Dr. Yosuke Mukoyama. Dr. Chi received her Ph.D. from Baylor University and then did postdoctoral training at Columbia University. She will be working on understanding neurovascular interactions during development.



School of Medicine, University of the Republic, Montevideo, where she is an Assistant Professor. She will be working on understanding metabolic changes during senescence.



Andres Dulcey, Ph.D. is a postdoctoral fellow in the Imaging Probe Development Center under the mentorship of Dr. Gary Griffiths. Dr. Dulcey received his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania, and originally came to NIH as a fellow at NICHD. He will be working on chemically synthesizing imaging probes for studies of biological processes.



Naoya Uchida, M.D. is a Visiting fellow in the Hematology Branch under the mentorship of Dr. John Tisdale. Dr. Uchida received his M.D. from Nippon Medical School in Tokyo and did a Fellowship in Cell Transplantation at the National Cancer Center in Tokyo. He will be working on gene therapy for hematologic diseases.



Kasey Vickers, Ph.D. is an IRTA postdoctoral fellow in the Pulmonary and Vascular Medicine Branch under the mentorship of Dr. Alan Remaley. Dr. Vickers received his Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences from Baylor University of College of Medicine. While at the NHLBI, he will be working on mechanisms of atherosclerosis.

Celia Quijano, Ph.D. is a Visiting Fellow in the Translational Medicine Branch under the mentorship of Dr. Toren Finkel. Dr. Quijano is from Uruguay, and she received her Ph.D. from the Department of Biochemistry,

not be filled or easily explained away. Middle-author publications do help. With some luck, you will have more than enough publications within this time to gain attention. Search committees also look for an area of research which will become independent of your PIs. If you can't do this in the lab that you are in, then it's time to move to one that will be more supportive. One way to gain independence is to write a career transition grant, either an NHLBI K22 or an NIH K99 application. While many fellows contend that having such a grant is necessary for obtaining a job, the major reason to write one is to define your area of research and the approach you will take when you open your own lab. The earlier you begin to write, the easier it will be to revise it to make sure that it is

competitive in every respect. Best to begin to once your first major first-author publication is submitted.

If your goal is a non-PI job, the strategy is to identify the criteria for obtaining a position, and seek to gain them. For research jobs, such as in industry, your ability to handle information and interact with others becomes important. While first-author publications are important, collaborative publications can evidence of your breadth and ability to interact. Moreover, these jobs are often obtained through networking, so interacting with industrial researchers at scientific meetings can widen your circle of contacts.

Finally, you can be like Mike or Jill, who realized that they didn't like working in a laboratory. Mike sought out opportunities at law

firms, and he found one where they are paying for his law school. Jill decided that she would take advantage of the Fellows Rotation in Extramural Research, where fellows spend time on the Extramural side of NIH learning about grant funding and grant administration. Before her rotation was over, she was offered a job at NHLBI.

The earlier you come to these conclusions, the more relaxed you can be about your job search. For all Fellows, there are many different sources of advice and information on the web. We have many links to the best sites on the Office of Education web site. You are more than welcome to visit our Office for a discussion of any of your career issues and strategies.

Recent Publications by NHLBI Fellows

- Aliyu, Z. Y.,** Gordeuk, V., Sachdev, V., Babadoko, A., Mamman, A. I., Akpanpe, P., Attah, E., Suleiman, Y., Aliyu, N., Yusuf, J., Mendelsohn, L., Kato, G. J., & Gladwin, M. T. (2008). Prevalence and risk factors for pulmonary artery systolic hypertension among sickle cell disease patients in Nigeria. *American Journal of Hematology* 83, 485-490.
- Frikke-Schmidt, R., Nordestgaard, B. G., Stene, M. C. A., **Sethi, A. A.,** Remaley, A. T., Schnohr, P., Grande, P., & Tybjaerg-Hansen, A. (2008). Association of loss-of-function mutations in the ABCA1 gene with high-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels and risk of ischemic heart disease. *JAMA-Journal of the American Medical Association* 299, 2524-2532.
- Gonzales, P., Pisitkun, T.,** & Knepper, M. A. (2008). Urinary exosomes: is there a future? *Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation* 23, 1799-1801.
- Hyodo, F., Chuang, K. H., Goloshevsky, A. G., **Sulima, A.,** Griffiths, G. L., Mitchell, J. B., Koretsky, A. P., & Krishna, M. C. (2008). Brain redox imaging using blood-brain barrier-permeable nitroxide MRI contrast agent. *Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism* 28, 1165-1174.
- Leatherbury, L., **Yu, Q., Chatterjee, B., Walker, D. L., Yu, Z.,** Tian, X., & Lo, C. W. (2008). A novel mouse model of X-linked cardiac hypertrophy. *American Journal of Physiology-Heart and Circulatory Physiology* 294, H2701-H2711.
- Olive, M., Mellad, J. A.,** Beltran, L. E., Ma, M. C., **Cimato, T.,** Noguchi, A. C., San, H., Childs, R., Kovacic, J. C., & Boehm, M. (2008). p21(Cip1) modulates arterial wound repair through the stromal cell-derived factor-1/CXCR4 axis in mice. *Journal of Clinical Investigation* 118, 2050-2061.
- Kwon, G. P., Schroeder, J. L.,** Amar, M. J., Remaley, A. T., & Balaban, R. S. (2008). Contribution of macromolecular structure to the retention of low-density lipoprotein at arterial branch points. *Circulation* 117, 2919-2927.
- Gonzalez, F. M., Shiva, S.,** Vincent, P. S., **Ringwood, L. A.,** Hsu, L. Y., Hon, Y. Y., Aletras, A. H., Cannon, R. O., Gladwin, M. T., & Arai, A. E. (2008). Nitrite anion provides potent cytoprotective and antiapoptotic effects as adjunctive therapy to reperfusion for acute myocardial infarction. *Circulation* 117, 2986-2994.

10 NHLBI Fellows Win 2008 FARE Awards

The following NHLBI Fellows were chosen as FARE award winners based on their research abstracts. We congratulate:

- Shaad Ahmad,** Laboratory of Developmental Systems Biology, Michelson Lab
Bong-Hyun Ahn, Translational Medicine Branch, Finkel Lab
Anne Deschamps, Pulmonary and Vascular Medicine Branch, Murphy Lab
Midhun Korrapati, Laboratory of Molecular Immunology, Pohl Lab
Zhongping Lu, Translational Medicine Branch, Sack Lab
Dustin Schones, Laboratory of Molecular Immunology, Zhao Lab
Jee-hyun Um, Laboratory of Biochemical Genetics, Chung Lab
Silvia Vergarajauregui, Laboratory of Cell Biology, Puertollano Lab
Zhibin Wang, Laboratory of Molecular Cardiology, Adelstein Lab
Katherine Wood, Pulmonary and Vascular Medicine Branch, Gladwin Lab

Upcoming NHLBI Events from the NHLBI

7th Annual Fellows Retreat

April 2-3, 2009
Annapolis, Maryland

Happy Hours, Social Events, and more. Contact your Fellows Advisory Committee Member to get involved.