



TSC ALERT

Edited by Vicky H Whittemore, PhD

March 2006

Welcome to the March 2006 edition of *TSC Alert* – an online research newsletter for individuals interested in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC) research and clinical care. This online newsletter contains information of interest to the TSC research and health care community. Please forward this newsletter to colleagues who are interested in TSC. To be added/deleted to/from the mailing list for *TSC Alert* and/or to submit information for the April 2006 *TSC Alert* contact: vwhittemore@tsalliance.org

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

NUTRIENT SENSING, INSULIN SIGNALING AND HAMARTOMA SYNDROMES CONFERENCE

This conference will be held May 11- 12, 2006 in Lister Hall, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD. Organized and sponsored by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease, the National Cancer Institute, and the Office of Rare Diseases, National Institutes of Health. For more information, see: <http://www.niddk.nih.gov/fund/other/nutrientsensing/index.htm>

NINDS HIRES NEW TSC PROGRAM DIRECTOR Jane Fountain, Ph.D., has recently joined the staff at NINDS as a Program Director. She will be in charge of both the TSC and brain tumor grant portfolios for NINDS. Dr. Fountain was previously a Program Director at the National Cancer Institute, and has a PhD in Genetics from the University of Michigan, where she worked with Dr. Francis Collins to clone the NF1 gene. Her contact information is:

Jane W. Fountain, Ph.D.

Program Director

National Institutes of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Institutes of Health

Neuroscience Center, Room 2110

6001 Executive Blvd.

Bethesda, MD 20892-9521

Phone: 301-496-1431

FAX: 301-402-2060

E-mail: fountai@ninds.nih.gov

Dr. Bob Finkelstein, the former TSC Program Director, has been promoted to the position of NINDS Extramural Director. Congratulations, Bob, and welcome to NINDS and the TSC research community, Jane!

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS COMPLEX RESEARCH PROGRAM (TSCR) IN CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM (CDMRP) RELEASES RFPS

Three award mechanisms are available for TSC researchers:

Concept Awards

Clinical Resource Development Awards

Idea Development Awards

Submission deadline: April 25, 2006

Funding Notification: November 2006

Information on the TSCR and the RFPs: <http://cdmrp.army.mil/tscr/default.htm>

UNDERSTANDING AND TREATING TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS COMPLEX (R01) (PAS-06-205)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Cancer Institute

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

National Institute of Mental Health

Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-06-205.html>

UNDERSTANDING AND TREATING TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS COMPLEX (R21) (PAS-06-206)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Cancer Institute

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

National Institute of Mental Health

Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-06-206.html>

COLLABORATIVE AWARDS IN EPILEPSY RESEARCH FOR JUNIOR INVESTIGATORS (R21) (PA-06-190)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Institute on Aging

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-190.html>

INTERACTIONS BETWEEN STEM AND PROGENITOR CELLS AND THE MICROENVIRONMENT (R03) (PAS-06-207)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Cancer Institute

National Eye Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Engineering
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-06-207.html>

INTERACTIONS BETWEEN STEM AND PROGENITOR CELLS AND THE MICROENVIRONMENT (R21) (PAS-06-208)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
National Cancer Institute
National Eye Institute
National Institute on Aging
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Engineering
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-06-208.html>

PREAPPLICATION FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CONSORTIUM (X02) PAR-06-122

Application Receipt Date: April 18, 2006

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CONSORTIUM (U54) RFA-RM-06-008

Application Receipt Date: December 19, 2006

THE INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

<http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/interdisciplinary/>) will invite applications for Interdisciplinary Research Consortia from among those that submit a pre-application in response to [PAR-06-122](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-06-122.html) (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-06-122.html>). This RFA with Limited Eligibility for a full consortium is released early to aid those who are writing a pre-application. Only those selected through a peer review of their pre-application are eligible to apply for a full Interdisciplinary Research Consortium. The purpose of this program is to support interdisciplinary approaches to solving significant and complex biomedical problems, particularly those that have been resistant to traditional approaches. These applications must hold the promise of leading to new research approaches to improving human health. For more information on the pre-application (PAR-06-122, X02 mechanism), please see: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-06-008.html>

The **NATIONAL HUMAN GENOME RESEARCH INSTITUTE**, National Institutes of Health, is offering individual fellowships to highly qualified students and scientists who are seeking training that will enable them to engage in research relevant to the Human Genome Project. Training of scholars in examining the ethical, legal and social implications of human genome research is also encouraged, but is not available for pre-doctoral students. Three types of fellowships are offered:

1. **Postdoctoral fellowships** for individuals who have received their doctoral degree within the last seven years. The application receipt dates are December 5, April 5 and August 5.
2. **Senior postdoctoral fellowships** for individuals who received their doctoral degree more than seven years ago. The application receipt dates are December 5, April 5 and August 5.
3. **Pre-doctoral Minority fellowships** for graduate students with disabilities and underrepresented minority graduate students to pursue a doctoral degree. The application receipt dates are November 15 and May 1.

Fellowship support is provided through the National Research Service Award. Only U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States are eligible to apply.

For additional information about fellowship opportunities available through the NHGRI, please visit our home page at:

http://www.nhgri.nih.gov/Grant_info/Funding/Training.

You may also contact the following staff:

Individual and Senior Postdoctoral Fellowships and Minority Pre-Doctoral Fellowships in Genomic Analysis and Technology:

Bettie J. Graham, Ph.D.

TEL: (301) 496-7531

E-mail: bettie_graham@nih.gov

Individual and Senior Postdoctoral Fellowships in ELSI Topics:

Elizabeth Thomson, M.S., R.N.

TEL: (301) 402-4997

E-mail: elizabeth_thomson@nih.gov

For information about PHS Grant Policy, applicants may contact:

Ms. Cheryl Chick

TEL: (301) 402-0733

E-mail: cheryl_chick@nih.gov

PUBLIC CONSULTATION TO INFORM THE DESIGN OF POSSIBLE LARGE-SCALE STUDIES OF GENES AND ENVIRONMENT IN COMMON DISEASE (U01)RFA-HG-06-008

Letters of Intent Receipt Date: April 10, 2006

Application Receipt Date: May 10, 2006

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to provide support for a specialized center to conduct a pilot public consultation study to obtain wide societal input to inform the design of a possible large U.S.-based longitudinal cohort study of the role of genes and environment in health and disease. For more information, please see:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HG-06-008.html>

EXTENDED RECEIPT DATES FOR NRSA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS F31 AND F32

NIH has extended the expiration date for the following Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Fellowship Programs:

[PA-00-068](#) **NIH Predoctoral Fellowship Awards for Students with Disabilities** (F31) which was published February 24, 2000

[PA-00-069](#) **NIH Predoctoral Fellowship Awards for Minority Students** (F31) which was published February 24, 2000

These announcements will remain active through the May 1, 2006 submission dates, after which an updated announcement will become effective. Applicants should use the current PHS 416-1 (rev. 10/05) application forms and instructions. NIH has also extended the expiration date for the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Program Announcement for Individual Postdoctoral Fellowships (F32) [PA-03-067](#), which was published on February 6, 2003. The announcement will remain active through the April 5, 2006 submission date, after which an updated announcement will become effective. Applicants should use the current PHS 416-1 (rev. 10/05) application forms and instructions. For more information, please see

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-06-044.html>

And

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-06-045.html>

CENTERS FOR AUTISM AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES RESEARCH AND EPIDEMIOLOGY (CADDRE): A CASE-COHORT STUDY (RFA-DD-06-003)

National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Application Receipt Date(s): May 19, 2006

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DD-06-003.html>

AUTISM CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE (ACE) RFAs: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (NOT-HD-06-004)

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
National Institute of Mental Health
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-HD-06-004.html>

DIET COMPOSITION AND ENERGY BALANCE (R01) (PA-06-173)

Multiple Agencies, including NINDS
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-173.html>

DIET COMPOSITION AND ENERGY BALANCE (R21) (PA-06-174)

Multiple Agencies, including NINDS
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-174.html>

NIH SMALL RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM (Parent R03) (PA-06-180)

Multiple Agencies, including NINDS
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-180.html>

NIH EXPLORATORY/DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM (Parent R21) (PA-06-181)

National Institutes of Health, including NINDS
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-181.html>

NOTICE OF INTENT TO PUBLISH: PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT WITH SET-ASIDE (PAS) FUNDS ON BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SOCIAL NEUROSCIENCE OF MENTAL HEALTH (NOT-MH-06-106)

National Institute of Mental Health
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-MH-06-106.html>

NIH ROADMAP – INVENTORY AND EVALUATION OF CLINICAL RESEARCH NETWORKS (IECRN) (NOT-RM-06-015)

NIH Roadmap Initiatives
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-RM-06-015.html>

TREATMENT RESPONSE: LINKING GENES WITH BEHAVIORAL PHENOTYPES OF RELEVANCE TO PATIENTS, FAMILIES, AND POLICYMAKERS (R01) (RFA-MH-07-010)

National Institute of Mental Health
Application Receipt Date(s): May 11, 2006
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-07-010.html>

TREATMENT RESPONSE: LINKING GENES WITH BEHAVIORAL PHENOTYPES OF RELEVANCE TO PATIENTS, FAMILIES, AND POLICYMAKERS (R03) (RFA-MH-07-011)

National Institute of Mental Health
Application Receipt Date(s): May 11, 2006
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-07-011.html>

TREATMENT RESPONSE: LINKING GENES WITH BEHAVIORAL PHENOTYPES OF RELEVANCE TO PATIENTS, FAMILIES, AND POLICYMAKERS (R34) (RFA-MH-07-012)

National Institute of Mental Health

Application Receipt Date(s): May 11, 2006
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-07-012.html>

TREATMENT RESPONSE: LINKING GENES WITH BEHAVIORAL PHENOTYPES OF RELEVANCE TO PATIENTS, FAMILIES, AND POLICYMAKERS (Collaborative R01) (RFA-MH-07-013)

National Institute of Mental Health
Application Receipt Date(s): May 11, 2006
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-07-013.html>

SMALL GRANT PROGRAM FOR NIDDK K08/K23 RECIPIENTS (R03) (PAR-06-172)

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
Office of Dietary Supplements
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-06-172.html>

ANCILLARY STUDIES TO MAJOR ONGOING NIDDK AND NHLBI CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDIES (R01) (PAR-06-216)

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-06-216.html>

INTERNATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE FELLOWSHIP (F05) (PAR-06-227)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
National Institute on Aging
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-06-227.html>

INTERNATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE FELLOWSHIP (F05) (PAR-06-237)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): August 14, 2006, 2007, 2008
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-06-237.html>

NEUROVASCULAR MECHANISMS OF BRAIN FUNCTION AND DISEASE (R21) (PAS-06-200)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
National Institute on Aging
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-06-200.html>

UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING BRAIN TUMOR DISPERSAL (R21) (PAS-06-201)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
National Cancer Institute
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-06-201.html>

GENE DISCOVERY FOR COMPLEX NEUROLOGICAL AND NEUROBEHAVIORAL DISORDERS (R21) (PAS-06-204)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
National Institute on Aging
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-06-204.html>

RESEARCH RESOURCES

NEW TSC2/TUBERIN ANTIBODY AVAILABLE Epitomics is offering a new rabbit monoclonal antibody against TSC2/Tuberin. Visit their website for more information:

<http://www.epitomics.com/products/1613-1.html?sig=3132937729453197>

TSC1 KNOCKOUT MICE AVAILABLE FROM JACKSON LABORATORIES The current status of Stock # 005680 is:

- The estimated available for sale date for this strain is: April 17, 2006. They plan to distribute homozygous animals.
- The URL for the strain Data Sheet with a link to register interest is: <http://jaxmice.jax.org/strain/005680.html>
- Researchers are encouraged to register your interest in this strain by going to the link above.

NEW TSC PUBLICATIONS

Al Aboud K, Al Hawasawi K, Al Aboud A, Mohamed AA (2006) Multiple hereditary trichoepitheliomas in a saudi kindred. *Skinmed* 5(1):42-6

Chateil JF, Brun M (2006) Tuberous sclerosis (Bourneville disease).] *Presse Med* 35(2 Pt 2):355-6 [Article in French]

Coppola G, Cerminara C, Spigapiena R, Santangelo MP, Pascotto A, Curatolo P (2006) Tuberous sclerosis complex and hydrosyringomyelia: Report of two cases. *Eur J Paediatr Neurol* 2006 Mar 8 [Epub ahead of print]

Costa AS, Nova R, Calvo TC, Severo R, Afonso A (2005) [Lymphangioliomyomatosis: a case report.] [Article in Portuguese]

Cross JH (2006) Neurocutaneous syndromes and epilepsy: issues in diagnosis and management. *CNS Spectr* 11(2 Suppl 2):19-25

Gridley S, Chavez JA, Lane WS, Lienhard GE (2006) Adipocytes contain a novel complex similar to the tuberous sclerosis complex. *Cell Signal* 2006 Feb 18 [Epub ahead of print]

Guo H, Keefe KA, Kohler MF, Chan JK (2006) Juvenile granulosa cell tumor of the ovary associated with tuberous sclerosis. *Gynecol Oncol* [Epub ahead of print]

Huntsman RJ, Sinclair DB, Richer LP (2006) Tuberous sclerosis with open lipped schizencephaly. *Pediatr Neurol* 34(3):231-4

Igaz P, Igaz I, Racz K, Tulassay Z (2006) Hereditary tumours of the endocrine pancreas.] *Orv Hetil* 147(5):195-200 [Article in Hungarian]

Jurkiewicz E, Jozwiak S (2006) Giant intracranial aneurysm in a 9-year-old boy with tuberous sclerosis. *Pediatr Radiol* 2006 Mar 14 [Epub ahead of print]

Komiakov BK, Guliev BG, Novikov AI (2005) [Endoprosthesis operation of the solitary kidney ureter in Burneville-Pringle disease complicated with hydronephrosis.] *Urologiia* (6):49-51 [Article in Russian]

Miyake M, Tateishi U, Maeda T, Kusumoto M, Satake M, Arai Y, Sugimura K (2005) Pulmonary lymphangioliomyomatosis in a male patient with tuberous sclerosis complex. *Radiat Med*

23(7):525-7

Sanchez-Diaz A, Morales-Peydro C, Madrigal-Bajo I (2006) [Autosomal dominant mental retardation.] Rev Neurol 42 Suppl 1:S33-7 [Article in Spanish]

von der Brelie C, Waltereit R, Zhang L, Beck H, Kirschstein T (2006) Impaired synaptic plasticity in a rat model of tuberous sclerosis. Eur J Neurosci 23(3):686-692

Vrtel R, Vodicka R, Santava A, Santavy J, Krejcirikova E (2006) [Prenatal diagnostics of tuberous sclerosis based on causal mutation knowledge.] Cas Lek Cesk 145(2):130-2 [Article in Czech]

CONFERENCES

March 27-28, 2006

Ninth Meeting of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Genetics, Health, and Society

National Institutes of Health

Building 31/C Wing/6th floor/Conference Room 6

31 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD

The meeting is open to the public, and pre-registration is not required. Seating will be available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

An agenda has been posted online at:

<http://www4.od.nih.gov/oba/SACGHS/meetings/March2006/SACGHSMar2006premeeting.htm>

March 31 – April 2, 2006

LAM Foundation 2006 Research Conference

Hilton Netherlands Cincinnati Hotel

Cincinnati, OH

<http://lam.uc.edu>

May 11-12, 2006

Nutrient Sensing, Insulin Signaling and Hamartoma Syndromes

Lister Hall, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

Information: <http://www.niddk.nih.gov/fund/other/nutrientsensing/index.htm>

May 20-25, 2006

American Psychiatric Association: From Science to Public Policy

Toronto, Canada

www.psych.org

June 4-7, 2006

Genomics & Public Health

4th International DNA Sampling Conference

Omni Hotel, Montreal, Canada

Deadline for abstract submission: March 15, 2006

Information: www.humgen.umontreal.ca/events/dnasampling

June 15-17, 2006

American Epilepsy Society Mid-Year Meeting

Oak Brook, IL

www.aesnet.org

July 2-6, 2006

7th European Congress of Epileptology

Helsinki Fair Centre, Helsinki, Finland

<http://www.epilepsyhelsinki2006.org>

July 8-12, 2006**5th Forum of European Neuroscience**

Austria Center Vienna, Austria

<http://www.fens.org>

July 8-12, 2006**UICC World Cancer Congress 2006**

Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC

<http://www.2006conferences.org/u-program.php>

July 14-16, 2006**National TSC Conference**

Organized by the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance

[Indian Lakes Resort](#)

Chicago, Illinois

<http://www.tsalliance.org>

July 27-30, 2006**6th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress**

Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

www.epilepsykualalumpur2006.org

August 2-4, 2006**10th European Conference on Epilepsy & Society**

Copenhagen, Denmark

For more information: <http://www.epilepsyandsociety.org>

August 6-10, 2006**11th International Congress of Human Genetics**

Brisbane, Australia

<http://www.ichg2006.com>

August 6-11, 2006**Gordon Research Conference on Mechanisms of Epilepsy and Neuronal Synchronization**

Colby College, Waterville, Maine

For conference program and application form, see

<http://www.grc.uri.edu/programs/2006/epilepsy.htm> Note that conference attendance is strictly limited, therefore, early application is highly recommended. Poster presentations are key and popular aspects of Gordon conferences, and poster information is to be included in the application form. Women and minorities are especially encouraged to apply. Some travel assistance to students, postdocs and minorities will be available based on need.

Did you know that The GRC has limited funds available through the **Carl Storm Underrepresented Minority Fellowship program** to support the participation of eligible minority students, faculty and scientists at Gordon Research Conferences during 2006? Please follow [this link](#) to learn more about, and apply for this program.

In some cases, the above link may not work. If you have trouble please copy and paste the following link into your web browser.

<https://www.grc.org/csf/CSF1.asp?id=1445316>

September 6-9, 2006**4th Latin American Congress on Epilepsy 2006**

Guatemala City, Guatemala

<http://www.epilepsyguatemala2006.org>

September 10-14, 2006

XXVIIIth International Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology

Edinburgh, UK

www.iccn2006.com

October 6-11, 2006

Plastic Surgery 2006

San Francisco, CA

www.plasticsurgery.org/annual_meeting

October 7-10, 2006

19th Annual ISONG Conference: Genomic Health Care: The Future is Now

Bourbon Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, LA

For more information: www.isong.org

October 30 – November 2, 2006

World Congress on Autism

Cape Town, South Africa

Call for Papers closes 30th September 2005

Early Bird Registration Closes June 30th 2006

Please visit www.autismcongress.com

December 1-5, 2006

2006 AES Annual Meeting/North American Regional Epilepsy Congress

San Diego Convention Center

Abstract submissions accepted March 6 – June 5, 2006

For more information: <http://www.aesnet.org/Visitors/AnnualMeeting/index.cfm>

March 2007

NINDS Epilepsy Conference

Follow-up to 2000 Conference "Curing Epilepsy: Focus on the Future"

<http://www.ninds.nih.gov>

May 18-21, 2007

20th Annual ISONG Conference: Global Issues in Genomic Healthcare

Marriott Bristol City Centre, Bristol, England

For more information: www.isong.org

July 8-12, 2007

27th International Epilepsy Congress

Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Center

Singapore

For more information: www.epilepsycongress.org

NEWS

PKD FOUNDATION AND TS ALLIANCE HOLD JOINT RESEARCH WORKSHOP The Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) Foundation and the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance held a research workshop in Chicago on March 9-10, 2006. The workshop was organized by Lisa Guay-Woodford, Peter Harris, Lisa Henske and Cheryl Walker and supported by the PKD Foundation and the TS Alliance. Fifty researchers attended from both research communities and discussed areas of research overlap, research opportunities, and ways in which the two groups of researchers could collaborate and share resources. A summary of the research workshop will be posted on the Web sites for both organizations in the near future, and they are discussing opportunities for co-funding or collaborative

research awards and other research initiatives. A special thank you to the organizers and to Lorrie Romie and Dan Larson from the PKD Foundation for their hard work in organizing the workshop.

ABUNDANCE OF NEW MicroRNAs NOT A MIRAGE Using a new analytical technique called miRAGE, Bert Vogelstein, M.D., HHMI investigator, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and coworkers have discovered 133 new microRNAs in the largest analysis of human microRNAs to date. The new bounty increases the number of experimentally verified microRNAs by almost 50 percent and provides researchers with new tools for understanding how genes are regulated. MicroRNAs are tiny molecules that regulate the expression of genes. They do not produce proteins, but they control the RNAs that do and thus are key players in many physiological and developmental processes. The researchers said their findings suggest that many more microRNAs remain to be discovered in other tissues throughout the body. This research was published in the February 28, 2006, issue of Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. For the full story, go to: <http://www.hhmi.org/news/vogelstein20060307.html>

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Scientific Director, The Rothberg Institute The Scientific Director will be responsible for providing oversight to The Rothberg Institute's Drug Development Program. **Interested individuals can view the job description at:** <http://www.childhooddiseases.org>

Director of Information and Education, Genetic Alliance
http://www.geneticalliance.org/ws_display.asp?filter=about_jobs_info

TSC INFORMATION

For information about TSC, visit the TS Alliance Web site at: <http://www.tsalliance.org> or contact the TS Alliance at info@tsalliance.org or by telephone: 1-800-225-6872 or 301-562-9890.