



TSC ALERT

September 2007

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IMPORTANT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Change in Deadlines for TS Alliance Research Grants Program

The TS Alliance will release the RFAs for FY08 following the TSC Conference in September 2007. The anticipated deadlines for FY08 are:

- October 2007 – Release of FY08 RFAs
- December 1, 2007 - Deadline for submission of Letter of Intent (LOI) to the TS Alliance
- January 2008 - Applicants notified of review of LOIs and invitations to submit grant applications distributed
- March 3, 2008 - Deadline for submission of grant applications
- June 2008 - Notification of grant awards
- July 1, 2008 - Earliest start date for new grant awards

SECRETARY’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION OBJECTIVES FOR 2020 ESTABLISHED BY US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

In a *Federal Register* notice published August 21, 2007, HHS announced the establishment of the Secretary’s Advisory Committee on National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives for 2020 and solicited nominations for appointment to the Committee. The Department seeks nominees with expertise across a broad range of areas related to health promotion, disease prevention, and public health benchmarking. **Nominations are due September 20, 2007.**

The Advisory Committee, which is established under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), shall provide advice and assistance to the Secretary and HHS in the development of health promotion and disease prevention objectives to improve the health of Americans by 2020. The Committee shall advise the Secretary regarding national health promotion and disease prevention initiatives, in particular the work to develop goals and objectives to improve the health status and reduce health risks for Americans. The Committee shall provide advice and consultation to the Secretary to facilitate the process of developing and implementing national health

promotion and disease prevention goals and objectives and advice to the Secretary about the initiatives to occur during the initial implementation phase of the goals and objectives.

Please consider nominating a qualified individual. Self-nominations are permitted. **Nominations must be received by September 20, 2007.**

For more information about the Healthy People 2020 development process and to view the full text of the *Federal Register* Notice—along with details of the required nomination package contents—visit the Healthy People Web site at www.healthypeople.gov/hp2020. A PDF version of the *Federal Register* Notice, which includes contact information, is attached.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

National Institutes of Health

Understanding and Treating Tuberos Sclerosis Complex (R01) (PAS-07-190)

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

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

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-07-190.html>

Genome-wide Association Studies in the Genes, Environment, and Health Initiative - Study Investigators (U01) (RFA-HG-07-012)

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute

National Eye Institute

National Human Genome Research Institute

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Engineering

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

National Institute on Drug Abuse

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

National Institute of General Medical Sciences

National Institute of Mental Health

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Institute of Nursing Research

National Library of Medicine

Application Receipt Date(s): October 18, 2007

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HG-07-012.html>

Epidemiologic Investigation of Putative Causal Genetic Variants Study Investigators (U01) (RFA-HG-07-014)

National Human Genome Research Institute
National Cancer Institute

Application Receipt Date(s): November 19, 2007

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HG-07-014.html>

Basic and Translational Research Opportunities in the Social Neuroscience of Mental Health (R01) (RFA-MH-08-070)

National Institute of Mental Health
National Institute on Aging

Application Receipt Date(s): October 20, 2008

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-08-070.html>

Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Research Centers 2008 (P30) (RFA-HD-07-012)

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Application Receipt Date(s): December 21, 2007

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-07-012.html>

Limited Competition: Study of Attitudes and Factors Affecting Infant Care (U10) (RFA-HD-07-102)

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Application Receipt Date(s): November 28, 2007

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-07-102.html>

International Extramural Associates Research Development Awards (IEARDA) (G11) (PAR-07-427)

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
John E. Fogarty International Center

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): October 23, 2007, August 27, 2008; August 28, 2009 Peer

Review Date(s): January 2008, October/November 2009, October/November 2009 Council Review

Date(s): May 2008*, January 2009, January 2010

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-07-427.html>

Silvio O. Conte Centers for Interdisciplinary Research on Brain, Behavior, and Mental Health (P50) (PAR-07-430)

National Institute of Mental Health

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): October 24, 2007

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-07-430.html>

Clinical Research Education and Career Development (CRECD) in Minority Institutions (R25) (RFA-RR-07-005)

National Center for Research Resources

National Cancer Institute

National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

National Institute on Drug Abuse

Application Receipt Date(s): October 24, 2007
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RR-07-005.html>

Notice of Intent to Publish a Request for Applications for the NIH Partners in Research Program (NOT-OD-07-089)

National Institutes of Health

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-089.html>

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE RESEARCH FUNDING - DEADLINES APPROACHING

The U.S. Department of Defense is calling for research proposals to address Traumatic Brain Injury and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. We strongly urge you to submit epilepsy related proposals that can ultimately be funded through this mechanism. Given the large number of soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan currently experiencing TBI, we know it is critically important to research the connections between epilepsy and TBI and PTSD. To access the grant announcements, follow the links listed below:

(Department of Defense (DoD) [Traumatic Brain Injury \(TBI\) Investigator-Initiated Research Award](#) == Total Award \$5.0M. **Deadline: October 11, 2007**

(Department of Defense (DoD) [Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Investigator-Initiated Research Award](#) == Total Award \$5.0M. **Deadline: October 18, 2007**

Other Foundation Support

RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

AES, the Epilepsy Foundation and other funders support research grants and training fellowships at the post-doctoral, pre-doctoral and student levels. Applications for the funding cycle beginning January 1, 2008 are now being accepted. **Deadlines for most applications is on August 31, 2007.** For further information on these programs, including guidelines for submission of preliminary proposals, contact the Epilepsy Foundation at grants@efa.org. Or directly access the call for proposals by visiting the Epilepsy Foundation's Web site by clicking the following link: [Epilepsy Foundation Research Grants](#).

RESEARCH INITIATIVE FUND AWARD

AES has established a novel grant opportunity for its membership to provide seed support encouraging innovative, collaborative basic or clinical research associated with the epilepsy field. Awards from the Research Initiative Fund will be given to AES members who are established investigators. The objective of these awards is to encourage established investigators to think "outside the box" and involve other established investigators who may not now be working in the field of epilepsy. Members who are candidates for an Epilepsy Foundation Junior Investigator Award or AES and EF research or training fellowships will not be considered. **The Letter of Intent deadline is August 31, 2007.** Application procedures and details are available on the Web by clicking the following link: [Research Initiative Fund Award](#).

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE AWARD

This program was established to provide an opportunity for scientists to obtain support for nationwide or international networks of clinical or basic science researchers focused on understanding the causes, consequences and treatment of epilepsy. This program is jointly funded by AES and the Epilepsy Foundation and is not limited to AES members. The application process has two steps. **The Letter of Intent deadline is August 31, 2007.** For details, click the following link: [Research Infrastructure Award](#).

EARLY CAREER PHYSICIAN-SCIENTIST AWARD PROGRAM

This program, a partnership of the AES and the Milken Family Foundation, provides a funding mechanism for physician-scientists worldwide who are embarking on academic careers and who wish to develop outstanding epilepsy research programs. The goal of this program is to encourage the development of new therapies for epilepsy by providing research training for physicians early in their academic career. The Milken Family Foundation has particular interest in research proposals related to Pregnancy and Epilepsy. Applications must be received by the end of the day **September 14, 2007**. Awardees must attend the award announcement at the AES Annual Meeting in December 2007 in Philadelphia, PA. For details, click on the following link: [Physician-Scientist Award](#).

RESEARCH & TRAINING WORKSHOP AWARD

AES, through the Research and Training Committee, provides funding for targeted workshops intended for clinical or scientific audiences and on specific collaborative topics in neuroscience. Applications for funding are due **October 12, 2007**. For details and the application cover sheet, click on the following link: [Research & Training Workshop Award](#).

EPILEPSY RESEARCH FOUNDATION: NEW THERAPY GRANTS PROGRAM

The Epilepsy Research Foundation, a unique partnership bringing together three leading not-for-profit groups with a common mission of accelerating translational research in epilepsy - the Epilepsy Therapy Development Project (www.epilepsytdp.org), the Epilepsy Foundation (www.efa.org) and Finding a Cure for Epilepsy and Seizures (FACES) (www.nyufaces.org) - is requesting proposals for its New Therapy Grants Program. The program seeks to bring new therapies, including new medicines and therapeutic devices, to patients by supporting translational research and early stage commercialization.

The Epilepsy Research Foundation is selectively providing grants to scientific and clinical investigators pursuing innovative, high impact projects that demonstrate a clear path to commercialization from the lab to the patient. Priority review will be given to proposals that already have a commercial partner engaged to assist with development and proposals that have committed or matched funding from the sponsoring institution, commercial partner or other third party source. Applicants are encouraged to view a list of projects that have been funded in the past by visiting the www.epilepsyproject.org/grants. For more information, contact kim@epilepsytdp.org. **Due: September 1, 2007.**

2007 PACE Research Grant Awards

Parents Against Childhood Epilepsy, Inc., A Research and Education Fund, will consider grant applications for innovative research to encourage investigation into the causes and cures of seizure disorders in children. To receive a copy of the screening application, go to www.paceusa.org. **Applications must be filed and received by September 17, 2007.** For more information, e-mail pacenyemail@aol.com, fax 212.327.3075, or phone 212.665.PACE (7223).

American Skin Association

Research Scholar Award in Skin Disease or Disorder

Deadline: October 1, 2007

Award amount: \$60,000

For more information: www.americanskin.org

Research Grants for Disease-Specific Research on:

- Skin Cancer
- Melanoma
- Vitiligo/Pigment Cell Biology
- Childhood Skin Diseases/Disfigurement
- Autoimmune/Inflammatory Skin Diseases

Deadline: October 1, 2007

Award amount: \$15,000

For more information: www.americanskin.org

Health Services/Quality of Life/Outcome Studies

Deadline: October 1, 2007

Award amount: \$15,000

For more information: www.americanskin.org

Medical Student Stipends Targeting Melanoma/Skin Cancer

Deadline: October 1, 2007

Award amount: \$7,000

For more information: www.americanskin.org

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Reviewing Peer Review: NIH Needs Your Help!

From the Desk of *Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D., Director*

National Institutes of Health

Please take a few minutes to respond to the NIH Request for Information on Peer Review at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-074.html>

We all rely on the NIH peer review system to ensure that we support the best biomedical and behavioral research in the world. Today, we can all agree that the system faces challenges. These challenges include, among others, a rising number of applications, rapid changes in science, and increasingly competitive funding levels, all of which require many investigators to apply multiple times to obtain funding.

For more than half a century, the NIH peer review system has been the gold standard for funding science of the highest quality. The scientific community, including members of NIH advisory councils and Institute and Center Directors, all agree that we must continue to fund the best science and the best scientists, with a minimum of bureaucracy. And so, like all things great, our peer review system must be regularly examined, critiqued, and improved if we are to maintain its quality. We have therefore arrived at another juncture when it is time to review peer review.

The NIH Center for Scientific Review and Office of Extramural Research are working to respond to these challenges. We are making efforts to reduce review times, especially for new investigators; experiment with new formats for review; and assess the need to streamline the application, while successfully implementing electronic submission for most grants. A series of open houses to review the performance of each Integrated Review Groups (IRGs) is beginning.

We are also launching a comprehensive effort to examine the NIH peer review process, one that is broader than many previous efforts. The ultimate goal of this new study is to optimize the entire system used by NIH to support biomedical and behavioral research. We welcome suggestions about the review process *per se*, as well as suggestions regarding how to structure our grant mechanisms in order to facilitate review and reduce the need for scientists to spend more time on the application process, rather than doing science. This requires broad and comprehensive input from the scientific community. We are particularly interested in creative suggestions about how we can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the system, even if this involves radical changes to the current approach. The entire NIH leadership, including myself, has decided to make this issue a top priority for NIH this year.

And I am making a direct appeal to you to respond to our call for ideas, spread the word to your colleagues about this effort, and encourage their participation.

To help ensure we receive the most thoughtful advice possible, I recently established two Working Groups, each with differing experience and perspectives. These groups will work in concert by gathering both external and internal input.

- One group is a Working Group of the Advisory Committee to the NIH Director (ACD), our outside scientific advisors. This Working Group is led by Drs. Keith Yamamoto and Larry Tabak and will focus on gathering input from the extramural community. Members of this group (<http://enhancing-peer-review.nih.gov/rosters/acd.html>) will also identify a number of scientific leaders, who will be asked to serve as liaisons between various scientific communities and the Working Group. Each liaison will survey their community about the key elements of the system used to support science and ideas for change. To ensure we receive the broadest input possible on the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and ideas for improvements, this Working Group will also conduct a series of regional meetings around the country with external scientists and the broad stakeholder community. This will also be done through a web-based request for comment.
- In a parallel effort, an internal NIH Working Group, led by Drs. Jeremy Berg and Larry Tabak (<http://enhancing-peer-review.nih.gov/rosters/adhoc.html>), will gather input on the peer review process from the NIH community, complementing input already received from NIH staff, including NIH Institute and Center Directors.

The Working Groups Mandate for Change and Coordination with the ongoing activities in the Center for Scientific Review

The two Working Groups will then integrate their findings in the form of a white paper that will prioritize issues with the current system and articulate the best approaches towards effecting change. They have a wide-ranging mandate to examine and discuss any and all potential approaches to enhance the entire system. These ideas will then be transformed into a series of implementation pilots that will be designed to address both feasibility and effectiveness. This will take into consideration ongoing efforts recently undertaken by the Center for Scientific Review to streamline and improve the efficiency of the current peer review system by shortening review cycles, decreasing the length of the applications, and enhancing the use of electronic reviews. The final recommendations, including modifications to peer review policies and practices, will then be approved by NIH leadership, including both Institute and Center Directors, the NIH Director, and in consultation with advisory councils.

Ultimately, NIH will develop new policies that could include, for example:

1. Exploring ways to integrate a broader understanding of the scientific context into the Peer Review process;
2. Ensuring that creativity, impact, and significance are emphasized in the applications themselves, as well as in their review;
3. Improving the culture of review by encouraging the most accomplished scientists to want to serve on study sections; and,
4. Devising alternate strategies to support science that would better synergize with an enhanced peer review process while reducing the bureaucratic burden on our applicants.

Additional options will certainly emerge.

Because these issues can have an impact on the entire NIH community, I am committed to absolute transparency as NIH conducts this study and subsequent policy development. Please visit the website: <http://enhancing-peer-review.nih.gov/> for more background information and for up-to-the-minute updates as we move forward with this effort.

Thanking you in advance

Again, I urge you to participate, either by responding fully and candidly to committee members if asked, or by offering your direct input at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-074.html>.

Because of the level of interest in this effort, we have just extended the closing date of the Request for Information on Peer Review to September 7.

NIH will continue to ensure that our processes serve the overarching mission of NIH — making important medical discoveries that improve health and save lives — during this unprecedented time of scientific advancement and opportunity. I know you share this goal and I am counting on your help!

I invite you to share any comments you have with me, directly, at zerhounidirect@nih.gov.

Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D., Director
National Institutes of Health

For information about NIH programs, useful health information, and additional resources, see the NIH web site at www.nih.gov. An archive of the Director's Newsletter is available at <http://www.nih.gov/about/director/newsletter/archive.htm>.

NEW TSC PUBLICATIONS

Al-Bozom IA, Mujeeb IB, Murad N (2007) Retroperitoneal lymphangiomyomatosis diagnosed by fine needle aspiration: a case report. *Acta Cytol* 51(4):594-6

Alvarez-Alvarez C, Fernandez-Sanroman J, Fernandez-Castilla M, Anton-Badiola I (2007) Sporadic oral angiomyolipoma. Case report. *Med Oral Patol Oral Cir Bucal* 12(5):E391-E393

Anlauf M, Garbrecht N, Bauersfeld J, Schmitt A, Henopp T, Komminoth P, Heitz PU, Perren A, Kloppel G (2007) Hereditary neuroendocrine tumors of the gastroenteropancreatic system. *Virchows Arch* 2007 Aug 8 [Epub ahead of print]

Aspuria PJ, Sato T, Tamanoi F (2007) The TSC/Rheb/TOR signaling pathway in fission yeast and mammalian cells: temperature sensitive and constitutive active mutants of TOR. *Cell Cycle* 6(14):1692-5 [Epub 2007 May 21]

Chano T, Okabe H, Hulette CM (2007) RB1CC1 insufficiency causes neuronal atrophy through mTOR signaling alteration and involved in the pathology of Alzheimer's diseases. *Brain Res* 2007 Jul 21 [Epub ahead of print]

Corsenca A, Aebersold F, Moch H, Bird P, Weber M, Hofbauer G, Wuthrich RP, Serra AL (2007) Combined nephrectomy and pre-emptive renal transplantation in a tuberous sclerosis patient with angiomyolipoma, renal carcinoma and life-threatening abdominal haemorrhages. *Nephrol Dial Transplant* 2007 Aug 23 [Epub ahead of print]

Cosgrove GP, Frankel SK, Brown KK (2007) Challenges in pulmonary fibrosis {middle dot} 3: Cystic lung disease. *Thorax* 62(9):819-28

Franz DN (2007) mTOR in Tuberous Sclerosis and other Neurological Disorders. *Epilepsia* 48(8):1630-1

- Houshmandi SS, Gutmann DH (2007) All in the family: Using inherited cancer syndromes to understand de-regulated cell signaling in brain tumors. *J Cell Biochem* 2007 Aug 23 [Epub ahead of print]
- Jozwiak S, Domanska-Pakiela D, Kotulska K, Kaczorowska M (2007) Treatment before Seizures: New Indications for Antiepileptic Therapy in Children with Tuberous Sclerosis Complex. *Epilepsia* 48(8):1632
- Lee DF, Kuo HP, Chen CT, Hsu JM, Chou CK, Wei Y, Sun HL, Li LY, Ping B, Huang WC, He X, Hung JY, Lai CC, Ding Q, Su JL, Yang JY, Sahin AA, Hortobagyi GN, Tsai FJ, Tsai CH, Hung MC (2007) IKKbeta Suppression of TSC1 Links Inflammation and Tumor Angiogenesis via the mTOR Pathway. *Cell* 130(3):440-455
- Malanchuk O, Palchevskyy S, Ovcharenko G, Gwalter J, Pozur V, Gout I, Filonenko V (2007) Generation and characterization of monoclonal antibodies against tuberous sclerosis complex 2. *Hybridoma (Larchmt)* 26(4):259-66
- Mirabella G, Morong S, Buncic JR, Snead OC, Logan WJ, Weiss SK, Abdoell M, Westall CA (2007) Contrast sensitivity is reduced in children with infantile spasms. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 48(8):3610-5
- Monteagudo Sanchez B, de las Heras Sotos C, Leon Muinos E, Labandeira Garcia J, Durana Tonder C, Cacharron Carreira JM (2007) [Shagreen patches] *An Pediatr (Barc)* 66(4):421-2 [Article published in Spanish]
- Niimi A, Kume H, Kumano S, Ishikawa A, Nishimatsu H, Tomita K, Takahashi S, Takeuchi T, Kitamura T (2007) [Giant renal angiomyolipoma in a case with pulmonary lymphangiomyomatosis] *Nippon Hinyokika Gakkai Zasshi* 98(5):713-7 [Article published in Japanese]
- Rosner M, Hengstschlager M (2006) 14-3-3 proteins are involved in the regulation of mammalian cell proliferation. *Amino Acids* 30(1):105-9 [Epub 2005 Aug 24]
- Rossi R, Pester JM, McDowell M, Soza S, Montecucco A, Lee-Fruman KK (2007) Identification of S6K2 as a centrosome-located kinase. *FEBS Lett* 2007 Jul 30 [Epub ahead of print]
- Scheele JS, Marks RE, Boss GR (2007) Signaling by small GTPases in the immune system. *Immunol Rev* 218:92-101
- Siniatchkin M, van Baalen A, Jacobs J, Moeller F, Moehring J, Boor R, Wolff S, Jansen O, Stephani U (2007) Different Neuronal Networks Are Associated with Spikes and Slow Activity in Hypsarrhythmia. *Epilepsia* 2007 Jul 21 [Epub ahead of print]
- Slodkowska J, Patera J, Breborowicz J, Jarzemska A, Korzeniewska-Kosela M, Siemiatkowska K, Radzikowska E, Przybylski G, Kozlowski W (2007) Extrapulmonary lymphangioliomyomatosis presented as the asymptomatic retroperitoneal tumours--two cases report. *Pol J Pathol* 58(2):105
- Stafstrom CE, Holmes GL (2007) Can preventative antiepileptic therapy alter outcome in infants with tuberous sclerosis complex? *Epilepsia* 48(8):1632-4
- Tilz C, Wang-Tilz Y, Junemann A, Stefan H, Michelson G (2007) Visual field defect during therapy with valproic-acid. *Eur J Neurol* 14(8):929-32
- Tynski Z, Eisenberg R (2007) Cytologic findings of lymphangioliomyomatosis in pleural effusion: a case report. *Acta Cytol* 51(4):578-80

Wong M (2007) The utility of tuberless models of tuberous sclerosis. *Epilepsia* 48(8):1629-30

Wortmann SB, Reimer A, Creemers JW, Mullaart RA (2007) Prenatal diagnosis of cerebral lesions in Tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC). Case report and review of the literature. *Eur J Paediatr Neurol* 2007 Aug 1 [Epub ahead of print]

Xu ZX, Liang J, Haridas V, Gaikwad A, Connolly FP, Mills GB, Gutterman JU (2007) A plant triterpenoid, avicin D, induces autophagy by activation of AMP-activated protein kinase. *Cell Death Differ* 2007 Aug 10 [Epub ahead of print]

Yang Q, Guan KL (2007) Expanding mTOR signaling. *Cell Res* 2007 Aug 7 [Epub ahead of print]

Yoon S, Lee MY, Park SW, Moon JS, Koh YK, Ahn YH, Park BW, Kim KS (2007) Upregulation of acetyl-CoA carboxylase alpha and fatty acid synthase by HER2 at translational level in breast cancer cells. *J Biol Chem* 282(36):26122-26131 [Epub 2007 Jul 13]

Zeng LH, Ouyang Y, Gazit V, Cirrito JR, Jansen LA, Ess KC, Yamada KA, Wozniak DF, Holtzman DM, Gutmann DH, Wong M (2007) Abnormal glutamate homeostasis and impaired synaptic plasticity and learning in a mouse model of tuberous sclerosis complex. *Neurobiol Dis* 2007 Jul 21 [Epub ahead of print]

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

September 20, 2007; 5-7pm

LAM/TSC Seminar Series 2007-2008 Series Kick-Off!

"Regulation of cell growth and protein synthesis by mTOR"

Lecture by John Blenis, Ph.D.; Discussant: Joe Avruch, M.D., Ph.D.

New Research Building - Harvard Medical School, 77 Avenue Louis Pasteur, Rm. 350, Boston, MA

Please RSVP to Sarah Elgart at selgart@lamtreatmentalliance.org and indicate the number of people attending or call the LAM Treatment Alliance at 617-460-7339. If you have any questions about the seminar series, contact amy_farber@hms.harvard.edu

September 20-21, 2007

Eyes on the Prize: Truth Telling about Genetic Testing

Renaissance M Street, Washington, DC

<http://www.geneticalliance.org/testingsummit>

September 23-25, 2007

Tuberous Sclerosis Complex: From Genes to New Therapeutics

International TSC Research Symposium organized by the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance

Loews Annapolis Hotel, Annapolis, MD

For more information, visit the TS Alliance website at www.tsalliance.org

October 23-27, 2007

57th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics

San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA

For more information: www.ashg.org

November 1, 2007

Neurons on the Map

San Diego, CA

<http://www.neuron-meeting.com>

November 3-4, 2007

Advances in Tuberous Sclerosis: From Pathway to Therapy

Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick, NSW, Australia

For more information, contact Dr. David Mowat at d.mowat@unsw.edu.au or Dr John Lawson at John.Lawson@unsw.edu.au

November 27–29, 2007

2007 National Prevention and Health Promotion Summit

Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill

Washington D.C.

Conference Contact Information: <http://www.cdc.gov/cochp/conference/index.htm>

November 30 – December 4, 2007

American Epilepsy Society

Philadelphia Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA

For more information and to submit an abstract, go to: www.AESNET.org

TSC SIG will be held on Friday, November 30 at 1:00 pm, and stop by the TS Alliance exhibit in the Exhibit Hall!

January 17-18, 2007

mTOR Signaling: From Cancer to CNS Function

North Bethesda Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, Bethesda, MD

More information coming soon!

April 4-6, 2008

LAM Foundation 2008 International Research Conference (LAMposium)

Westin Hotel, Cincinnati, OH

For more information: www.thelamfoundation.org

May 15-17, 2008

Conference on Diagnosis and Treatment in Pediatric Neurology

Warsaw, Poland

For more information: www.neuroped2008.pl

July 27-Aug 1, 2008

PKD Meeting Sponsored by FASEB

Snowmass, CO

More information coming soon!

September 11-13, 2008

TSC International Research Conference 2008

University of Sussex, Brighton, UK

Organized by the Tuberous Sclerosis Association, U.K.

For more information: www.tuberous-sclerosis.org

NEWS

Cellular Outposts Keep Dendrites Strong and Healthy

HHMI researchers are employing a systematic strategy that they hope will begin to enlighten researchers about the different developmental steps and cellular machinery used to build axons and dendrites. Armed with 3,300 mutant fruit fly lines, the researchers are homing in on the differences in axon and dendrite development. This research was published in the August 24, 2007, issue of *Cell* by Yuh Nung Jan, Ph.D. and Lily Y. Jan, Ph.D., HHMI investigators at the University of California, San Francisco. For the full story, go to: <http://www.hhmi.org//news/jan20070824.html>

New Red Fluorescent Protein a Glowing Success

A new red fluorescent protein -- derived from a brilliant red sea anemone purchased in a Moscow pet shop -- can reveal body tissues more vividly than other fluorescent proteins in use today.

The Russian researchers who developed the new protein said it can render cancers and other target tissues easily visible in living animals, making them glow like Christmas bulbs. This research was published online on August 26, 2007 in Nature Methods by Sergey Lukyanov, Ph.D., D.Sc. and Andrey Zaraisky, Ph.D., D.Sc., HHMI international scholars at the Shemyakin-Ovchinnikov Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Russian Academy of Sciences. For the full story, go to:

<http://www.hhmi.org//news/redprotein20070826.html>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Assistant Director of Research for Public Health

AUTISM SPEAKS

New York, NY

Autism Speaks invites candidates to apply for a newly created position in their New York office. The purpose of this position is to assist senior program director and other research department managers in developing and managing Autism Speaks' public health/epidemiology research portfolio.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work with senior program directors in the research department, especially those in the etiology group, to develop and manage AS public health/epidemiology-based research projects.
- Work with senior program directors to develop and manage project-based workgroups that advances the public health research portfolio.
- Interacting with other research workgroups to integrate scientific efforts and optimize scientific opportunities, especially those aimed at the etiology of autism.
- Assisting the Grants Division in writing any Requests for Proposals (RFPs) related to epidemiology, as well as assisting with relevant funding processes as needed (i.e. peer review).
- Serve as principle staff liaison for epidemiology subcommittee of the Autism Speaks Scientific Affairs Committee to help implement committee priorities and provide administrative support as needed.
- Develop and present materials to both professional and lay audience to facilitate understanding and support of our scientific priorities in autism epidemiology.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

Education: MPH, MD or PhD

Experience: Minimum 2 years' experience in an academic setting, including a residency or post-graduate fellowship.

Related Skills and Knowledge: Other specialized experiences are helpful, including:

Ability to travel extensively

Intermediate proficiency in MS Office Suite

Excellent organizational and communication skills.

Ability to manage and respond quickly to deadlines; work independently as well as part of a team.

Must demonstrate high degree of initiative and a commitment to service in support of the organization's mission, its staff and volunteers.

Please contact Jim Batten at jbatten@veritassearch.com if you know someone who may be interested in this position.

TSC CLINICAL TRIALS AND STUDIES

A list of clinical trials that are currently enrolling study participants can be viewed on the TS Alliance web site at: <http://tsalliance.easycqi.com/pages.aspx?content=370>

TSC INFORMATION

For information about TSC and the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance, 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.

This is the September 2007 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 October 2007 *TSC Alert* contact: vwhitemore@tsalliance.org

Archived issues of the TSC Alert can be found at: <http://www.tsalliance.org/pages.aspx?content=25>