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Making Sense of Our Senses

When people express their love of life, they often describe corporeal sensations—the taste of dark chocolate, the rapture of listening to Mozart’s complex symphonies, or the radiant vision of the sun rising above the sea. While the emotions our senses elicit have moved our souls for ages, sensory neuroscientists are only now beginning to understand how the brain encodes and processes the information inundating our bodies. Understanding the basic mechanisms underlying our perceptions is only one area of sensory science in which scientists are building their careers. Others are translating these research findings into innovations that improve how we experience life, from restoring hearing loss to dampening pain to enriching the scents and flavors of every day products. By Amy Maxmen

Technological advances in areas such as induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cell systems, DNA sequencing, and optogenetics have been accelerating every aspect of sensory science over the past decade. Ruth McKernan, the chief scientific officer of the pain and sensory disorder unit at Pfizer’s Neusentis, based in Cambridge, U.K., is well aware of the recent technological tidal wave. Having entered sensory science in the early 1980s as a graduate student studying neuroscience at the University of London, McKernan has seen the trends change from her studies of neurotransmitter release at single synapses in the rat brain to the ability to now analyze the activity of hundreds of neurons at once.

“This field has been revolutionized by technology,” McKernan says. “We can now answer questions using very large datasets,” drawn from the genetic analyses of hundreds of people and from electrophysiological experiments measuring the output from many neurons synchronously, in real time. Researchers are beginning to learn how the brain integrates thousands of scattered bits of information into recognizable smells, tastes, and objects. And industry scientists are markedly more focused on applying this knowledge and learning to manipulate receptors that respond to the external environment or transmit information.

At Pfizer, for example, McKernan’s team puts the bulk of their sensory science efforts into pain research. With a prescription painkiller market worth more than $40 billion (according to the research report “Pain Management Review and Outlook 2011”), many major pharmaceutical companies are working to develop treatments that are superior to ones that currently exist. Smaller, yet significant efforts in industry also go toward developing treatments for hearing loss and vision problems. “Vision and hearing are more minor industry research areas compared to pain,” says McKernan, “but they will be growing in the future as we learn more about how these senses work, and develop ways to treat disorders with small molecules, antibodies, and stem cells.”

In addition to designing treatments for sensory system malfunctions, jobs are available in the private sector for neuroscientists who want to enrich the lives of our sentient selves. Companies built around this goal serve a sustained need, says Ahmet Baydar, the vice president of global research and development at International Flavors & Fragrances, based in Union Beach, New Jersey. He says, “Our industry will be around as long as people eat and drink, and want to smell nice.”

**DESIGNER TASTES AND SMELLS**

Scientists moved closer to understanding the neurological mechanisms of olfactory perception after Richard Axel and Linda Buck’s 1991 Nobel-winning discovery of about 10,000 genes that encode odorant receptors. Each receptor detects a discrete number of odor molecules in the air and sends signals to the brain for processing.

Researchers can grow their careers around expanding upon this basic knowledge or finding creative applications for this research. For example, there are about 60 scientists who focus exclusively on taste and smell at the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There, sensory neurophysiologist Johannes Reisert seeks to understand fundamental questions about how smell works through recording the electrophysiological properties and analyzing the gene expression of olfactory cells while mice are exposed to a variety of scents. Other Monell researchers investigate questions geared toward real-world solutions since some continued>

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Regional Focus: China—November 15
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Focus on Careers
Neuroscience

“[Talking with industry representatives] puts us into a more translational mindset so that we seriously consider how our work could be applied in the real world.”
—Johannes Reisert

how to disrupt this ability could lead to interventions that end mosquito-transmitted diseases, such as malaria and dengue fever. In another project, Vosshall studies how hunger in Drosophila melanogaster intersects with their perception of smell. The Boston-based nonprofit organization, The Klarman Family Foundation, supports the project because such avenues of research could shed light on the biological basis of eating disorders.

The diverse portfolio of Vosshall’s funding stream is no accident. “Food intake and appetite are sensory issues,” Vosshall says. Although researchers should never pursue projects that do not interest them scientifically, she advises, scientists should think about how their interests might coincide with those of foundations willing to support basic sensory science. After all, grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have become quite difficult to get as federal budgets tighten.

“The secret recipe for staying in the business is to diversify your funding portfolio,” Vosshall explains.

AMPLIFYING THE SOUNDS AROUND US

How slight vibrations within the eardrum communicate all of the qualities of sound continues to intrigue scientists, who are still working toward more fully understanding the inner workings of the auditory system. Much research is specifically focused on the causes and repair of inner ear hair cell damage, a common cause of deafness.

Jim Hudspeth, a neuroscientist at Rockefeller University studying hair cell development sees sound research moving in two directions: molecular and integrative. “One line of research focuses on how [hair] cells change sound into electrical signals and how they amplify inputs,” he says. The other direction asks questions such as “how are complex sounds analyzed and converted into language?” Or, “how do we lock in on a conversation and avoid the noises going on around it?” He explains. Neither research avenue is linked to a single technique, and both typically require specialized laboratory equipment to conduct hearing research.

Hudspeth uses a zebrafish model because the hair cells are more accessible than those found in mammals. His research uses gene expression analysis, mechanical and electrical recordings, and mathematical modeling of how vibrations are amplified through the auditory system. Hudspeth recommends that early career scientists who are interested in the field find laboratories equipped with soundproof rooms and tools for measuring sound, or look for positions that offer generous startup grants and access to a skilled technician since it may be necessary to build and equip a specialized space.

While hair cell regeneration remains a subject for basic research, technologies that improve hearing, such as cochlear implants, have been in use for decades. These implants replicate hair cell-induced auditory nerve transmission using stimulators and an electrode array. Jim Patrick, the chief scientist at Cochlear, a company for cochlear implant products based in New South Wales, Australia, was hooked on the technology from the moment his team placed the first cochlear implant in a deaf volunteer in 1978. With the implant, the patient was able to hear sounds, just well enough to make out what people’s lips were saying. “It’s the most amazing feeling to help change people’s lives,” Patrick says. Since then, the company has developed five generations of implants that have provided progressively better hearing.

Abhijit Kulkarni, the vice president of research and technology at Advanced Bionics, a cochlear implant company based in Valencia, California, says that scientists at the company benefit from skills in biomedical, electrical, or biomechanical engineering that...
Imagine a world without mental suffering…

At Roche Neuroscience, we develop medicines for conditions such as autism, schizophrenia, and Alzheimer’s disease for which there are no effective treatments. Our strategy is based on understanding disease pathophysiology, genetics, and circuitry, along with identification of biomarkers to diagnose patients and assess disease progression, which results in tailored multimodal clinical programs to prove efficacy.

In Neurodevelopmental Disorders, we are harnessing the emerging understanding of autism genetics and its effects on synaptic circuits to develop new discovery platforms. These include modeling autism-related cellular phenotypes using patient-derived iPSC cells and generating and characterizing new animal models of autism. With our ongoing clinical trials we aim to expand our understanding of these disorders, identify points of therapeutic intervention, and improve core symptoms such as social behavior and cognitive deficits.

In Psychiatry, we are taking a neural circuits-based approach to understand neural pathways that underlie symptom domains such as cognitive function and motivational state, which are affected in psychiatric disorders. We are also identifying signaling pathways affected in psychiatric illness to identify novel drug targets. Several programs are in clinical development for next generation therapies for disorders such as schizophrenia and depression, where we are targeting unmet needs such as negative symptoms or cognitive deficits.

We also have several active projects in the area of Neurodegenerative Disorders, such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s Disease. In this area, our understanding of disease pathophysiology, together with the identification of biomarkers of disease progression which predate clinical symptoms, has led us to run trials in prodromal Alzheimer’s patients, where we are attempting to alter the course of the disease before the onset of dementia.

Doing now what patients need next

We are a dynamic and innovative organization, committed to recruiting the best scientific talent to address some of the biggest challenges in modern medicine. If you would like to be part of an industry-leading Neuroscience team, please visit

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help researchers translate basic findings into products that change lives. “Translational research is not something that people necessarily learn in graduate school,” Kulkarni says, “We are always looking to bridge the science with technology.”

CONSTRUCTING VISUAL REALITIES
To understand how the brain converts patterns of light into images, scientists often study individual components of the visual system. For example, to study object recognition, Margaret Livingstone, a neurobiologist at Harvard Medical School in Boston, measures the neuronal activity in the temporal lobe of monkeys as they look at different items. Livingstone figures out how that information is processed into object recognition using specialized software programs. For this type of research, she explains, a background in computer programming is necessary since her team performs a lot of data analysis. She recommends that scientists who want to grow their career in vision science take programming classes or workshops, which are routinely held at various universities.

Beyond studying how the brain integrates visual information, some scientists in academia and industry are using visual neuroscience in ways that might not have been predicted 20 years ago. For instance, Nicola Rohreritz, the founder of VisSee, based in Zurich, Switzerland, and his team have developed a software platform that makes cameras function like a fly eye, which can measure speed and distance between obstacles while in motion. In graduate school, Rohreritz modeled how the fly eye recognizes and assesses this information, and his team at VisSee now uses these models to program software that will translate the data into action. The technology has been used to create “touchless screens” that can detect the hand gestures of surgeons, for instance, to control high-tech equipment, such as CT scanners.

TOUCHING UPON TREATMENTS
Touch may be the first sense that humans develop in the womb, although it might also be the least understood of the senses, says Richard Vickery, a neuroscientist at the University of New South Wales in Australia who studies how the cat brain responds to touch. Perhaps the lack of information on touch might account for the dearth in adequate pain medications in the United States. Even though over $40 billion worth of prescription pain medications are sold each year in the United States, the drugs do not provide relief for more than half of the 100 million Americans living in chronic pain. These drugs also come with risks like addiction and liver damage. Recently, Congress requested that the NIH and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration increase their focus on pain research.

In order to discover more effective pain medications, Clifford Woolf at Harvard Medical School examines how the nervous system processes injuries to sensory fibers, and how the extent of that processing differs among people with different genetic backgrounds. Using this information, he also hopes to create better animal models for pain research by inserting mutations underlying specific pain-inducing diseases in humans into the mouse genome. “There have been many failures in Phase 2b studies of pain medications that looked wonderful in rodent models,” Woolf says, “which raises the worry that the mouse models we are currently using are not good predictors of human efficacy.” Funders apparently agree with him. Recently his project to create better mouse models was supported by a neuroscience consortium funded by the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center that involves scientists from universities in Massachusetts and seven international pharmaceutical companies.

Many biopharmaceutical companies support research and development in the area of pain management. Pfizer’s McKernan says the company focuses on the different ways in which pain works, and on genomic analyses of patients with genetic pain disorders like erythromelalgia—linked to mutations in a gene encoding a sodium channel, causing sufferers to feel as though their limbs are burning—so that they might develop more personalized treatments. While one person might benefit from a drug that blocks ion channels, for example, another might be better off with one that activates opioid receptors. When hiring, McKernan explains, “We are interested in people with expertise in bioinformatics, electrophysiology, genetics, and iPSC cell technology.” She adds that Pfizer often collaborates with scientists in academia, and students who are curious about drug discovery might consider a postdoctoral fellowship at the company. “Learning something that no one knows is a privilege, but to then turn that into something that helps people, that’s just the best thing you could hope for out of your job,” says McKernan.

Amy Maxmen is a freelance writer living in Brooklyn, New York.
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Neuroscience/Neuroradiology Research

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A Catalyst For Brain Injury Research

LSU Health Shreveport

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The LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, LA is seeking candidates for the role of Vice Chancellor for Research. The individual selected for this position will provide executive leadership for research administration and planning, and will work with fellow leaders to strengthen the campus research enterprise and infrastructure for an innovative and multi-disciplinary research program across North Louisiana.

The Vice Chancellor for Research will lead the institution in all areas of research. The Vice Chancellor will represent the campus in matters related to research including federal and state agencies, other research institutions and the local community. A priority for the incumbent will be to facilitate translational research opportunities. Additionally, the Vice Chancellor will be the designated Institutional Official responsible for research across the organization.

The institution’s 436 bed University Hospital serves an urban and rural population of approximately 2.5 million, encompassing 25,000 square miles in Louisiana, East Texas, and Southwestern Arkansas. The resources for basic and clinical research are excellent. We have a long history of successful research collaboration between the basic science and clinical departments. The Virginia Shehee Biomedical Research Institute is ~160,000 total square feet and includes wet lab and staffed core facilities, such as for cellular imaging, DNA array analysis, and mass spectrometry-proteomics. For more information on this opportunity at LSUHSC please visit us at: http://www.lsuhscreveport.edu/VCRworking

Prospectus

Successful candidates must be an MD/PhD or MD with an outstanding record of scholarly achievement, including a history of independent federal research funding, serving as a principal investigator and having administrative experience relevant to clinical and basic research. Requirements include an understanding of the diverse forms of research and scholarship conducted at a comprehensive research university, and an informed perspective about federally sponsored programs, intellectual property, technology transfer and commercialization in the university setting.

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Materials that cannot be submitted electronically may be mailed to: Vice Chancellor for Research Recruitment, Human Resource Management, 1501 Kings Highway, Shreveport, LA 71103.

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Two Tenure-track Positions in Neuroscience

The Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience (http://cbns.ucr.edu) at the University of California, Riverside seeks to appoint highly qualified neuroscientists at the rank of Assistant Professor who wish to build active research programs in the following areas: (1) Glial-Neuronal Interactions/Synaptic Plasticity. Primary research interests would be directed toward, but not limited to, learning and memory, neuroendocrine regulation, reactive gliosis leading to altered brain function, and roles for glia in synapse formation and neurodegenerative disease. (2) Neurogenesis/Neurodevelopment. Primary research interests are directed toward understanding molecular and cellular mechanisms of development, including neurogenesis, synaptogenesis, neural migration, origins and developmental programs of progenitor cells, and mechanisms of circuit formation. We are particularly interested in candidates who employ modern interdisciplinary research approaches using either vertebrate or invertebrate models of neural-glia interactions, synaptic plasticity, and normal or aberrant neurodevelopment leading to disorders of the nervous system.

Curriculum vitae, statements of research and teaching approaches, and contact information for at least three letters of reference should be uploaded electronically through AP Recruit. For Glial-Neuronal Interactions/Synaptic Plasticity: https://aprecruit.ucr.edu/apply/JPF00029; For Neurogenesis/Neurodevelopment: https://aprecruit.ucr.edu/apply/JPF00030. Review of applications will begin 6 January 2014 and continue until the position is filled. Position will be available 1 July 2014.

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Established in 1891 as the University of Texas Medical Department, the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) is home to the oldest medical school in Texas. Since then, UTMB Health has grown from one building, 23 students and 13 faculty members to a modern health science center with more than 70 major buildings, more than 2,500 students and more than 1,000 faculty. The 84-acre campus includes four schools, three institutes for advanced study, a major medical library, a network of hospitals and clinics that provide a full range of primary and specialized medical care, an affiliated Shriners Burns Hospital, and numerous research facilities. UTMB Health is a component of the University of Texas System.

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VACCINOLOGY FACULTY POSITION
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The SCVD is recruiting a faculty member in vaccine technology (including vaccine platforms, novel adjuvants and improved delivery technologies) or chronic diseases. Our “Vaccines for Chronic Diseases” initiative led by the SCVD (www.utmb.edu/scvd) includes the UTMB’s Cancer Center, Center for Addiction Research and Mitchell Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases. This initiative encompasses research at all stages of vaccine development, from basic science/discovery through clinical studies. The successful candidate will be a highly motivated researcher with an established record of extramural funding, or the potential to establish a robust research program, as well as the ability to work in a highly collaborative and interdisciplinary environment. We are recruiting individuals holding MD, PhD, and/or DVM degrees at the Assistant, Associate or Full Professor level, including tenure-track positions for suitably qualified individuals.

UTMB Health provides a rich environment for research, with a number of highly interactive centers of excellence and biomedical institutes all of which have interests in vaccine development. With this wealth of expertise and our state-of-the-art core facilities, UTMB offers outstanding opportunities for collaboration and multidisciplinary research.

Interested candidates should send their curriculum vitae and names of three references electronically to:

Nigel Bourne, PhD
Professor, Pediatric Vaccinology
Sealy Center for Vaccine Development
University of Texas Medical Branch
301 University Blvd, Route 0436
Galveston, TX, 77555-0436
scvd@utmb.edu

DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY FACULTY POSITION
DIRECTOR OF THE MITCHELL CENTER AND VICE CHAIR FOR RESEARCH

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Interested candidates should submit their curriculum vitae and names of three references electronically to:

Anish Bhardwaj, M.D., M.B.A.
John Sealy Chairman and Professor
Department of Neurology
Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs
University of Texas Medical Branch
301 University Blvd, Route 0539
Galveston, Texas 77555-0539
anbhardw@utmb.edu

VECTOR BIOLOGIST FACULTY POSITION
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

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Interested applicants should send curriculum vitae, a statement of personal and academic goals, and names of three references electronically to:

David H. Walker, M.D., Chairman
Department of Pathology
University of Texas Medical Branch
301 University Boulevard, Rte 0609
Galveston, Texas 77555-0609
dwalker@utmb.edu
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Minimum qualifications: Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent in a relevant field of study, plus applicable postdoctoral or faculty experience. To apply, please upload a curriculum vitae and concise summary of current and planned research in response to requisition number 187542 at http://employment.umn.edu. Please also arrange to have 3 letters of recommendation sent to microbiology@umn.edu or Virology Search Committee, Department of Microbiology, University of Minnesota, MMC 196, 420 Delaware Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455.

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To be eligible for consideration, candidates are asked to provide (a) a complete CV; (b) detailed letter of interest addressed to the Anatomy Department Chair; (c) full contact information for 3 professional references –email, phone and cell phone; (d) detailed “statement of teaching philosophy and research interests.” All documents must be submitted online only at www.dmu.edu/employment.

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Disease Epidemiology: The Eck Institute for Global Health and multiple departments are seeking candidates for two tenure-track assistant/associate professors in disease epidemiology, particularly in investigating the epidemiology, population dynamics, and control of infectious diseases from a global perspective with a focus on low and middle income countries. We seek individuals interested in establishing a strong international research program. biology.nd.edu/employment/

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The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), is a world-class institution focused on research in basic sciences with responsibility for the promotion, dissemination and support of science, especially in developing countries. It operates under the aegis of UNESCO and IAEA, and it is located in Trieste (Italy). ICTP seeks applications for a position in Particle and Astroparticle Physics.

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FOCUS ON NEUROSCIENCE

Department of Neuroscience

The Department of Neuroscience invites applications for a new tenure track faculty position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor. Fields of interest include mechanistic studies of ion channels, membrane transporters or receptors using biophysical techniques, and/or structural biological approaches. The position carries competitive salary and start-up funds. Successful candidates will be expected to develop and maintain an active research program within an exciting and vibrant academic environment.

The University of Texas at Austin has strong and interactive research programs in Physics, Chemistry, Molecular Biology, Neuroscience, Computer and Computational Science, Statistics, Mathematics and Engineering with a culture of cross disciplinary collaboration. Successful candidates will have their laboratories in the new Norman Hackerman Building located within the heart of campus.

Austin is located in the Texas hill country and is widely recognized as one of America’s most beautiful and livable cities. Please send curriculum vitae, summary of research interests, and names of five references to:

Dr. Richard Aldrich
Department of Neuroscience
The University of Texas at Austin
1 University Station, C7000
Austin, TX 78712-0132

Homepage: http://www.biosci.utexas.edu/neuroscience

The University of Texas at Austin is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women and minorities are encouraged to apply; a background check will be conducted on applicants selected.
Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science at the University of Zurich invites applications for an

Assistant Professorship Tenure Track in Molecular Approaches to Renewable Energies

in the context of the newly established research focus at the University of Zurich, Light to Chemical Energy Conversion (LightChEC www.lightchec.uzh.ch) with the ultimate goal to design concepts for artificial photosynthesis, the Department of Chemistry wishes to appoint an assistant professor (with tenure track). The LightChEC centre includes research groups from the UZH Chemistry and the Physics Departments as well as from the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology, EMPA. We seek an outstanding and innovative chemist with a strong background in photocatalysis or related areas such as photochemistry, electrochemistry, molecular solar cells, surface science or supramolecular chemistry from either a synthetic or a mechanistic point of view. The candidate is expected to teach a limited contingent at the undergraduate and graduate level in either English or German.

The University of Zurich provides generous research support, including earmarked funds for personnel running expenses and competitive start-up packages. The city of Zurich offers a stimulating scientific environment, with many opportunities for collaborations with research groups within the faculty and at neighbouring institutions. Application packages should include a cover letter, complete curriculum vitae, statement of current and future research plans, list of publications and the names and addresses of three potential referees. The documents should be addressed to Prof. Dr. Michael Hengartner, Dean of the Faculty of Science, University of Zurich, and submitted as a single PDF file at www.mnf.uzh.ch/mare at the latest by November 21, 2013. Further information can be obtained by contacting Prof. Dr. Roger Alberto, Department of Chemistry, at ariel@aci.uzh.ch, and by visiting the new Department website at www.chem.uzh.ch. The University of Zurich is an equal opportunities employer. Applications from women are particularly encouraged.

Applications are invited for:-

School of Life Sciences

The School invites applications for faculty posts at Associate Professor / Assistant Professor rank with prospect for substantiation.

(1) Associate Professor / Assistant Professor (Marine Biology) (Ref. 1314/052(665)/2)

Applicants should have a doctoral degree in a relevant biological science discipline. Applicants showing excellence in any area of marine biology will be considered, particularly those demonstrating experience using modern biological approaches to study marine ecology, biodiversity and/or conservation. The appointee will (a) teach courses in marine biology and related disciplines; (b) develop a competitive research programme with external grant support; and (c) collaborate with faculty members in marine biology and/or environmental science. He/she will be a member of the Simon F.S. Li Marine Science Laboratory, a facility in the School specifically equipped for laboratory and field studies of marine organisms.

(2) Associate Professor / Assistant Professor (Organelle Biogenesis and Function) (Ref. 1314/053(665)/2)

Applicants should (i) have a PhD degree in cell biology, biochemistry, molecular biology or a related field; (ii) have strong interest in engaging in collaborative research in cell biology, particularly using TEM 3D tomography or in-vitro reconstitution methods to study organelle biogenesis and function in model organisms; (iii) have demonstrated potential for establishing a research programme of high quality and international impact; (iv) have relevant postdoctoral training with a proven record of accomplishment; and preferably (v) have teaching experience. Applicants with demonstrated research excellence, scholarships and a track record of extramural competitive funding are particularly encouraged to apply. The appointee will be a member of a newly established Centre for Organelle Biogenesis and Function funded by the Area of Excellence (AoE) funding scheme of the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong.

(3) Associate Professor / Assistant Professor (Food and Nutritional Sciences) (Ref. 1314/054(665)/2)

Applicants should have (i) a PhD degree in a relevant biological science discipline; and (ii) demonstrated potential for excellence in both teaching and research. Applicants with achievement in any aspect of food and nutritional sciences will be considered, particularly those with experience in applying modern biological approaches to the study of food biotechnology, molecular nutrition, and/or nutrigenomics. For those who are in the field of nutrition, registration as a dietician will be desirable but not essential. The appointee will (a) teach undergraduate and postgraduate courses in his/her field of expertise; (b) develop a significant research programme with external grant support; and (c) undertake administrative duties. Multidisciplinary research collaboration is encouraged within the School and with other units at the University. For posts (1) to (3): Appointments will normally be made on contract basis for up to three years initially commencing August 2014, which, subject to mutual agreement, may lead to longer-term appointment or substantiation later. Review of applications will begin in mid-November 2013 and will continue until the posts are filled.

Salary and Fringe Benefits

Salary will be highly competitive, commensurate with qualifications and experience. The University offers a comprehensive fringe benefit package, including medical care, a defined contribution pension for appointments for two years or longer, and housing benefits for eligible appointees. Further information about the University and the general terms of service for appointments is available at http://www.per.cuhk.edu.hk. The terms mentioned herein are for reference only and are subject to revision by the University.

Application Procedure

Application forms are obtainable (a) at http://www.per.cuhk.edu.hk, or (b) in person/by mail with a stamped, self-addressed envelope from the Personnel Office, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong, or (c) by fax polling at (852) 3943 1461. Please send the completed application form, full curriculum vitae, and a research plan (in .pdf format) by e-mail to laurencee@cuhk.edu.hk (subject line: SEARCH2013MRN - <name of the applicant> [for post (1)]; SEARCH2013OBF - <name of the applicant> [for post (2)]; SEARCH2013FNS - <name of the applicant> [for post (3)], preferably by November 15, 2013. Please also arrange three letters of recommendation to be forwarded by referees directly to laurencee@cuhk.edu.hk. The Personal Information Collection Statement will be provided upon request. Please quote the reference number and mark ‘Application – Confidential’ on cover.
We, the National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS), Japan, are pleased to announce the opening of the following positions for female researchers in the fields of astronomy, fusion science, basic biology, physiological sciences or molecular science. We would like to request your assistance in identifying suitable applicants for these positions.

1. **Research fields, position titles and number of recruitments**
   - **Astronomy**: Assistant Professor (1 position)
   - **Fusion science**: Specially Appointed Associate Professor or Specially Appointed Assistant Professor (1 position)
   - **Basic biology**: Associate Professor (1 position)
   - **Physiological sciences**: Project Associate Professor (1 position)
   - **Molecular science**: Professor or Associate Professor (1 position)

2. **Application Deadline**: Tuesday - December 10, 2013
3. **Expected starting date**: As early as possible after being selected.
4. **For more information**: Please contact the following:
   - National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ):
   - National Institute for Fusion Science (NIFS):
   - National Institute for Basic Biology (NIBB):
   - National Institute for Physiological Sciences (NIPS):
     - http://www.nips.ac.jp/en/gt/content/recruit
   - Institute for Molecular Science (IMS):

5. **Miscellaneous**: NINS is promoting gender equality, observing the Equal Employment Opportunity Law.

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**UC RIVERSIDE**

**VIROLOGY FACULTY POSITION**

The Institute for Integrative Genome Biology at the University of California, Riverside invites applications for a new faculty member at the ASSISTANT PROFESSOR level to develop a state-of-the-art research program in the area of mammalian virology. The successful candidate will join an innovative and multidisciplinary Institute for Integrative Genome Biology (IGB) that connects theoretical and experimental researchers from different departments in Life, Physical and Mathematical Sciences, Medicine, Engineering and various campus based Centers. The Institute has a vibrant faculty and excellent state-of-the-art facilities with advanced instrumentation and technical support in genomics, proteomics, microscopy and imaging, and bioinformatics. The individual will become a member of a major academic department in his/her area of expertise with opportunities for a secondary appointment in a variety of departments and colleges. Areas of interest could include the molecular biology of replication and gene expression of RNA viruses, virus-host interactions, innate and adaptive immunity and viral pathogenesis. Candidates working on state-of-the-art mammalian model systems are especially encouraged to apply.

Candidates who incorporate systems biology approaches, large-scale genomics, next generation sequencing, bioinformatics and/or visual microscopy to their research programs are preferred. The successful candidate will be expected to establish and maintain a vigorous, innovative and collaborative research program that is well funded, teach effectively at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and participate in departmental and interdepartmental graduate programs. Applicants must have a Ph.D. and postdoctoral experience. Review of applications will begin on December 1, 2013, and continue until the position is filled. Interested individuals should send: (1) a curriculum vitae, (2) a statement of research interests, and (3) three letters of reference. All information should be sent to https://aprecruit.ucr.edu/apply/JPF00019. For additional information, visit http://www.genomics.ucr.edu/.

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**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Microbiology and Molecular Genetics

The Departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (www.bmb.msu.edu) and Microbiology and Molecular Genetics (www.mmg.msu.edu) invite applications for a tenure-track faculty position at the Assistant or Associate Professor level whose research applies synthetic biology to bioenergy-related questions. We are particularly interested in candidates using innovative, systems-level approaches to yeast to investigate fundamental biological processes, although outstanding investigators using other microbial systems and synthetic approaches will also be considered. Successful candidates will join the highly collaborative interdisciplinary environment at MSU and interact with ongoing research efforts in the Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center (glbrc.msu.edu).

Review of application materials will begin on December 6, 2013 and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Applicants should prepare a single PDF containing, in order, the following documents: cover letter, CV, description of research interests and future directions, and statement of teaching philosophy. The PDF should be uploaded to https://jobs.msu.edu (position #8599). Three or more letters of reference should be sent separately to BioenergyFacultySearch@msu.edu. Questions regarding this position may be sent to the Chair of the Search Committee, Eric Hegg, at BioenergyFacultySearch@msu.edu.

MSU is an Affirmative-Action, Equal-Opportunity Employer and is committed to achieving excellence through diversity. The University actively encourages applications of women, persons of color, veterans, and persons with disabilities, and we endeavor to facilitate employment assistance to spouses or partners of candidates for faculty and academic staff positions.

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**SUNY Upstate Medical University**

**Assistant/Associate Professor**

Department of Cell & Developmental Biology

SUNY Upstate Medical University • Syracuse, NY

The Department of Cell & Developmental Biology at SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York invites applications for two tenure-track positions at the Assistant/Associate Professor level. Candidates must have a Ph.D. or equivalent degree and postdoctoral experience in cell biology or a related field. Applicants with interests in all areas of cellular function and differentiation are welcome; those with expertise in cardiovascular-related areas are particularly encouraged to apply. Applicants at the Associate Professor level should have an established track record of funding and research productivity. All candidates are expected to develop and maintain a vigorous extramurally funded research program and participate in the education of both medical and graduate students.

Candidacy with active NIH, NSF or equivalent funding are preferred. The Department provides a strong, collaborative research community with interests in developmental model systems, signaling, cell motility and the cytoskeleton. We offer excellent resources to support new faculty including high-end imaging facilities, newly-renovated space, competitive salaries and startup packages, and active faculty mentoring. Syracuse provides a diverse, dynamic and affordable metropolitan environment with easy access to the outstanding recreational opportunities of the Adirondack Mountains and the Finger Lakes, while the proximity of SUNY Upstate to Syracuse University and SUNY ESF campuses fosters many productive scientific interactions. To learn more go to http://www.upstate.edu/cdb/.

Please submit a CV and a research statement describing past accomplishments and future plans, as a single PDF file, and arrange to have three letters of recommendation sent to: fontanek@upstate.edu.

Review of applications will begin Dec. 1 and continue until the position is filled.

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The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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Science Careers

online@sciencecareers.org
THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL & BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON invites applications for two tenure-track/tenured faculty positions at the assistant, associate or full professor level. Candidates with truly outstanding accomplishments in any area of research of importance to chemical and biological engineering will be considered for either position, with preference given to the following fields:

- Inorganic materials synthesis and state-of-the-art characterization (PVL 77711).
- Statistical mechanics, atomistic simulations and thermodynamics (PVL 77712).

For more information, please visit ohr.wisc.edu and search by PVL number. Apply online at facsearch.cbe.wisc.edu.

Applications received by December 31, 2013 will receive full consideration.

Women and candidates from groups traditionally under-represented in engineering are strongly encouraged to apply.

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**Open Rank Faculty Position**
**University of Maryland College Park**
**Department of Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics**

The Department of Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics at the University of Maryland College Park is seeking to fill a tenure-track faculty position in the broad areas of cell biology and molecular genetics using animal, plant, or microbial systems. The appointment may be made at the Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor level, commensurate with qualifications and experience.

The successful candidate will be expected to maintain a cutting-edge externally funded research program that synergizes with existing core groups in the department including genomics and gene regulation, RNA structure and function, plant biology, microbial pathogenesis and immunology, and virology. The appointed candidate will also participate in undergraduate and graduate teaching. Applicants must have a doctorate degree, an outstanding publication record, and a commitment to excellence in teaching.

The University of Maryland, College Park is the flagship campus of the University System of Maryland. Close proximity to Washington DC, Baltimore, and the Maryland Biotechnology Corridor facilitates interactions with an extraordinary range of major research institutions such as NIH, NIST, FDA, USDA and JCVI, in addition to providing a rich cultural environment.

Applications should be submitted electronically to https://jobs.umd.edu/postings/22217 and addressed to Dr. Charles Delwiche, chair of the faculty search committee. Applications should consist of a single PDF file containing
(1) a cover letter, (2) curriculum vitae, (3) summary of research plans (maximum two pages) and teaching philosophy (one page), and (4) contact information for at least three references. Complete applications should be received by January 31, 2014, but will be accepted until the position is filled.

The University of Maryland is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and members of underrepresented groups are especially encouraged to apply.
The Wistar Institute, an NCI-designated Cancer Center and independent research institute in Philadelphia, is seeking an outstanding candidate for a faculty position in the Center for Systems and Computational Biology (CSCB) and the Cancer Center Program in Gene Expression and Regulation. We are seeking candidates at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor to develop or expand an extramurally-funded research program in functional genomic approaches to cancer biology and pathogenesis. Specific areas of interest include (but are not limited to) genetic and epigenetic changes in cancer, genomic responses to chemotherapy and drug-resistance, high-throughput functional genetic or chemical biology-based screens for defining the molecular pathogenesis of cancer. Of particular interest are candidates integrating innovative bioinformatics and NextGen sequencing based experimental approaches to problems in human cancer.

The Wistar Institute, an NCI-designated Cancer Center, offers highly competitive start-up support, salary and fringe benefits in addition to a superb and interactive research environment, including a newly constructed state-of-the-art research tower and outstanding core facilities in proteomics, genomics, microscopy, high-throughput molecular screening, bioinformatics, and flow cytometry. The Institute’s location adjacent to the University of Pennsylvania campus provides for academic and clinical collaborations, and opportunities for training graduate students.

Applications will be reviewed as received and will be accepted until the position is filled. To ensure timely consideration, applicants should submit applications before December 10, 2013. The application should include: a curriculum vitae, a brief summary of past and future research interests, history of research funding support (if applicable), and three letters of reference. Applications should be sent by e-mail to: Paul Lieberman, Search Committee Chair, c/o Maria Colelli (colelli@wistar.org), The Wistar Institute, 3601 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. EOE/AAMF/DV.

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Genomics Faculty Positions

The Department of Biological Sciences at Clemson University invites applications for two full-time tenure-track faculty appointments to begin August 2014: one in Microbial Genomics and one in Eukaryotic Genomics. Clemson University is ranked 21st among national public universities by U.S. News & World Report and is located on Lake Hartwell near the Blue Ridge mountains in beautiful Upstate South Carolina. The department offers degrees in microbiology, biological sciences, and environmental toxicology.

Applicants must have a PhD, postdoctoral experience, and a strong publication record. The successful applicant is expected to establish a nationally recognized, externally funded research program, and to contribute to the Department’s undergraduate and graduate teaching missions. We offer very competitive salaries and start-up packages. We anticipate making the appointments at the Assistant Professor level.

Microbial Genomics: We seek colleagues using cutting-edge genomic or metagenomic techniques to address important questions in virology, microbial-host interactions, microbial ecology, or pathogenesis.

Eukaryotic Genomics: We seek colleagues who are applying genomic tools to address important biological questions ranging from human health and disease to the origin and maintenance of organismal diversity and adaptation.

Applications must include a CV, three reprints, a research plan, a statement of teaching interests and contact information for three references. Review of applications will begin December 1, 2013 and continue until the position is filled. Application materials should be sent by e-mail as one PDF file to: microbioresearch@clemson.edu for the Microbial position or to biosearch@clemson.edu for the Eukaryotic position. Further information about these positions and the department are available at: http://www.clemson.edu/biosci and http://findjobs.clemson.edu.

Clemson University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against any individual or group of individuals on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status or genetic information.

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POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

The Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie Institution of Washington, invites applications for postdoctoral fellowships. The Geophysical Laboratory emphasizes interdisciplinary experimental and theoretical research in fields spanning geoscience, microbiology, chemistry, and physics. The Laboratory supports world-class facilities in high-pressure research; organic, stable isotope and biogeochemistry; mineral physics and petrology; and astrobiology.

Please visit the website: https://jobs.carnegiescience.edu/jobs/carnegie-fellowships-for-the-geophysical-laboratory/ to view a list of required materials and application instructions. Also, see the website: http://www.gl.ciw.edu/ for a listing of personnel, current research interests, and major facilities.

Completed applications for Carnegie fellowships should be submitted by January 15, 2014.

The Geophysical Laboratory is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CARL MOORE ENDOWED CHAIR in Chemistry and Biochemistry
Loyola University Chicago

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry invites applications for the Carl Moore Endowed Chair beginning fall 2014. Preference is for an appointment at the rank of PROFESSOR, although advanced ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS will also be considered for the position. Applicants from all research areas of chemistry or biochemistry will be considered but analytical biochemistry is of particular interest for this position. A Ph.D. degree in chemistry, biochemistry, or in a closely related field is required. At the time of application, the successful candidate will be expected to have a tenured appointment and an externally funded research program as well as a notable number of highly cited publications. The incumbent will be expected to maintain an internationally recognized and a competitive externally funded research program, leading to continued publications and funding opportunities. This appointment will be accompanied by a reduced teaching load. The Department offers Ph.D., MS, and ACS approved B.S. degrees. For more details about the department, visit the website: http://www.luc.edu/chemistry. Candidates should complete an online application at the website: http://www.careers.luc.edu, with a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and a description of research and teaching interests. Applicants should provide the names and e-mail addresses of three individuals prepared to speak to their professional qualifications for this position. Review of applications will begin on December 15, 2013 and applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Underrepresented minorities and women are especially encouraged to apply. Loyola University Chicago is An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY
Saint Anselm College
Manchester, NH

The Department of Biology invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position beginning August 2014. A Ph.D. and support of the College’s mission are required. The successful candidate will teach Comparative Anatomy (with lab), Human Anatomy and Physiology (with lab), and a third course in their specific area of expertise. Continued research activities and mentoring of undergraduates are also integral to this position. Qualified individuals should submit a cover letter and curriculum vitae online at the website: http://www.anselm.edu/hr. Three letters of recommendation should be submitted to Dr. Donald Rhodes, e-mail: drhodes@anselm.edu, no later than December 1, 2013.

Successful candidates will be able to assist the college to further its strategic goals for institution-wide diversity and inclusiveness.

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