Postdoctoral Position in Age-related Macular Degeneration

A postdoctoral position is available immediately in the laboratory of Kaustabh Ghosh, Ph.D. in the Department of Bioengineering at the University of California, Riverside (UCR). With funding from the NIH and BrightFocus Foundation and an interdisciplinary approach, the Ghosh Research Group is committed to developing new treatments for age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

**Job Description:** This position will focus on the pathogenesis of ‘dry’ AMD, which marks the early stage of this potentially blinding disease affecting the global aging population. Using a unique rhesus macaque model of dry AMD, this project will build on the recent discovery by Ghosh Research Group that aging leads to an increase in choroidal vascular stiffness that, in turn, enhances vascular sensitivity to complement injury, a key risk factor for AMD. Our work also aims to establish a cell culture model of the choroidal vessel/RPE interface that will enable us to both deeply understand the mechanisms driving dry AMD pathogenesis and identify novel therapeutic and diagnostic agents for superior AMD management. To drive this innovative research forward, we are looking for a highly motivated individual to perform interdisciplinary research involving animal and cell culture models of AMD, and principles and techniques related to vascular biology, inflammation, mechanobiology, biochemistry, and molecular biology.

Individuals who are interested in pursuing high-risk, high-reward research are particularly encouraged to apply. The successful candidate will be expected to work independently, yet collaborate with researchers with diverse expertise.

**Requirements:** Candidates must be a recent (or soon-to-be) Ph.D. graduate or a current postdoctoral fellow in ophthalmology, surgery or biomedical sciences/engineering. The successful applicant will have a strong research background in vision research, molecular biology, and biochemistry, with an excellent publication record and strong communication skills. Research experience in vascular biology, inflammation, and ‘omics’ approaches is also highly desirable. Previous experience with mammalian cell culture, fluorescence microscopy, flow cytometry, PCR, immunoblotting, and immunohistochemistry is required.

Salary will be based on University guidelines for postdoctoral fellows, and will be commensurate with experience.

**Environment:** UCR is one of 10 universities within the prestigious University of California system that is renowned for pioneering research. State-of-the-art facilities for proteomics, genomics, imaging, flow cytometry, and micromechanical measurements are all available on campus. Further, the close proximity of UC Los Angeles, UC San Diego, UC Irvine, Beckman Research Institute at the City of Hope, and Loma Linda Medical School, which are all located within driving distance from UCR, offer numerous opportunities for close collaborations with renowned scientists in AMD, atherosclerosis, and vascular inflammation. The campus is also within easy driving distance of dozens of major cultural and recreational sites, as well as coastal, mountain, and desert destinations.

**How to Apply:** Interested applicants should send (via email) a brief (one-page) statement of research interests as well as their detailed CV and contact information for three references to:

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