Council on Cardiovascular Disease in the Young

CVDY Visiting Professorship in Pediatric Cardiology

Program Description

The American Heart Association’s Council on Cardiovascular Disease in the Young (CVDY) is proud to announce the kickoff of the CVDY Visiting Professorship in Pediatric Cardiology. This sponsorship facilitates in-depth, educationally focused visits by prominent experts in the field of pediatric cardiology and cardiovascular medicine. The goal of this professorship is to encourage mentorship and academic development of pediatric cardiology fellows and faculty who are early in their academic careers at the host institution. Grants will be up to $2,000.

The first two grantees were announced at Scientific Sessions 2006. Dr. Tal Geva is scheduled to visit Rochester, N.Y., in September 2007. Dr. Paul Weinberg visited Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., on June 25 and 26, 2007, and delivered a wonderful two-day symposium on pediatric cardiac pathology. The symposium was extremely well received by fellows and faculty from the Washington–Baltimore region; his review of specimens was the highlight of the visit.

As most of us know, Dr. Weinberg is considered a world-renowned expert in the pathology of congenital heart disease. He is the director of cardiac registry at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, overseeing a museum collection of over 2,600 postmortem heart specimens catalogued and stored for ongoing study. He conducts several pathology conferences each week in Philadelphia. His former trainees proudly state that his teaching and mentorship was one of the highlights that they carry with them throughout their careers. His two-day visit included lectures and specimen review in these topics:

1. Segmental Approach to Diagnosis of Congenital Heart Disease
2. Ventricular Septal Defects
3. Conotruncal Anomalies: Dr. Weinberg
4. Rings, Slings and Other Vascular Things
5. Common Atrioventricular Canal
6. Heterotaxy Syndrome

Who Should Apply

Pediatric cardiology programs in the United States with or without pediatric cardiology fellowships are eligible to apply. General pediatric programs without divisions of pediatric cardiology are also welcome to apply. The chief of the pediatric cardiology division or pediatric department should serve as the “host” of the visiting professor and the visit. The divisions of pediatric cardiology that apply should be those divisions/departments that do not typically have the opportunity to bring in prominent experts in the field of pediatric cardiovascular medicine to their institution. The host may choose a visiting professor from the United States or abroad. The visiting professor should be a regionally, nationally or internationally noted figure.

1. Institutions that are represented by members of the CVDY Mentoring Committee are not eligible to apply for the visiting fellowships award.
2. A visiting professor should only receive one honorarium per year.
3. An institution may not have a visiting professor in two consecutive years.

Awards Given

There will be a total of up to three awards given to three different “host” institutions. There will be one visiting professor per institution. The award will be for $2,000; this will cover the visiting professor’s travel expenses and the honorarium of $1,000. The visiting professor will stay for two days. During that time, the visiting professor will be involved in some or all of the following activities: giving lectures, leading clinical discussions, participating in clinical patient rounds, giving grand rounds and/or attending cardiac conferences. The visiting professor will meet individually with fellows and young faculty members. The meeting between the fellows and junior faculty members with the visiting professor should be to provide encouragement towards academic careers. This is an essential component of the visit and one of the purposes of the visiting professorship grant.

How to Apply

Apply by sending the following to navida.virani@heart.org. Grant recipients are chosen by the CVDY Mentoring Committee. Each application is reviewed carefully by all members of the committee, and three applications are chosen for the award each year.

The application must include:

1. The host’s and the visiting professor’s curriculum vitae.
2. A letter signed by the proposed visiting professor affirming acceptance of the “invitation.”
3. Two-to-four-page statement (not more than 1,000 words) by the host institution addressing the following points:
   a. The specific needs, aims and goals of the division or department in having this visiting professor speak.
   b. How does this visiting professor advance the aims of the division/department?
   c. Proposed agenda of the two-day visit.
   d. Specify the people at the host institution who will be exposed to the visiting professor. Please include approximate number of fellows, junior faculty, senior level faculty, medical students and residents who will individually meet the visiting professor and others involved in the visit.

Continued on page 2
Selection Process

1. Nationally competitive
2. Spring and fall deadlines
3. Awards announced at the Annual CVDY Dinner at AHA Scientific Sessions

For more information please contact:
Dr. Peter Lang
Chairman, Council on Cardiovascular Disease in the Young’s (CVDY) Mentoring Committee
617-355-8539
peter.lang@cardio.chboston.org

Navida Virani
Manager, Council on Cardiovascular Disease in the Young (CVDY)
American Heart Association
214-706-1826
navida.virani@heart.org

Report From the Chair
Catherine L. Webb, MD, Chair

You will be reading this just before Scientific Sessions in Orlando in November. In addition to encouraging all of you to come to the meeting and attend the excellent abstract and poster sessions, I would like to highlight the many important presentations related to pediatric cardiology which the hardworking members of the Program Committee have organized this year. Check your final program for times and locations.

Sunday, Nov. 4
• Molecular Therapies for Congenital Heart Disease: Mending Broken Hearts in the Young
• Timing of Elective Surgery for Congenital Heart Lesions Revisited
• Optimizing Late Outcomes of Tetralogy of Fallot Repair

Monday, Nov. 5
• How Are They a Decade Later? Late Outcomes in Pediatric Heart Transplant Recipients
• Update on Long-term Follow-up After Catheter Intervention: Are the Promises Being Kept?
• How to Manage Tetralogy of Fallot with Pulmonary Atresia
• How to Use ICDs in Children at Risk for Sudden Death

Tuesday, Nov. 6
• Management of the Child with Heart Failure
• The Emerging Role of Aortic Wall Abnormalities in Congenital Heart Defects
• How to Transition the Adult with Congenital Heart Disease
• New Endocarditis Prophylaxis Guidelines

Wednesday, Nov. 7
• How to Improve Neuroprotection in the Neonate Undergoing Cardiovascular Surgery

I would also encourage all of you to think about speakers you would like to hear for the Nadas and Rashkind Lectures next year at Sessions 2008. The Program Committee is eager to arrange for lecturers that our membership believe are important and informative which enhances our knowledge in Pediatric Cardiology for the Nadas Lecture. Also, who can ensure our education in a broader context for the Rashkind Lecture. It is important that we hear from you so we know your preferences. Please contact the new Chair (as of December 1st) of the Program Committee, Dr. Seema Mital (seema.mital@sickkids.ca) with your ideas.

The CVDY Mentoring Committee has received a number of applications for the CVDY Visiting Professorships. By the time you read this, the selections will have been made and will be announced at Sessions. It is gratifying to see the great interest this new program has generated. More details on this exciting new program are included in this issue’s feature article. The AHA International Mentoring Committee has also been hard at work matching international attendees with a mentor from the United States at Sessions. If you are asked to participate in this program, please do so enthusiastically if you can.

From the Editor
Craig Sable, MD, csable@cnmc.org

We are continually working to improve the Website, members services and the newsletter. If you have suggestions, postings for Job Opportunities, People on the Move, or Conference Announcements, or want to volunteer to help, please do not hesitate to contact me. We are also looking for suggestions (and authors) for feature articles and member spotlights.

Membership in CVDY is important and I would encourage you to continue your membership at the premium professional level, and would also encourage all members at this level to consider becoming Fellows of the American Heart Association (FAHA) (http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=3005387). The CVDY Leadership Committee votes to admit new FAHAs twice a year at the November and April meetings. I also encourage you to help in recruiting new members for CVDY.

CVDY has nominated a number of our members for AHA and CVDY awards at Sessions and we hope that CVDY will be prominently represented in the recipients again this year. Check your programs for the awards ceremonies and congratulate your friends and colleagues if they win any of these prestigious honors.

The CVDY continues to be an important AHA Council. We have many dedicated pediatric cardiologists who volunteer considerable time to make sure this Council meets the needs of our discipline and advocates for children with heart disease. Interest in working with the Council is burgeoning. A number of people have expressed a desire to work with us, but not all could be accommodated this year. Please be assured that we are aware of your interests and will do what we can to tap your expertise in the future, as needs arise. Please reiterate your interest to any member of the CVDY Leadership Committee (www.americanheart.org/cvdy) or the Nominating Committee (daniels.stephen@chden.org; cwebb@childrensmemorial.org) again this year if you continue to want to be involved in the CVDY Council activities.
Job Opportunities

IDAHO

We are looking for a noninvasive general pediatric cardiologist in Boise, Idaho, to join a growing practice in a growing area. Pluses in a candidate should include interest in preventive or adult congenital cardiology.

Everyone that comes to Boise loves it, so it has drawn a young and sophisticated medical community. The area has tremendous outdoor activities nearby, with sagebrush and high desert canyons in the mountains to the south, and forests, alpine lakes, whitewater and ski slopes to the north. Hike, bike, hunt, fish, you name it.

Fortunately, to enjoy all of that, there would be an unusual amount of flexibility and control over schedule, with lots of freedom to pursue professional training or personal goals, and even part-time work could be arranged.

It is still mostly fee-for-service medicine here. Cardiology enjoys strong infrastructure. The schools are good, and the local university and community support many cultural and sporting events. It’s the whole package.

Please contact Michael S. Womack, MD, for more details on this opportunity:
100 E. Idaho, Suite 204
Boise, ID 83712
Fax: 208-381-7351
mswomack@msn.com

NORTH CAROLINA

The Division of Pediatric Cardiology of Sanger Clinic and Levine Children’s Hospital in Charlotte, N.C., is recruiting an adult congenital heart disease (ACHD) specialist to help direct a busy and growing service. The successful applicant should be board certified/eligible in Pediatric Cardiology and preferably have completed a specialty fellowship in ACHD. The successful applicant will join a rapidly growing practice of seven pediatric cardiologists and two cardiothoracic surgeons. The Sanger Clinic also has a large and busy adult cardiology practice with several adult cardiologists involved in the ACHD service. The candidate should have excellent interpersonal skills and ideally an interest/expertise in imaging, particularly magnetic resonance imaging.

The Sanger Clinic is the largest Congenital Heart Center in North Carolina, performing 300 surgeries and 300 cardiac catheterizations per year. The practice is affiliated with Carolinas Healthcare System, the fourth largest hospital authority in the country, but operates much like a private practice with very competitive compensation and benefits. The hospital authority is poised to open Levine Children’s Hospital in the fall of 2007, an $85 million state-of-the-art facility.

Interested applicants should fax or e-mail their CVs to Dr. Stern.

Herbert J Stern, MD, FACC
Director, Division of Pediatric Cardiology
Sanger Clinic and Levine Children’s Hospital
hstern@sanger-clinic.com
Fax: 704-543-0018

MICHIGAN

The Department of Pediatrics at William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich., is seeking an additional cardiologist to join a rapidly growing group of three cardiologists. The ideal candidate should have established experience in echocardiography. This is in a busy, noninvasive cardiology practice with 2,600 outpatient visits and 3,600 echocardiograms annually. The practice provides inpatient services to a busy 64-bed NICU, an eight-bed PICU and a 40-bed general pediatric service. The Department of Pediatrics has a well-established residency program and support from the entire spectrum of pediatric medical and surgical subspecialties. William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, is a 1,061-bed tertiary care, teaching, research and referral hospital in suburban Detroit and is the busiest hospital in the United States. Competitive salary and benefits package.

Interested BC/BE candidates should send a CV to:
M. Jeffrey Maisels, MD
Chair, Department of Pediatrics
William Beaumont Hospital
3601 West 13 Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48073
e-mail jmaisels@beaumont.edu
telephone 248-551-0412.

MARYLAND

The Helen B. Taussig Division of Pediatric Cardiology at the Johns Hopkins Hospital is accepting applications for a faculty position/part-time, at the Assistant Professor level. The position is available immediately.

This is a unique opportunity for an individual who requires job flexibility but wishes to remain clinically productive, with the possibility of resumption of full-time status in the future. Excellent clinical and communication skills and proficiency in echocardiography are expected. Applicant must be board certified/board eligible.

The successful applicant will provide general pediatric cardiac consultation and care for outpatients on the campus of Johns Hopkins Hospital and in several outreach offices around the state. The position also includes approximately seven weeks of inpatient service per year, based on current staffing models.

The Division now consists of 12 full-time physicians and a support staff of 23. Patients are seen on campus and at eight off-campus offices. Last year there were 6,500 outpatient visits and 9,000 echoes performed.

In 2010 the Division will move in to the new Children’s Center, a 205 bed acute care hospital which is part of a 1.5 million-square-foot hospital replacement building project begun last year. There will be a fully integrated outpatient Congenital Cardiac Center which will include fetal cardiology, general pediatric cardiology and the adult
congenital heart disease program, with contiguous echo lab, exercise/pulmonary function lab and faculty office space.

Interested individuals should contact:

Joel Brenner, MD
Director, Pediatric Cardiology
Brady 522
Johns Hopkins Hospital
600 North Wolfe Street
Baltimore, MD 21287
Tel: 410 614 6746
Fax: 410 955 0897
Pager: 410 283 5041
jbrenne@jhmi.edu

TENNESSEE

The Pediatric Heart Institute at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine and LeBonheur Children’s Medical Center is undergoing aggressive growth and expansion. We are recruiting three additional pediatric cardiologists/cardiac intensivists, and a pediatric cardiac anesthesiologist to join a group of eight pediatric cardiologists and two pediatric CV surgeons. Additional faculty are needed to meet the needs of an active, financially stable, freestanding children’s hospital in Memphis with a population of 1.3 million.

Expertise and interest in outpatient cardiology, noninvasive cardiology and cardiac intensive care (including pediatric heart failure, heart transplant, and/or perioperative management) are particularly desirable. Successful applicants will share in one or more of the following responsibilities: outpatient clinics; pre- and post-operative management of patients undergoing surgery for acquired and congenital heart disease; teaching pediatric cardiology fellows, pediatric residents and medical students; and night and weekend coverage. The cardiac anesthesiologist will be part of a team caring for patients in the operating room and cardiac catheterization laboratory. Research facilities include a Pediatric Clinical Research Center and a Children’s Foundation Research Center. Opportunities are also available for collaborative research through St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Ongoing NIH-funded studies on hypertension and myocarditis are in progress, and the facilities are equipped to study cardiomyocyte physiology and molecular cardiology.

Applicants should be BC/BE in pediatric cardiology. Salary will be commensurate with training and experience. UTHSC is an AA/EEO Titles VI and IX, Section 504, ADA/ADEA Employer.

Interested candidates should send or e-mail a cover letter and curriculum vitae to:

Thomas K. Chin, MD
Director of Pediatric Cardiology and the Pediatric Heart Institute
777 Washington Ave.
Suite F215
Memphis, TN 38105
E-mail: tchin@utmem.edu

Special Announcements

Planning a National Cardiovascular Data Registry for Congenital Heart Disease

The American College of Cardiology (ACC) approved a proposal to develop a national registry to capture diagnostic catheterization and cath-based interventions in pediatric and adult patients with congenital heart disease. Through the National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR), the ACC plans to leverage the expertise in existing CHD registries, and develop collaborations with national associations, in an effort to help cardiologists and surgeons measure performance and outcomes of procedures, design quality improvement initiatives and improve quality of care for CHD patients. Dr. Gerard Martin, Chief of Cardiology at Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., chairs the ACC working group. The registry is expected to launch in 2008.

Congenital Heart Surgeon Receives Passion Award for Dedication to International Pediatric Heart Surgery

William Novick, MD, Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon from the University of Tennessee, Memphis, Tenn., and founder and Medical Director of the International Children’s Heart Foundation, had been nominated for the Passion Award. The award, given yearly by Frederique Constant of Geneva, recognizes a commitment to and success in one’s chosen field. We are pleased to announce that at the annual ceremony on June 28, 2007, Dr. Novick was selected as a co-winner from a group of 10 finalists representing seven countries. The International Children’s Heart Foundation is a medical charity dedicated to providing free pediatric cardiac surgery to needy children throughout the world. To date, the foundation’s medical teams have provided lifesaving heart surgery to almost 3,000 children with congenital heart defects in 20 different countries.