

Fellowship Opportunity in Molecular Imaging of Cancer

The UCLA Scholars in Oncologic Molecular Imaging (SOMI) Program is a unique postdoctoral training program for biological researchers and physicians who desire to integrate molecular imaging and cancer research. Molecular imaging provides powerful and sensitive tools to observe and measure the molecules, molecular processes, and events that distinguish malignant from normal tissues. Oncologic molecular imaging combines the disciplines of cellular and molecular biology, chemistry, physics, biomathematics and bioinformatics, pharmacology, imaging sciences, and clinical medicine to advance cancer research, diagnosis, and management. Postdoctoral fellows, with backgrounds from across the basic sciences and medicine, will participate in an integrated, cross-disciplinary training program under the mentorship of a diverse group of basic science and clinical faculty members representing 7 departments and 6 divisions in the David Geffen School of Medicine, the College of Letters and Sciences, and the Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science. The centerpiece of the program is the opportunity to conduct innovative molecular imaging research co-mentored by two faculty members from complementary disciplines. Fellows also engage in specialized coursework, seminars, and a clinical tutorial program. Graduates of SOMI will be uniquely trained to lead research programs to study cancer in an organismal context with state-of-the-art technologies. Support is provided for salary, supplies and travel, for up to three years. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. or M.D. degree and must be either a US citizen or permanent resident. We are particularly interested in recruiting trainees who are underrepresented minorities or come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. SOMI's mission is to train the next generation of molecular imaging scientists. The ability to image specific molecules, molecular pathways, and processes is becoming increasingly important in the development and evaluation of targeted therapeutics for cancer. SOMI provides the opportunity for talented trainees to become well-versed in all aspects of this process. Training faculty bring backgrounds in physics, mathematics, chemistry, molecular and cell biology, pharmacology, pathology, and clinical medicine to this unique cross-disciplinary training program. Fellows pursue innovative molecular imaging under the guidance of two mentors from complementary fields. The training environment is enriched by the opportunity to engage in specialized coursework, a clinical tutorial program, quarterly research dinners, and participation in grant preparation, with an overall goal of preparing trainees to successfully transition into faculty positions.

<http://www.crump.ucla.edu/somi/>

