

# Postdoctoral Update

## Office of Postdoctoral Affairs



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October 16, 2012

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### **Reminder:**

**Postdoc Hires:** All UF employees on a Postdoctoral Associate or Postdoctoral Fellow appointment may enroll in the PostDocCare health plan [online](#). [More info](#)

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## Postdoc Benefits Q&A

Some information about postdoc benefits all postdocs should be aware of during the current open enrollment period:

**Q: If I am a postdoc associate with PostdocCare now, do I need to do anything during this October open enrollment period to keep my PostdocCare health insurance?**

**A: No action is required if the Postdoc does not need to add, change or cancel coverage.**

**Q: If I am a postdoc associate, when can I sign up for GatorCare?**

**A: GatorCare for postdocs will be effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2013. The Open Enrollment period will be in May of 2013. Human Resource Services will inform postdocs as to what will be required for GatorCare enrollment**

**Q: Are postdoc associates eligible for the new UFSelect benefits?**

**A: Yes. Enrollment for UFSelect is going on during this current open enrollment period.**

**Q: Are postdoc fellows also eligible for the new UFSelect benefits?**

**A: Yes. Payment is handled differently than for Postdoc Associates, but fellows are eligible.**

*Enrollment for UFSelect is going on during this current open enrollment period.*

**Q: What if I miss signing up for UFSelect during his open enrollment period?**

**A:** The next opportunity for signing up for UFSelect and other benefits will be the next open enrollment period in Fall of 2013.

**Q:** I missed the Postdoc Benefits Workshop on Oct. 12. Can you provide me with information on what was covered?

**A:** View the Open Enrollment presentation here: [Benefits Workshop Presentation](#) (.pptx)

*Submitted by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and the Human Resource Services Benefits Office*

## UF Postdoc Peer Mentoring Program

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs is pleased to announce a new mentoring program for and by postdocs. The Postdoc Peer Mentoring Program will facilitate a mentoring relationship between senior and junior postdocs at UF in the hopes it will provide assistance and guidance to postdocs new to Gainesville and UF.

Are you a senior postdoc (been at UF for 3 or 4 years) who would like to mentor a new postdoc? If so, or if you would like to know more about the program, please contact Kim Pace ([kpace@aa.ufl.edu](mailto:kpace@aa.ufl.edu)) with your name, department and college and the number of years you have been at UF as a postdoc. We will hold an informational meeting for interested postdoc mentors in November.

Please e-mail me indicating your interest in the program by October 26.

*Submitted by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs*

## Invitation to Assist with Judging at Graduate Student Research Day

Dear UF Postdocs,

NSF-funded Innovation through Institutional Integration Program (I-Cubed) and the Graduate School will be hosting its first Graduate Student Research Day on October 23rd, 2012. The Graduate Student Research Day is an event featuring research from graduate students throughout campus in science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), including social, behavioral and economic (SBE), disciplines and humanities. This year's event, themed "Professional Development", will engage attendees in a competitive poster session, workshops and a panel discussion. The day will culminate with a wrap session where we will announce the winner of the posters and announce the winner of the graduate student mentoring award.

We would love for your participation and marketing of the event to your peers and co-workers. This event is planned and organized by graduate students with the needs of our peers in mind. This year's poster session is expected to have upwards of 180 participants.

We would also like to ask your assistance with judging the posters at this year's poster session.

The poster session will be held on Tuesday, October 23rd, 2012. Judges will be needed between the hours of 8:30 AM until 12:00 PM in the Grand Ballroom of the Reitz Union.

Judging will occur during 3 sessions:

- 8:30 - 9:00 am - briefing judges on poster judging rubric
- 9:00 - 9:30 am - evaluating posters without poster presenters
- Two 1:15 minute sessions with poster presenters
  - 9:30 -10:45 AM - Posters with even numbers
  - 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM - Posters with odd numbers

Each judge will be evaluating 3-5 posters during each session. We will try to match posters to your field of expertise as closely as possible.

We would greatly appreciate your participation as a judge.

If you are interested in being a judge, please contact Lindsey-Kay Lauderdale at [lklauder@ufl.edu](mailto:lklauder@ufl.edu) by Friday, October 19.

For more information about Graduate Student Research day, visit our website:

Thank you in advance.

Submitted by:

Mark W. Cunningham Jr.

Graduate Research Assistant

Department of Physiology & Functional Genomics

[Mcunnin2@ufl.edu](mailto:Mcunnin2@ufl.edu)

## The Association for Frontotemporal Dementias (AFTD) - funding opportunity due 11/16/12

### Postdoctoral Fellowship

FTD, also called frontotemporal dementia or frontotemporal lobar degeneration (FTLD), is a disease process that causes a group of brain disorders characterized by changes in behavior and personality, language and/or motor skills, and a deterioration in a person's ability to function.

The AFTD Research Fellowship will foster basic, translational, clinical and/or epidemiological FTD research by an outstanding scientist at the beginning of his/ her career. An individual with a Ph.D., M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. at an academic facility, teaching hospital, or research institution who will be in the first, second, or third year of his/her postdoctoral training at the start of the fellowship term is eligible to apply.

A 2-year fellowship, \$55,000 each year will be awarded to cover stipend and benefits with any remaining balance of these funds permitted to be designated to direct research expenses.

### Letter of Intent

An LOI must be received by **November 16, 2012** that complies with instructions attached. The proposal is due January 7, 2013.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.theaftd.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/03/AFTD-Fellowship-announcement-2012.pdf>

Please let me know if I or my colleagues can help you with the application.

*Submitted by Margaret Friend, UF&Shands Office of Development*

## Autism Speaks Postdoctoral Fellowship in Translational Research RFP - LOI due December 12

I want to be sure you are aware of an opportunity for funding from Autism Speaks, for a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Translational Research. I would like to know if you or any of your colleagues choose to pursue an application, and would be happy to help with it. Please also forward this note to anyone else who might be interested.

The goal of this program is to support well-qualified postdoctoral scientists pursuing training in autism spectrum disorders (ASD) translational research. The program is open to applicants from public or private institutions working in preclinical or clinical research arenas. Successful applicants will detail a project that bridges basic laboratory research and behavioral or biomedical clinical research, and a training plan that includes mentoring in both basic and clinical research environments.

**Projects must have the fundamental translational research aim of accelerating the conversion of basic scientific discoveries into novel and more effective methods or products used to diagnose, prevent, or treat ASD.**

"Bench-to-bedside" approaches that delineate a path from preclinical models of ASD to well-defined patient populations, and "back-translational" projects that enrich the skill sets of behaviorists and clinicians through basic research on ASD biology and mechanisms of therapeutic intervention are encouraged. The results should have the potential to lead to or facilitate preclinical or clinical trials to improve outcomes for people with ASD.

The foundation defines the areas of research that are of the highest interest for the Translational Postdoctoral Fellowship program.

Each award will be for a period of two years and will include a competitive stipend, and a \$10,000 annual allowance for professional conference travel, research costs and supplies, and/or fringe benefits. Indirect costs are not allowed.

The postdoctoral fellowship stipend level will be determined by the number of years of postdoctoral experience at the time of the award to a maximum of \$61,600 per year. See the website for stipend ranges.

A letter of intent is due December 12.

For more information visit:

[http://www.autismspeaks.org/sites/default/files/docs/sciencedocs/translational\\_postdoc\\_rfa\\_2013.pdf](http://www.autismspeaks.org/sites/default/files/docs/sciencedocs/translational_postdoc_rfa_2013.pdf)

Please let me know if I or my colleagues can help you with the application.

Margaret Atherton ([matherton@uff.ufl.edu](mailto:matherton@uff.ufl.edu))

Submitted by Margaret Atherton, UF Foundation

## Living Well Employee Wellness Program, Where Healthy Gators Thrive

Have you thought about joining Living Well's free Walking Gators Program?

Nikita Williams, the passionate and energetic head liaison of Walking Gators, would like to invite all of you to join Walking Gators every Monday and Wednesday at 11:45am at Living Well to walk your way to your fitness goals. If you come around noon you can meet us Monday by Gate 18 of the Stadium and Wednesday in front of the Plazas of the Americas. Also, this year you will be rewarded for the more steps you take! Some prizes include key chains, water bottles, and t-shirts! So start walking your way to these great prizes and most importantly, a healthier you. To get involved with Walking Gators and stay in touch with Nikita join the Facebook page: Gator <http://www.facebook.com/?sk=welcome#!/walking.gators>. You will use the page to post steps that you've completed outside the Walking Gators program, to stay informed on any updates, and to receive support from fellow Walking Gators. We hope to see you out there enjoying the day and walking with Nikita and fellow Walking Gators. If you have any questions, please read the following FAQ's answered by Nikita or view the [Walking Gators Flyer \(.pdf\)](#).

### FAQ's

*What counts as a "walk" if we do it outside of Walking Gators?*

Any exercised walk, with a route of a mile or more. Walks that don't count towards the rewards are the ones from the driveway to house, the bedroom to the kitchen, or even the living room to dining room. In other words, wearing your pedometer all day counting how many steps you took DOES NOT COUNT! It has to have some sort of exercised aspect to it that gets your heart pumping!

*What happens when it rains? On either day?*

In the event that it does rain, or looks like it is about to rain, we will meet in front of Gate 15, of the stadium, and walk around the inside of the stadium. We will walk around the inside of the stadium over a course of 20 minutes. So, depending on how fast we walk, we can make it 5 laps!

*How do we receive our rewards?*

I will email you, letting you know you have reached that milestone for that specific reward, letting you know what it is you have won, and when you can pick it up. I will ask you to come to Living Well and it will be waiting for you at the front desk just let the front desk people know your name and that you are there to pick up your Walking Gators reward.

*What time does Walking Gators start?*

I will be at the locations at 11:45 to do a warm up and hand out the pedometers and other things you may need. The walk itself starts at 12 noon on the dot and generally ends around 12:30. If you want to stick around to do a cool down, you may. Other than that, you all are free to leave, just make sure I record your steps down before you leave.

*Where is Living Well?*

Living Well is located I Yon Hall 12, underneath the stadium right next the Florida Gym.

For more information you may:

Contact Nikita Williams at [nikitawilliams@ufl.edu](mailto:nikitawilliams@ufl.edu) or 352 294-1626

Visit our web page: [www.livingwell.ufl.edu](http://www.livingwell.ufl.edu)

Find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/walkinggators](http://www.facebook.com/walkinggators)

*Submitted by Kathleen Ochipa, Living Well*

## Reminder: Gainesville Postdocs on Facebook and LinkedIn

Join this [Facebook group](#) for Gainesville area postdocs as well as the LinkedIn group:  
[http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Gainesville-Postdocs-4479251?trk=myg\\_ugrp\\_ovr%20](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Gainesville-Postdocs-4479251?trk=myg_ugrp_ovr%20)

*Submitted by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs*

## Reminder: FREE Affiliate NPA Membership

If you did not receive your invitation to join the National Postdoctoral Association or if your invitation has expired and you need to be sent a refreshed invitation, please [contact Kim Pace](#) to receive an invitation.

[More information.](#)

*Submitted by Kim Pace, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs*

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