

American Society of Human Genetics announces prestigious award winners

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The American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) will bestow three awards during its 55th annual meeting in Salt Lake City from October 26 through 29, 2005 at the Salt Palace Convention Center.

Dr. Peter Byers, President of the American Society of Human Genetics, is pleased to announce the following award recipients:

Dr. Francis Collins, Director, the National Human Genome Research Institute, will receive the Allan Award medal and a \$10,000 check for his lifetime contributions to our understanding of human genetics and medical implications of human genetics research. Dr. Collins is being recognized for his contributions to the identification of the genes that carry mutations which cause, for example, neurofibromatosis and progeria, for the design of strategies for the identification of other major disease causing mutations such as cystic fibrosis and Huntington disease, and for his roles in promoting and explaining human genetics research in the public forum. He has long been recognized as a leader of the Human Genome Project.

The Curt Stern Award and a \$2,500 check will be awarded to Dr. Patrick Brown, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator and Stanford University Medical School Professor of Genetics, for his work using gene expression microarrays to provide fundamental insights into the genetic mechanisms of cancer, of other major human disorders, and into the understanding of the coordination of the regulation of gene expression. This award recognizes outstanding scientific achievement that has occurred in the last ten years, the period in which Dr. Brown has developed and enhanced the microarray technology for clinical and basic science applications.

Joseph McInerney, Director, National Coalition for Health Professional Education in Genetics (NCHPEG), will be presented the Award for Excellence in Human Genetics Education and a \$2,500 check for his roles in the introduction and coordination of curricular materials for human genetics in K-12 educational settings, for his leadership in the protection of genetics in the curriculum of science in K-12, and his leadership of professional coalitions for genetics education in health care personnel. McInerney, formerly Director, Biological Sciences Curriculum Study, has been a national leader in biology and genetics education in K-12 and for the general public.

The ASHG expects to have over 5,000 researchers, physicians, and allied health professionals attend its 55th annual meeting at the Salt Palace Convention Center from October 26-29, 2005. For more information on these awards and the annual meeting please visit the ASHG website at <http://www.ashg.org/>.

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