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Gene discovery, next generation sequencing & non-invasive prenatal diagnosis among topics of American Society of Human Genetics 2012 annual meeting

The American Society of Human Genetics will hold its [62nd annual meeting](#), Tuesday to Saturday, Nov. 6 to 10, at San Francisco's Moscone Center.

Over 6,000 scientists, medical geneticists and genetic counselors are expected to attend the ASHG annual meeting, the world's largest scientific conference on human genetics.

"The ASHG annual meeting provides a forum for presenting the highest quality basic and translational science and the latest clinical information in human genetics, as well as nurturing scientific collaborations through networking" said ASHG Executive Vice President Joann Boughman, Ph.D.

Mary-Claire King, Ph.D., ASHG president and professor of genome sciences and medicine at University of Washington, Seattle, will kick-off the conference, Tuesday, Nov. 6, by speaking on the topic, "The Scientist as a Citizen of the World."

The meeting's closing symposium, Saturday, Nov. 10, will address, "Present and Future Directions for Human Genetics."

Topics of the ASHG meeting's invited scientific sessions, platform presentations and posters will include:

- gene discovery in human genetics
- new insights and challenges in next generation sequencing
- revelations about human genes from studies of model organisms
- progress in gene therapy
- advances in non-invasive prenatal diagnosis
- implications of population genetic studies
- modeling in statistical genetics
- data centralization and its implications for genetics
- cancer genetics
- clinical and social implications of genomics, and
- improvements in genetics education.

Speaking at the presidential symposium, "Gene Discovery and Patent Law: Present Experience in the U.S. and in Europe," will be: Lori B. Andrews, J.D., ITT Chicago-Kent College of Law, Hank Greely, J.D., Mark Lemley, J.D., Stanford Law School, and Gert Matthijs, Ph.D., Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium.

The annual meeting also will feature presentations of ASHG's annual awards and the Gruber Genetics Prize.

To register as press, journalists should visit: <http://www.ashg.org/2012meeting/pages/press.shtml>