April 26th 2017

Dear Colleague,

The Department of Pediatrics and Communicable Disease, C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital, and the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Michigan Medicine are recruiting a physician scientist to serve as the inaugural DIPG Endowed Professor of Pediatric Oncology. Faculty appointment will be at the Associate Professor or Full Professor rank on the Instructional (Tenure) track at Michigan Medicine, contingent upon qualifications, department sponsorship, clinical expertise, and research training. This position is open to any candidate with research expertise in pediatric brain tumors with specific emphasis on DIPG. Candidate may have completed training in any of the following areas: Pediatrics, Oncology, Neurology, Neurosurgery, Radiation Oncology, Radiology, Genetics or Pathology.

The successful candidate will have an established track record of research in Pediatric Neuro-oncology with a focus on the pediatric cancer Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) and an appropriate record of scholarly publications and extramural funding. Evidence of national or international recognition and a commitment to developing an innovative, collaborative academic program in pediatric brain tumor research at the University of Michigan are essential. Pediatric oncology physician-scientists who have predominantly worked on other childhood brain tumors, but who seek to transition to focus predominantly on DIPG or Physician-scientists who have largely emphasized work in brain development and/or adult brain tumors, but who seek to transition to focus predominantly on DIPG and other brain tumors in children are also encouraged to apply. Physician-scientist candidates may or may not be actively practicing in their clinical specialty based on their personal preference.

The University of Michigan Medical School hosts 29 departments and 15 major centers and institutes at the forefront of innovation across the entire research spectrum. Our faculty and staff are widely recognized for team science, across campus, across the country, and around the world. The University of Michigan consistently ranks in the top 10 NIH funded medical schools in the nation and is a recognized leader in cancer research and drug discovery. Faculty in the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology are members of the UM Comprehensive Cancer Center, which connects collaborative research teams across the University and beyond, and coordinates all levels of multidisciplinary research including basic, translational, and clinical care. Close interactions with the Schools of Engineering and Pharmacy and with the biotech and pharmaceutical industries facilitate the development of innovative technologies, drugs and drug delivery systems, and enable expeditious early-phase testing of new potential cancer treatments.
The Pediatric Oncology and Neuro-Oncology Program (michmed.org/pediatric-brain-tumors) at Michigan Medicine is a tertiary referral center for the state of Michigan and nearby upper mid-western states. It is home to the state’s only Pediatric Phase-I Program, and a state of the art Pediatric Precision Oncology Program. Our Pediatric Oncology program sees 140 new cancer diagnoses annually, including 35-40 newly diagnosed pediatric and young adult brain tumor patients. The Pediatric Hematology/Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplant Program is housed in the state of the art C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital and is staffed by 16 physicians, 6 fellows and 16 nurse practitioners. Our program is an active member institution of the Children’s Oncology Group Phase I consortium, COG Phase II-III treatment center and PBMTC. The Pediatric Oncology program has focused basic, translational and clinical research programs in sarcomas including SARC SPORE, neuroblastoma, neuro-oncology, survivorship and Pediatric BMT. The Division implemented a precision oncology program (PEDS-MIONCOSEQ) in collaboration with Michigan Center for Translational Pathology (MCTP). In addition, we have several investigator-initiated early phase clinical trials in neuroblastoma, brain tumors, precision oncology pediatric BMT and also participate in the NANT and TACL consortiums.

Our program is home to exciting Pediatric Brain Tumor Research Initiative (http://www.mottchildren.org/giving/chad-tough-fund) and hosts a multidisciplinary multi-institutional Pediatric Brain Tumor Precision Oncology Tumor Board and Solid Tumor Oncology Program (MSTOP) tumor board in collaboration with the Departments of Neurosurgery, Neuro-Pathology, Radiation Oncology, Pediatric Surgery, Genetics and Pediatric Radiology.

The incumbent will be expected to establish an independent investigative program, focusing on DIPG & other related pediatric brain tumors. The candidate will spend the majority of effort developing and advancing therapies to treat childhood brain cancers. Appropriate laboratory, administrative office and support staff and protected time will be provided. S/he will be installed as the inaugural DIPG Endowed Professor of Pediatric Oncology. This professorship will provide unrestricted support to the investigator’s research enterprise on an annual basis. The investigator will be expected to support and mentor research efforts of the faculty, fellows and graduate programs of Michigan Medicine and provide and advance collegial research collaborations within the academic departments and cancer center.

Interested candidates should submit a curriculum vitae and a cover letter detailing experience and future interests to:

Dr. Valerie P. Opipari  
Chair, Department of Pediatrics  
D3101 Medical Professional Building  
1500 East Medical Center Drive  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Dr. Eric Fearon  
Director, UM Comprehensive Cancer Center  
1500 East Medical Center Drive  
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The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity employer.