

# **Call for Applications: Program-Specific Assistant Professor, Comparative Epigenomics Group (Bourque Group)**

Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (ASHBi), KUIAS Kyoto University

16 February 2021

Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) recently selected the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (ASHBi) for participation in the World Premier International Research Center (WPI) Program, establishing it within Kyoto University Institute for Advanced Study (KUIAS) on 30 October 2018 with Mitinori Saitou, a world-leading developmental biologist, at its head. ASHBi is now looking for a Program-Specific Assistant Professor in the laboratory of Professor Guillaume Bourque (Comparative Epigenomics Group). Details as follows.

## **1. Job Titles:**

Program-Specific Assistant professor

## **2. Number of Positions:**

One (1)

## **3. Affiliation:**

Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (ASHBi), KUIAS Kyoto University  
Yoshida Konoe-cho, Sakyo, Kyoto 606-8501 Japan

## **4. Eligibility:**

Essential requirements are as follows:

1. The candidate has a Ph.D. and at least 3 years of experience as a postdoctoral researcher
2. The candidate has excellent research achievements in the related fields and ability to supervise postdoctoral fellows and graduate students
3. The candidate should have the ability to develop and manage his/her research projects
4. He/she has high-level communication skills in English

## **5. Starting Date:**

May 1, 2021 or the earliest possible date thereafter (adjustable according to individual requirements)

## **6. Term:**

Five (5) years in principle (with annual renewal).

Initial probationary employment period: six (6) months

## **7. Job Descriptions:**

ASHBi will investigate the core concepts of human biology with a focus on genome regulation and disease modeling, creating a foundation of knowledge for developing innovative and unique human-centric therapies. The key goals are: 1) to achieve outstanding research in key individual themes in human biology in the area of reproduction, development, growth and aging as well as heredity and evolution; 2) to elucidate the principles for the emergence of species differences among humans, non-human primates, and rodents for proper extrapolation of the findings in model organisms to humans; 3) to generate primate models for key gene functions and intractable diseases; 4) to reconstitute key human cell lineages and tissues in vitro and validate their properties based on integrative information; and 5) to contribute to formalize an ethics for the use of human/non-human primate materials and create a philosophy to direct the values of the Institute's research outcomes.

The Bourque group in ASHBi is seeking a Program-Specific Assistant Professor interested in analyzing comparative epigenomics datasets. We are part of the International Human Epigenome Consortium (IHEC) which, together with ENCODE and the NIH Roadmap, has released more than 10,000 epigenomic maps across multiple human cell types. Through this work, a large fraction of the human genome was observed to be transcribed or biochemically active in at least one cell type. Going forward, we posit that inter-species epigenomic datasets, especially those of closely related non-human primate species, will be key to better characterize the evolution and functional role of human non-coding DNA. We have started to generate such maps in various primate cells (human, chimpanzee, macaque, etc.) including induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) and also sorted blood cells. We are now seeking a candidate to expand on these projects with new collaborators in ASHBi, Kyoto University and elsewhere in Japan.

## **8. Working Conditions:**

Five (5) working days per week (days off: Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays, year-end and New Year holidays, Foundation Day, and summer vacation, as per University guidelines)

Working hours: 38 hours 45 minutes per week under a discretionary labor system.

## **9. Salary:**

Paid annually in compliance with the rules of Kyoto University.

## **10. Allowance:**

No allowance (such as for commuting, housing, bonuses, etc.) will be provided.

## **11. Social Insurance:**

National Public Service Mutual Aid Association health policy

Employee's pension insurance

Employment insurance

Worker's accident insurance

**12. Deadline:**

Open until the positions are filled.

**13. Evaluation Procedure:**

Submitted applications will be reviewed, if necessary followed by interviews for short-listed candidates.

**14. Application Method:**

Application documents must be prepared in English according to the "**Application Guidelines**", and submitted as email attachments.

**Submit via email to: [ASHBi-recruit@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:ASHBi-recruit@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp)**

**15. Additional Information:**

Submitted documents are used only for the purpose of applicant screening and hiring. Personal information will not be disclosed, transferred or loaned to a third party under any circumstances without just cause. Kyoto University promotes gender equality. Responses and applications from female researchers are highly welcomed.

To prevent passive smoking, Kyoto University prohibits smoking at indoors and outdoors at all campuses except for the designated smoking areas.

## Application Guidelines

Follow the instructions below to prepare and submit your application. Write in English, and use a 10.5 point font or larger. You may include photographs or charts in color or black and white. Please submit your application via email.

**Deadline:** Open until the position is filled  
**Submit by email to:** [ASHBi-recruit@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:ASHBi-recruit@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp)  
(Related documents should be sent as email attachments)

Applications with serious deficiencies and/or false information will not be evaluated.

### 1. Basic Information (CV)

- (1) Name
- (2) Home Address and Contact Information (phone, email, etc.)
- (3) Recent Photograph
- (4) Date of Birth, Age, and Gender
- (5) Academic Degree (including date of acquisition)
- (6) Nationality
- (7) Current Appointment (your current affiliation, department, and position)
- (8) Education (begin with high school and list education)
- (9) Professional Experience
- (10) Awards
- (11) Position Sought (host research group name, job title)
- (12) Contact details of two (2) references (name, affiliation, position, address, e-mail address)

### 2. Research Proposal (within 5 pages)

Concisely describe the research objectives to be achieved during your time at ASHBi, focusing on the unique ideas and methods you will use to reach them.

### 3. Reasons for applying for ASHBi (within 1 page)

1. Why are you applying to ASHBi?
2. Explain how you will contribute to furthering the research activities at ASHBi.

### 4. List of Publications/Grants

Describe your publications in reverse chronological order, including published papers, books, invited lectures, awards, patents, etc. Describe the grants you obtained.

### Contact

Email: [ASHBi-recruit@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:ASHBi-recruit@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp)  
Address: Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (ASHBi) KUIAS, Kyoto University  
Yoshida Konoe-cho, Sakyo, Kyoto 606-8501 Japan