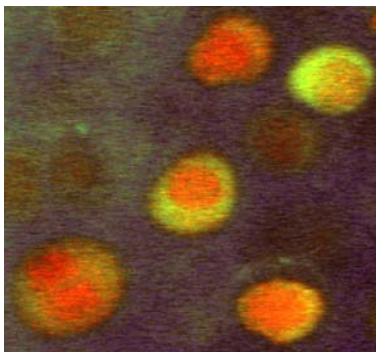




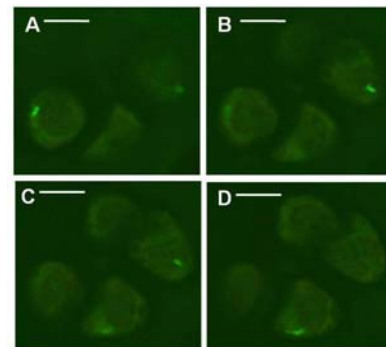
Graduate Research Assistantship in Chondrocyte Mechanobiology and Osteoarthritis Research

Two graduate research assistant positions are immediately available in the area of chondrocyte mechanobiology and osteoarthritis research. Osteoarthritis is a debilitating disease resulting in joint stiffness, swelling and pain for three million (1 in 10) Canadians. Osteoarthritis is characterized by the breakdown of articular cartilage, a soft tissue normally maintained by chondrocytes and lining the articulating surfaces of bones. There is currently no treatment to stop or reverse the progression of joint degeneration. The goal of this research program, headed by Dr. Andrea Clark, is to identify novel targets for pharmaceutical intervention to slow down, stop or reverse the progression of osteoarthritis. Our approach is to identify and characterize signal transduction mechanisms through which chondrocytes respond to mechanical and chemical changes in cartilage with a biological response using a unique combination of innovative real-time confocal microscopy and genetically engineered mice.

Applicants should have a B.Sc. or M.Sc. in biomechanics, cell biology, biomedical engineering or equivalent. An enthusiastic, self motivated and hard working person with strong interpersonal and communication skills is required. Experience with rodent research models, dissection, microscopy and cell culture would be desirable. Applicants are also encouraged to obtain fellowship funding from national and provincial granting agencies (e.g. AHFMR, AIF, NSERC, CIHR, CAN). Interested candidates should send a resume, copy of university transcript(s), the names and contact information of three references and a letter discussing fit for the position and future goals to:



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The University of Calgary is one of the top seven research universities in Canada. Calgary has a population of over 1 million and is in close proximity to Kananaskis Country, Banff, and the beautiful Rocky Mountains. Dr. Clark is an Assistant Professor with a primary appointment in the Faculty of Kinesiology and joint appointment in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary (<http://www.kin.ucalgary.ca/hpl/clark.html>). The Human Performance Lab within the Faculty of Kinesiology is an internationally recognized multidisciplinary research center conducting both basic and applied research relating to human neuro-musculo-skeletal health and wellness, including cartilage and chondrocyte biomechanics. Currently, the Human Performance Lab houses 27 faculty members and 79 graduate student trainees and its newly expanded state of the art research facilities include three confocal microscopes, animal holding and surgical suites and cell culture facilities. The 109 faculty members and 85 trainees of the McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health in the faculty of Medicine conduct research spanning basic science at the molecular level to whole joint transplants in the operating room.