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# Organization Section

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## **ADA Postdoctoral Fellowship Mentor Wins Nobel Prize in Medicine**

Dr. Edwin G. Krebs, who along with his long-time research partner, Dr. Edmond Fischer (both of the University of Washington), was awarded the 1992 Nobel Prize in Medicine, is also a mentor in a unique postdoctoral fellowship program conducted by the American Diabetes Association.

The program teams a seasoned investigator with a promising young diabetes researcher—in this case, Dr. Lee M. Graves, whom the senior partner selects and trains. Thus, the promise of Nobel-level research is extended to new generations of investigators.

Graves is studying how insulin works and, specifically, the role of protein kinase activity in insulin action. This work, supported by the ADA's 1991 award, is built on research that the Nobel prize-winning Drs. Krebs and Fischer began in the 1950s. That project was focused on how just one enzyme in rabbit muscle, phosphorylase, used the cellular energy stored in tissue to make muscle fibers contract and then switch back to a relaxed state.

In the course of that study, Krebs and Fischer stumbled upon a fundamental reaction that goes well beyond muscles. They discovered reversible protein phosphorylation, for which they were awarded the Nobel prize. They identified how the enzymes that do the energizing work in phosphorylation—the protein kinases—regulate cellular metabolism and how the process is able to reverse itself.

Later work by the two showed that these enzymes also regulate the transmission of "outside information" from hormones or drugs to biological reaction centers inside the cell as part of the phosphorylation process. Because these findings have led to an understanding of abnormal cell activity and its causes, the ramifications are clear for diabetes researchers—and for researchers of other diseases that destroy in some way at a cellular level.

Thus, Dr. Graves' work—that of examining the insulin-receptor signalling pathway for muscle tissue—builds directly on the discoveries of Krebs and Fischer. As Dr. Graves explains, "The insulin receptor is at the start of a cascade of events in the cell. We are trying to reconstruct what happens next in the cell, or, in the case of diabetes, what does not happen."

Dr. Krebs currently is professor emeritus of pharmacology and biochemistry at the University

of Washington-Seattle and senior investigator for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. He graduated from the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri in 1943. Except for a few years in the late 1960s at the University of California-Davis School of Medicine in the late 1960s, Dr. Krebs has spent his entire career at the University of Washington, beginning in 1946—as an investigator, professor, and chairman of the department of pharmacology.

Dr. Graves, for his part, says he has been thrilled to work with Dr. Krebs, whom he characterizes as highly accessible—an enormous plus for a top-notch research team. Graves says, "It has been a real joy to work with him [Dr. Krebs]. I feel very lucky." Dr. Graves' father also was a student of Dr. Krebs.

This continuity of top-notch research is the goal of the ADA mentor-based fellowship program, says Association president F. Xavier Pi-Sunyer, MD, who observes, "In terms of medical research, diabetes is one of the more promising, exciting areas. Who knows? We may see another Nobel prize a few years down the road from accomplishments that stemmed from the work being done today."

## **ADA EVENTS**

### **Future Meetings**

53rd Annual Meeting: 12–15 June 1993, Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV.

40th Postgraduate Course: 22–24 January 1993, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, CA.

12th International Diabetes Immunology Workshop: 15–17 April 1993, Orlando Marriott, Orlando, FL.

4th International Symposium on Insulin, IGFs, and their Receptors: 20–23 April 1993, Marine Biological Laboratories, Woods Hole, MA.

Consensus Development Conference: Treatment of Hypertension in Diabetes: 25–27 May 1993, Orlando, FL.

For registration and program information, contact the American Diabetes Association, 1660 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Tel: (703) 549-1500, ext. 330 or ext. 215.

### **Highly Scientific Didactic Lectures and Panel Discussions on Diabetes and Endocrinology**

The Colorado Affiliate, along with the Colorado Society for Endocrinology, is sponsoring the 30th

annual Colorado Diabetes/Endocrine Institute presentation of highly scientific didactic lectures and panel discussions on diabetes and endocrinology on 23–30 January 1993 in Aspen-Snowmass, Colorado. For more information contact the American Diabetes Association, Colorado Affiliate, 2450 S. Downing, Denver, CO 80210. Tel: (303) 778-7556.

### **One-Day Symposium for Health-Care Professionals**

The Washington, DC Affiliate of ADA, along with the National Institutes of Health, will hold a one-day symposium for health-care professionals on Saturday, 20 March 1993, at the Lipsitt Auditorium of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. Speakers include Bruce Frank, Ira Goldfine, Gordon Guthrie, Saulo Klahr, Dan Mintz, and Simeon Taylor. Topics include insulin analogues, meformin, hypertension, low-protein diets, islet transplantation, and glucokinase gene defects. For more information contact D. LeRoith, MD, PhD, Diabetes Branch, Bldg. 10, Room 8S239, National Institutes of Health, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892. Fax: (301) 480-4386.

### **2nd International Conference on Diabetes and Native People**

The Hawaii Affiliate is cosponsoring the 2nd International Conference on Diabetes and Native People. This joint U.S.-Canada conference will be held 19–21 May 1993 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Speakers will address common problems in establishing effective programs and providing care to Native American people. Conferees will discuss development and implementation of cross-cultural programs, focusing on what works, why it is successful, and how to implement it in other communities. For more information, contact as follows: in mainland U.S., Dr. Robert Young, NARTC, 1642 E. Helen Street, Tucson, AZ 85719, Tel: (602) 621-5560; in Hawaii, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center, 86-260 Farrington Highway, Waianae, Hawaii 96792-3199, Tel: (808) 696-7081; in Canada, Alethea Kewayosh, Assembly of First Nations—Diabetes Conference, 47 Clarence Street, 3rd Floor, Atrium Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 9K1, Canada, Tel: (613) 236-0673.

## OTHER EVENTS

### 5th World Congress on Diabetes in the Tropics and Developing Countries

The Diabetic Association of India will sponsor the "5th World Congress on Diabetes in the Tropics and Developing Countries" 31 January-2 February 1993 in Bombay, India. For more information, contact General Secretary, 5th World Congress on Diabetes in the Tropics and Developing Countries, All India Institute of Diabetes, S.L. Raheja Hospital, Mahim, Bombay 400 016, India. Telex: 011-78006 RR IN; Fax: 91-22-6498569.

### International Symposium on Diabetic Polyneuropathies

An international symposium on diabetic polyneuropathies to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the University of Erlangen will be held 5-6 March 1993 in Verona, Italy. For more information contact Congest M. & C., Department of Neurology, Schwabachanlage 6, W-8520 Erlangen, Germany. Tel: 09131-854444; Fax: 09131-854436.

### Theoretical and Practical Aspects of the Treatment of Diabetic Children

Congest M. & C. will hold the 4th International Course on "Theoretical and Practical Aspects of the Treatment of Diabetic Children" 20-27 March 1993 in Verona, Italy. For more information contact Congest M. & C., Vicolo S. Silvestro 6, 37122 Verona, Italy. Tel: (045) 597940; Fax: (045) 597265.

### 5th International Symposium on Receptor and Insulin Action

The 5th International Symposium on Receptor and Insulin Action will be held 4-7 May 1993 in Munich, Germany. The topics include insulin-receptor functional domains, receptor cross talk and modulation, post-receptor signaling, phosphatases in insulin action, insulin and gene transcription, glucose transport, insulin action in NIDDM and prediabetes, insulin analogues, and new therapeutic approaches. For more information and abstract forms, contact Priv. Doz. Dr. H. Haring, Institut Fur Diabetesforschung, Kolner Platz 1, D-8000 Munchen 40, Germany.

### 5th Postgraduate Course of Endocrinology and 2nd International Symposium on Hypertension

The Servico de Endocrinologia will hold its 5th Postgraduate Course of Endocrinology and 2nd International Symposium on Hypertension in Granja, Portugal at the Hotel Solverde, 24-26 June 1993. The deadline for all lecture and communication submissions is 31 March 1993. For more information contact Dr. Ignacio Salcedo, Servico de Endocrinologia, Symposium 93, Hospital Geral de Santo Antonio, 4000 Porto, Portugal. Phone: 200 52 41/200 73 54, ext. 3091-2-3. Fax: 02-32-03-18.

### 4th International Congress on Pancreas and Islet Transplantation

The 4th International Congress on Pancreas and Islet Transplantation will be held 27-30 June 1993 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Topics include pancreas and islet transplantation, current developments in the early diagnosis of diabetes, and future approaches in prevention and treatment. Deadline for submission of abstracts is 16 January 1993. For more information and abstract forms, contact Tineke S. Roorda, Scientific Secretariat ICPIIT '93, Department of Surgery, University

Hospital Groningen, PO Box 30-001, 9799 RB Groningen, The Netherlands. Tel: 31-50-612301; Fax: 31-50-614873.

### 19th Annual Meeting of the International Study Group of Diabetes in Children and Adolescents

The International Study Group of Diabetes in Children and Adolescents will hold its annual meeting 2-6 September 1993 in the Aegean Sea on board the cruise ship Neptune. For more information, contact Dr. C. Bartsocas, Dept. of Pediatrics, P & A Kyriakou Children's Hospital, GR-11527 Athens, Greece. Fax: 30-1-7796461.

### 29th Annual Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes

The 29th Annual Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes will be held 6-9 September 1993 in Istanbul, Turkey. For more information contact Serpil Bagriacik, Osmanli Sok. 23, 80090 Taksim-Istanbul, Turkey. Tel: (90-1) 0 245 04 15; fax: (90-1) 251 75 60.

### 12th Danube Symposium

The 12th Danube Symposium on Diabetes Mellitus will be held 7-10 October 1993 in Krakow, Poland. The topics include long-term diabetes complications, insulin therapy, diabetes mellitus in children, and gestational diabetes mellitus. The deadline for registration and abstracts is 1 April 1993. For more information contact Associate Professor Jacek Sieradzki, Department of Endocrinology, Medical Academy in Krakow, 31-501 Krakow, Kopernika 17, Poland. Tel: 48 12 21 01 44; Fax: 48 12 21 40 54.

### American Board of Internal Medicine Examinations

The 1993 Certification and Recertification Examinations in Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism will be held 3 November 1993. The registration period is from 1 January 1993 to 1 April 1993. For more information and applications contact Registration Section, American Board of Internal Medicine, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Tel: 1-800-441-2246; Fax: 1-215-243-1500.

### 7th International Congress on Obesity

The 7th International Congress on Obesity will be held 20-25 August 1994 at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Participants may receive AMA Category I study credits. For more information, contact Continuing Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, Medical Sciences Building, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1A8 Canada. Tel: (416) 978-2718; Fax: (416) 978-7144.

### 15th International Diabetes Federation Congress

The International Diabetes Federation will hold its 15th annual congress 6-11 November 1994 at the Kobe Convention Center, Kobe, Japan. The congress will focus on prevention of diabetes and clarification of goals to reach by the year 2000. For more information contact S. Ohsata, Kobe Convention Center, 6-9-1, Manatjima-nakamachi, Chuo-Ku, Kobe 650, Japan. Tel: 078-303-0055; Fax: 078-302-7303.

### International Genetic Collaborative Study

The Institut de Morphologie Pathologique Lovelace, Center for Human Genetics, is starting an

international collaborative study. Clinicians with patients who have total lipodystrophy (lipotrophic diabetes, Berardinelli-Seip syndrome) can enter an international genetic collaborative study aimed at localizing the gene responsible for the disease. Participation consists of providing a single blood sampling of affected patients, unaffected siblings, and their parents. For more information contact Dr. Lionel Van Maldergem, Center for Human Genetics, IMPL, Allee des Templiers 41, 6280 Lovelace, Belgium. Tel: 0032-71-471520; Fax: 0032-71-471520.

## ADA RESEARCH AWARDS

### ADA Career Development Awards

ADA Career Development Awards will provide up to \$75,000/yr for 3 yr to support new researchers with 2-5 yr of postdoctoral/postfellowship research experience. Funds are to be divided between salary and other grant support. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status and hold full-time positions at U.S. university-affiliated institutes. The deadline for 1 July 1993 funding is 1 February 1993.

### ADA Research Awards

ADA Research Awards will provide between \$20,000 and \$40,000/yr for 2 yr to assist researchers, new or established, who have a novel, exciting idea for which they need support. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status and hold full-time faculty positions at U.S. university-affiliated institutions. The deadline for 1 July 1993 funding is 1 February 1993.

### Clinical Research Grant Program

The Clinical Research Grant Program provides up to \$70,000/yr for 3 yr for studies that involve humans. Studies must focus on intact human subjects in which the effect of a change in the individual's external or internal environment is evaluated. In vitro research on human blood or tissue samples does not qualify unless there has been a major in vivo intervention, and the protocol is designed specifically to quantitate the effect of the manipulation. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status and hold full-time faculty positions at U.S. university-affiliated institutions. The deadline for 1 July 1993 funding is 1 February 1993.

## RESEARCH AWARDS

### Lions SightFirst Diabetic Retinopathy Research Program

The Lions SightFirst Diabetic Retinopathy Research Program supports clinical or applied research in diabetic retinopathy in the U.S. and abroad. Up to \$40,000/yr for 2 yr will be given to support new treatment regimens, epidemiology, and translation research. The deadline for 1 July 1993 funding is 1 February 1993.

### Medical Student Diabetes Research Fellowship Program

The Medical Student Diabetes Research Fellowship Program will award up to \$4000 for a 3- to 6-mo period to promote medical student interest in careers of diabetes-related clinical or basic research. Applicants must have a qualified sponsor and must have completed at least 1 yr of medical school. The award stipend will be \$3000 to cover the 3- to 6-mo period of research experience, and \$1000 will be made available to the sponsor to defray costs. The deadline for 1 July 1993 funding is 1 March 1993.