

Finding Your First Academic Job

A Career Panel Discussion presented by the Office for Research Career Development
June 18, 2008 Simches Conference Room 3.II0 3:30-5:30 pm

Agenda

3:30 pm	Welcome and introductions: Tayyaba Hasan, PhD
3:40 pm	Michelle Dawson, PhD
3:50 pm	Xuanhong Cheng, PhD
4:00 pm	Jeffrey Karp, PhD
4:10 pm	Rox Anderson, MD
4:20 pm	Robert Kingston, PhD
4:30 pm	Questions and discussion

Panelists

Michelle Dawson, PhD earned her PhD in 2005 at The Johns Hopkins University, and since then has been a postdoctoral fellow in the Edwin L. Steele Laboratory at MGH, working with Rakesh K. Jain. She studies aspects of engineering drug, gene and cell-based delivery systems for the treatment of human disease. Dr. Dawson has just completed a successful academic job search, and in the fall of 2008 she will join the Georgia Institute of Technology as an Assistant Professor (tenure track) in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

Xuanhong Cheng, PhD started her first faculty job this year, as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering/Bioengineer at Lehigh University. She earned her PhD in 2004 at the University of Washington, and was a Research Fellow at MGH from 2005-2007. Dr. Cheng has a long-standing interest in developing and applying engineering tools, including micro/nanotechnology, chemical and electrical approaches to study biological problems, especially those related to whole cells.

Jeffrey M. Karp, PhD is a tenure track faculty member in the Department of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital and directs the Laboratory for Advanced Biomaterials and Stem Cell Based Therapeutics at the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology. Dr. Karp obtained a PhD in 2004 from the University of Toronto in Chemical Engineering. He then joined MIT, where he was an NSERC Postdoctoral Fellow until 2007, working in Institute Professor Robert Langer's laboratory in the areas of human embryonic stem cells, biomedical adhesives, and BioMEMS technologies.

R. Rox Anderson, MD is Professor of Dermatology, Harvard Medical School, and the Director of the Wellman Center for Photomedicine at MGH. His research interests focus on photothermal and photochemical skin treatments and in vivo optical diagnostics. He obtained his MD degree at Harvard Medical School, in the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology. He will discuss faculty job searches from the perspective of the Search Committee.

Robert E. Kingston, PhD is the Chief of the Department of Molecular Biology at Massachusetts General Hospital. In addition, Dr. Kingston is the Vice Chair of the Department of Genetics at Harvard Medical School and is an Associate Member of the Broad Institute. He earned his PhD in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Kingston's laboratory currently studies regulation of chromatin structure and the mechanism of epigenetic events.



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