

February 9, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

The Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Columbia University is recruiting research assistants for the upcoming academic year - 2010-2011. The division maintains an active basic science and clinical research laboratory engaged in a variety of research projects. Areas of research include:

- Heart failure
- Valvular disease
- Transplantation
- Atrial fibrillation
- Mechanical circulatory support
- Robotic and minimally invasive cardiac surgery
- Angiogenesis and myocardial regeneration
- Clinical outcomes assessment
- Nutrition

Depending on the project, you may have the opportunity to interact with patients or operate surgical equipment during surgical procedures. You are also likely to be part of a project in which small and large animal surgeries are performed. You will frequently interact with cardiothoracic attending surgeons and fellows.

Annually, approximately 100 heart and 50 lung transplantations are performed at Columbia. As a research assistant in the CT Surgery lab, you will be part of the heart and lung procurement team and perform the duties of a perfusionist. On average, you will take call 6 days per month. When a procurement run is called, the team will usually fly to the donor hospital for organ retrieval. In prior years, teams have gone on procurement runs across the country from cities like Boston and Baltimore, to more exotic places like Puerto Rico and Bermuda.

This is a full-time position. Undergraduate applicants must be graduating seniors. If you are a post-baccalaureate student, you must apply for the entirety of your lag year. The stipend is \$1,000/month.

If you are interested, please email a cover letter, resume/CV, and references to [contact@columbiaactslab.org](mailto:contact@columbiaactslab.org). The deadline is March 5, 2010.

Peter Pak, M.D.  
Lab Chief