A postdoctoral fellow position is available in Prof. Michael Mitchell’s laboratory in the Department of Bioengineering at the University of Pennsylvania. The successful applicant will focus on engineering polymeric and lipid-based drug delivery systems for immunotherapy and gene editing applications, and interface with our clinical collaborators at the Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy (https://www.parkerici.org) and the Penn Gene Therapy Program (https://gtp.med.upenn.edu).

The successful applicant is expected to conduct the following tasks:

- Synthesize and characterize novel biomaterials including, but not limited to, lipid and polymeric materials in support of sponsor-funded projects.
- Formulate and characterize lipid and polymeric nanoparticles.
- Pursue independent and collaborative research projects that involve the design, development, and application of polymer and lipid nanoparticle systems.
- Communicate closely with the PI, lab members, and clinical collaborators on project development, material characterization, and experimental results.
- Contribute to sponsor briefings and grant proposals, publish original research, and present research at national and international conferences.

Required qualifications:

- PhD in chemistry, polymer science, engineering, materials science, or a related field.
- Extensive hands-on experience with polymer chemistry and lipid synthesis.
- Ability to perform independent research and propose new ideas.
- Organizational skills to maintain laboratory process inventories and notebooks.
- Excellent oral, written, and interpersonal communication skills.
- Experience with cell culture, molecular biology, and animal studies is desirable, but not required for this position.

To apply:

Interested candidates should e-mail Prof. Michael Mitchell at mjmitch@seas.upenn.edu with their cover letter, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references. The cover letter should include a description of the candidate’s relevant research experience, research interests, expectations for the position, short- and long-term career goals, and preferred start date. The initial appointment is for one year with the ability to renew annually pending satisfactory progress. Start date immediately or upon mutual agreement.