University of Pennsylvania Biomedical Postdoc Council Diversity Committee:

Diverse Scientists Development Program (DSDP)

Goals & Purpose Statement:

The Diversity Committee is a postdoc run group that aims to support and promote the retention and advancement of underrepresented postdoctoral scholars including (but not limited to): people of color; women; people with disabilities; and members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered, queer/questioning (LGBTQ) community.

Thank you so much for your interest in the BPDC mentoring program! Our goals reflect the goals of the Diversity Committee (stated above). We aim primarily to provide a means of support for the underrepresented biomedical research community here at the University of Pennsylvania by fostering effective mentoring relationships. Below are more details of what this program aims to provide and our suggested guidelines for how to get the most out of your experience:

Opportunities:
- One on one mentoring (mentees can either choose their own mentor or be matched)
- Development of strategies for successful and rounded scientific training
- Advice on: careers, life at Penn and in Philadelphia, conflict resolution, unique situations faced by underrepresented scholars, etc.
- Networking opportunities

Suggested Guidelines:
In order to cultivate a successful mentoring relationship all DSDP mentors and mentees are required to:
- Be willing to initiate conversations
- Have a willingness to learn and participate in networking programs
- Respond to email requests in a timely manner
- Meet in person with your mentor/mentee at least 2 times a year
- Keep discussions professional and confidential
- Submit yearly evaluations of your experience
- Contact BPDC if any problems arise

To participate in this mentoring program or for more information:

Please check out our website (http://www.med.upenn.edu/bpc/diversity.shtml)
-OR-
Contact Caleph Wilson (caleph@mail.med.upenn.edu) or Folami Ideraabdullah (Folami@mail.med.upenn.edu)