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## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Shared Call for T32 Nominations: Developmental Biology; Computational Genomics; Cell and Molecular Biology; and Genetics**

The following training grants are soliciting nominations of graduate students for the 2019-2020 academic year through a BGS-managed web-based system. Training grants fund a significant portion of a student's tuition, fees, and stipend. Appointment to a training grant is recognition of academic promise and distinction and, in some cases, provides additional training opportunities or funds for travel to scientific meetings. To be eligible for consideration, a student must be a US citizen or permanent resident (green card holder) and must have received no more than four years of NRSA funding by the time of appointment. Additional criteria for each grant are specified in the [descriptions available here](#).

**Opportunities for students who will have reached dissertation level - May 1 deadline:**

Developmental Biology  
Computational Genomics

**Opportunities for students who are entering year two (or sometimes three) - June 7 deadline:**

Cell and Molecular Biology  
Genetics

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Basser Center for BRCA: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Breakthroughs & Discoveries Panel**

Join Basser Center and internationally renowned BRCA experts for a dynamic panel discussion on the latest in the field of BRCA-related cancer research and care. This panel will be moderated by **Susan Domchek, MD, Executive Director of the Basser Center for BRCA.**

Tuesday, May 7, 2019  
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine  
3400 Civic Center Boulevard  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Click [here](#) for event details and to register. This event is geared toward the general public and all are invited to be part of the conversation. Please submit your questions for the panel in advance through the registration link.

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### **Symposium in Honor of P. Leslie Dutton**

One of the PSOM's most distinguished faculty members, **P. Leslie Dutton**, FRS, Eldridge Reeves Johnson Professor of Biophysics and Biochemistry, is retiring. Leslie is a former chair of the B&B department, and a former chair of the Biophysics Graduate Group (before BC and BP merged). There will be a scientific symposium in his honor, **Friday, May 31st – Saturday, June 1st.**

More than 25 PhD students graduated from Leslie's lab, from 1978 onwards, and almost ALL of them will be at the symposium! About 10 of them will be speaking. These alumni have gone on to successful careers in **academia, industry, gov. research, consulting etc.**, so this would be a unique opportunity for BGS students to see and meet them. The symposium is open to everyone, and there are also two breakfasts which would provide opportunities for students to meet and talk informally with these alumni.

To see the full itinerary for 'Les Fest,' click [here](#).

# THESIS DEFENSES

Apr. 29, 10 AM (Class of '62 Auditorium, John Morgan Building): **Brenal Singh (IGG), "The Immunomodulatory Functions of Diacylglycerol Kinase Zeta in Type 2 Immune Responses."**

May 1, 2 PM (Austrian Auditorium, CRB): **Scott Norton (GCB), "Methods for robust quantification of RNA alternative splicing in heterogeneous RNA-seq datasets."** Contact [Maureen Kirsch](#).

# PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **CAMB**

Apr. 30, 12 – 1 PM: **CB Practice Prelim Session.** Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](#).

May 1, 3 – 4 PM (9-104 Smilow): **CAMB Chair Dan Kessler Office Hours.** Contact [Dan Kessler](#).

May 2, 5:30 – 7 PM: **CB Practice Prelims.** Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](#).

## **CAMB Preliminary Exams (PhD and CD)**

Preliminary exams for the PhD programs begin in May. Combined degree exams will take place in June. To see the complete schedule of exams, click [here](#).

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## **NGG**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

- Sign up to volunteer for GLIA's spring outreach events [here](#). Reminder that you must have 2 credits of volunteering per year (if you are not an event leader) in order to maintain GLIA membership

### **EVENTS THIS WEEK**

4/29/19 12-1pm (Barchi): GRiPPs ft. China Byrns

4/30/19 5:30-7:30pm (Barchi): NGG Trivia Night!

5/3/19 12pm-1pm (Barchi): Return of NGG Alumni Speaker Series

5/4/19 10am-4pm (Off Campus): Outreach- Philadelphia Science Carnival

### **FUTURE EVENTS**

5/16/19 5:30 - 7pm (Barchi): Summer GLIA Meeting

# **CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

## **12TH ANNUAL NIH CAREER SYMPOSIUM**

[NIH Campus, Bethesda, Maryland](#)

Natcher Conference Center, Building 45

May 10, 2019 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

[Register](#)

The NIH Career Symposium highlights the diversity of career choices available to your generation of biomedical researchers. Whether you are a new graduate student, postdoc, or clinical fellow just beginning to consider career options or a senior student/fellow ready to look for a job, the NIH Career Symposium is for you. Here are the panel descriptions and the agenda (still building the pretty program)

[Panel Descriptions](#)

[Career Symposium Agenda](#)

NIH invites any postdoc, clinical fellow or PhD-level graduate student to join, regardless if you are part of the NIH intramural program or not. This event is free to attend (participants are responsible for their own travel expenses)

Wondering what the Career Symposium is all about? Check out past events [here](#).

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## **ITMAT Education – TL1/T32 Slots Available for Certificate in Regulatory Science**

Deadline: May 17, 2019

ITMAT Education's Certificate in Regulatory Science provides PhD students with training to build upon their scientific expertise and prepares them to understand regulatory strategy, the execution of clinical trials, and approaches to translate early discoveries and preclinical investigations into therapeutics. This program is designed for PhD students who wish to pursue regulatory science careers in academia, the pharmaceutical & biotechnology industry, consulting and legal industries, and federal agencies.

The certificate includes a one-year engagement in a regulatory science research project (a new research project or as an additional aim to research currently being conducted) and four courses. TL1 appointees will receive one year of funding including a stipend per NIH policy and tuition funding to cover the cost of the certificate.

<http://www.itmat.upenn.edu/CertificateinRegulatoryScience.html>

Contact Rachel McGarrigle, MEd, [rmcg@upenn.edu](mailto:rmcg@upenn.edu) or Emma Meagher, MD, [emma@upenn.edu](mailto:emma@upenn.edu) to learn more.

**Please note** – students interested in a certificate program should review ‘Policies Governing Participation of BGS Students in Certificate Programs.’ Authorization is required through the form, ‘Authorization to Participate in a Certificate Program.’ Both forms are available [here](#).

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### **ARL Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellowship Program Research Funding**

The Army Research Laboratory (ARL) invites exceptional young researchers to apply for an [ARL Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellowship](#) ([www.nas.edu/arl](http://www.nas.edu/arl)). This fellowship provides recipients the opportunity to pursue independent research while working alongside some of the nation's best scientists and engineers. Applicants must display extraordinary ability in scientific research and show clear promise of becoming outstanding leaders. Successful candidates will have already tackled a major scientific or engineering problem or will have provided a new approach or insight, evidenced by a recognized impact in their field.

The fellowship includes an annual stipend of \$100,000, among other benefits. *Applicants who intend to defend their dissertation after the application deadline (May 31<sup>st</sup>, 5 PM Eastern Standard Time) are not eligible.* See more details [here](#).

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### **EVENTS THIS WEEK**

May 1, 12 - 2 PM (Stemmler Hall, Room 105): **Walk-In Wednesdays with Career Services.** Stop by to have your resume/CV reviewed, prep for interviews, and get networking and career advice! Flyer [here](#).

### **FUTURE EVENTS**

May 7, 10 – 11 AM (BRB 501): **BGS CTL Workshop: Communicating your Science with Confidence.** How can BGS students conquer nervousness to confidently present their work to others? [Dr. Nandita Mitra](#) will lead an engaging workshop to help attendees communicate their science with confidence, focusing on ‘tips and tricks’ to use for preparation, presentation, and managing feedback when publicly communicating your science. RSVP [here](#). Contact [Katerina Placek](#) for more information.

May 16, 4 – 5:30 PM (Barchi Library, 140 John Morgan Building): **BGS Professional Skills Series: Science & International Diplomacy.** Presented by **Dr. Mahlet Mesfin**, Deputy Director of the Center for Science Diplomacy at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Dr. Mesfin will speak to the intersections of science, policy, and society. An alum of Penn (SEAS PhD

'11), Mesfin joined AAAS in May 2017. She also serves as executive editor of the open-access policy journal *Science & Diplomacy*. Read more on her background [here](#).

Light refreshments will be served! **Please register here:** <https://forms.gle/wkibmCk5XbQjvNQs6>

## CALENDAR

[Career Development](#)

## RESOURCES

[BGS Career Development Site](#)

[BGS Career Twitter](#)

[BGS Alumni & Current Students LinkedIn](#)

[Penn Career Services - Ph.D./Postdoc Careers Page](#)

[Handshake](#)

# STUDENT GROUPS & SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Science Carnival Outreach Opportunity

What? **Volunteer to facilitate a family-friendly STEM Outreach activity that teaches participants about solar UV radiation and skin cancer, and utilizes the scientific method in a hands-on experiment to test common measures to mitigate exposure**

When? **Saturday, May 4; 10am-4pm**

Where? **Benjamin Franklin Parkway (Just outside the Franklin Institute)**

This is a great opportunity to encourage STEM excitement in kids and adults alike in Philadelphia, and to give back to the community!

If interested, [please fill out this volunteer form](#) ASAP!

More information about the event and a graphical description of the activity are included [here](#).

Feel free to email [ssander@penmedicine.upenn.edu](mailto:ssander@penmedicine.upenn.edu) with any questions or comments!

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## Penn Med Symphony Orchestra's Spring 2019 Concert

We invite you to join the Penn Med Symphony Orchestra for our spring concert on **Saturday, May 4th at 8 pm in Irvine Auditorium!** The orchestra will be performing Dvorak's 9ththSymphony ('From the New World') and a movement from his American Suite, Beethoven's Egmont Overture, and Vieuxtemps' Violin Concerto No. 5, featuring **MD/PhD student Joe Park**. This concert will also feature collaborations with the high school musicians of the Play On, Philly! Symphony Orchestra.

Admission is free and open to everyone. For more details on our ensemble, please go to <https://www.pennmedsymphony.com/>

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### **Penn Franklins Peer-to-Peer Support**

Penn Franklins is a student organization composed of graduate students offering peer-to-peer support to the graduate and professional student community at Penn. For more details as well as their schedule and events, click [here](#)!

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### **EVENTS THIS WEEK**

Apr. 29, 5:30 PM (CRB 302): **BGS April Board Game Night**. Pizza and drinks provided. Bring yourselves, bring your games, bring your competitive side! To stay up-to-date, join the mailing list at <https://groups.google.com/d/forum/bgs-social-gaming/join>. If you don't want to use your Google e-mail, open the link in a private window and enter your e-mail address of choice

Apr. 30, 5 PM, followed by Reception (231 S. 34<sup>th</sup> St, Chemistry 102): **Sexual Harassment of Women: Climate, Culture, & Consequences in Academic Sciences, Engineering and Medicine**. Leadership in Science Award Lecture with **Dr. Frazier F. Benva**, National Academy of Sciences. [More info here](#).

May 1, 2:30 – 3:30 PM (Biomedical Library Relaxation Room): **#WellnessWednesday: Mindfulness & Meditation for End-of-Semester Stress**. During this session, you will be guided through mindful movements, self-applied massage, and meditation. To register, visit [bit.ly/endofsemesterstress](http://bit.ly/endofsemesterstress).

May 2, 5 PM (BRB 1101): **DSRB Journal Club** will discuss a paper from the lab of Dr. Gordon Keller in preparation for his visit on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Read the paper here: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.stem.2017.07.003>

May 2, 5:30 – 6:30 PM (CRB Conference Room 7<sup>th</sup> Floor): **EE Just Spring 2019 BGS Prelim Practice Talks 02**. Food from Beijing Chinese Restaurant will be served! Prelims are quickly approaching and EEJust is hosting our annual prelim practice talks! We will be hosting practice talks and **we encourage all to attend**, ask questions and help our colleagues prep to pass! We're all in this together :)

Our second of three sessions will have:

**5:30-5:50pm: Shivesh Ghura, PGG, Jordan-Sciutto Lab**

"Effects of PERK haplotype in APP pathology in Alzheimer's disease"

**5:50-6:10pm: Sylvia Stankov, CAMB-GTV, Rader Lab**

"Functional Analysis of Triglyceride Regulator ApoA-V Using Naturally-Occurring Human Genetic Variants"

**6:10-6:30pm: Kanika Jain, CAMB-CB, Chou Lab**

"Modulating the Immune Microenvironment in Ewing Sarcoma"

The format will be an uninterrupted presentation followed by questions and comments. We will have feedback sheets for you to write any comments, please bring pen/pencil!

May 3, 12 PM (BRB 253): **SACNAS Women in Science Seminar**. Guest speaker **Dr. Mary Mullins** will present, "Finding my way to science and ultimately to Penn." Lunch will be provided. See flyer [here](#).

**RESOURCES**

[BGSA Website](#)

[Calendar of BGSA Events](#)

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**For information about upcoming events or to advertise in next week's bulletin, contact [Rebecca Lopez](#).**