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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grants for Penn Dental Insurance and Family/Dependent Health Insurance

We wanted to let you know about two grants the University is offering to help offset insurance costs:

Dental Insurance: The Office of the University Provost will reimburse you for 50% of the cost of dental insurance if you sign up by September 18, 2020. You are responsible for the full cost of purchasing the insurance and may incur late fees if these are not paid on time. The reimbursement (\$215) will be issued by early November. More information is available at <https://gsc.upenn.edu/resources/graduate-funding-and-finances/insurance-subsidies-and-grants#dental>; please contact gradcenter@upenn.edu with any questions.

Family/Dependent Insurance: Between August 10 and September 18, 2020, you will be able to apply for grants to help offset the cost of family or dependent insurance. The grants are offered by the Office of the University Provost and administered through the Family Resource Center. More information is available at <https://familycenter.upenn.edu/grants>; contact Jessica Bolker (jessal@upenn.edu) with any questions.

BGSA Seeking Volunteers - Mentorship Workshops, Aug. 18

BGSA is looking for volunteers to help lead mentorship workshops on Tuesday Aug. 18th from 2pm to 4pm as a part of orientation week. Each volunteer would help facilitate communication and lead mentorship-related exercises with a group of 7-10 incoming students in a BlueJeans break-out room setting. These exercises are meant to help students become more familiar with expectations of the mentor-mentee relationship so that they can choose the right mentor during rotations, help to navigate difficult conversations, and effectively communicate and interact with their future mentors. **If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email expressing your interest to bgsa.chair@gmail.com by Monday, August 10th.**

Reminder: Your IDP Is Due August 15th

This is a reminder that your IDP is due August 15th. The more thoughtfully you complete the form, the more helpful you will find the process.

- Set aside an hour or more to consider the questions before answering.
- Many students find it quite useful to review last year's IDP (if you had filed one).

1. Download the fillable PDF form at <http://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/idp.shtml>.
2. The first few sections ask about your research, a self-assessment of skills, and your career development.
3. A section listing "Achievements" (section 4) is to be completed online (a link is provided in the IDP).
4. The "Action Plan": Once you have addressed the questions in the above sections, send the first three to your advisor, and set a time to meet to discuss this year's IDP. Together, you will develop an "Action Plan" (the last section of the IDP). By all means, include your Advisory committee in this process.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact Anne-Cara Apple in the BGS office (annecara@pennteam.upenn.edu).

CAPS Counselor for BGS Students

Tiffany Brown, PhD, psychologist at CAPS, remains available to meet with BGS students virtually.

Dr. Brown's services are confidential. She will work with BGS students to provide initial consultation, support, brief counseling, and referral services. In order to set up an appointment with Dr. Brown, you may call CAPS at 215-898-7021 or email her directly at nicobr@upenn.edu.

PENN GENETICS AWARDS | Kadesch Prize & Kaushal Awards | Applications Due 8/21/20

The **Kadesch Prize** recognizes graduate excellence in research and citizenship and is open to senior students or recent graduates from any Biomedical Graduate Studies graduate group. The **Kaushal Award** recognizes predoctoral and postdoctoral scholars for excellence in genetic research as evidenced by publication and is open to BGS students and PSOM Postdocs.

Applications due August 21, 2020. Email krunyan@penncmedicine.upenn.edu with subject line, "Kadesch Prize" or "Kaushal Award." See the full announcement and list of application requirements [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Peer Mentor Training Seminar with Dr. Sharon Milgram - August 11

CAMB is hosting a Peer Mentor Training Seminar with guest speaker Dr. Sharon Milgram, Director of the NIH Office of Intramural Training & Education (OITE), on **August 11th from 2:00-3:15pm**. The talk is titled, "**Promoting a Growth Mindset Through Peer Mentoring.**" All BGS students are welcome to attend her lecture, which will be followed by a Q&A session. CAMB students are invited to attend the following case study session workshop from 3:20-5:00pm

Non-CAMB BGS Students, please register for the lecture here: [BGS Sign Up Form for Seminar](#)
CAMB Students, please register for the lecture and/or the case study session here: [CAMB Sign Up Form for Seminar and Training Workshop](#)

Please contact Christina Strathearn (cstrat@penncmedicine.upenn.edu) or Laura Ohl (Laura.Ohl@penncmedicine.upenn.edu) with any questions. See the flyer [here](#).

EO 9066 to 9/11: The Past, Present and Future of Anti-Asian Bias in America Wednesday, August 12, 2020 7:00 PM EST

On March 21, 1942, Congress codified Executive Order 9066, issued by President Franklin Roosevelt, which resulted in the forced removal and confinement of people of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast in American concentration camps. **Seventy-eight years later**, the COVID-19 pandemic unleashed a surge in discrimination, bias, and violence against Asian Americans, many of whom were falsely blamed for spreading the virus.

"**EO 9066 to 9/11**" traces the history of discrimination against people of Asian background in the United States from World War II incarceration to the rise in Islamophobia after 9/11. Join the film's

producers and members of Penn's Program in Asian American Studies for a discussion on the past, present, and future of anti-Asian bias in America and how we can stand together for racial justice and equality for all.

This event is co-Sponsored by the University Task Force on Support to Asian and Asian-American Students and Scholars at Penn, Pan-Asian American Community House (PAACH) at Penn, Penn Libraries, and the Penn Program on Asian American Studies in partnership with the Japanese American National Museum.

[Register through Eventbrite](#)

NEW Fundraising Challenge - 2020 Virtual Breakthrough Bike Challenge!

Join the Perelman School of Medicine Student Team during a 2nd Team Fundraising Challenge to get up to \$500 for the teams getting the most new registrants! Raise donations for the Abramson Cancer Center by joining the Perelman School of Medicine Student team here: <https://www.breakthroughbikechallenge.org/team/5050>. **The 2020 Virtual BBC will take place between Saturday, August 15th and Sunday, September 13th, and participants are encouraged to bike, spin, run, or walk their pledged miles this year.**

THESIS DEFENSES

Aug. 12, 3:30 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/256946796>): **Colby Maldini (CAMB), "Chimeric Antigen Receptor T Cell Therapy for the Treatment of HIV."** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

Aug. 14, 12 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/983896173>): **Kalyani Nambiar (CAMB), "Isolation and Characterization of Novel Adeno-associated Viruses for the Advancement of Gene Therapy."** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

Aug. 11, 2 – 5 PM: **Peer Mentor Training Seminar and Workshop.** Contact [Christina Strathearn](#).

Aug. 12, 12 PM: **GTV Journal Club.** [Kylie Konrath](#) for BlueJeans link.

NGG

CALENDARS

[NGG and GLIA](#)

[MINS](#)

[BGSA](#)

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Perelman School of Medicine - NYAS Membership

As a member of the PSOM, you are entitled to use this membership. Please use the [enrollment link](#) to join.

The benefits of Science Alliance Members include:

- Discounts of 50% or more on registration for our scientific symposia, webinars, and public lectures annually
 - Effective career planning workshops that include skill-building, grant-writing, securing research funding, & communications
 - Online Courses enabling students to earn career-strengthening credentials in areas such as Teaching, Clinical Research Management, and more.
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NIH OITE Continues Virtual Events

The NIH's Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE) continues to host virtual events for trainees and researchers. Upcoming workshops include:

- [Becoming a Resilient Scientist Series: V. Building Mentor Networks](#) | August 12, 2020, 2 – 3:30 PM
- [Talking Science: Designing and Delivering Successful Oral Presentations](#) | August 13, 2020 2 - 3 PM

Visit the [OITE website](#) for a full list of upcoming events.

Virtual Networking Strategies

The Grad Center & Penn Career Services are holding virtual networking workshops! Learn to expand your professional network with confidence while social distancing.

- **Networking Strategies** | Thurs, Aug 13 @ 4PM ET
- **Informational Interviews** | Thurs, Aug 20 @ 4PM ET

Register <https://gsc.upenn.edu/events>

ISCC-PEG Scholars Program

The Inter-Society Coordinating Committee for Practitioner Education in Genomics (ISCC-PEG) is a collaborative group aimed at improving healthcare provider genomics education. The Scholars Program provides exposure to broader genomics community and experts in the field, with opportunities to work on a genetics/genomics-related education projects under the mentorship of an ISCC-PEG member. The appointment is for two years. Each scholar will have their travel funded for the annual ISCC-PEG in-person meeting (typically January or February) for a presentation on their project progress.

See the [full post](#) for additional details and requirements. **Questions? Contact ISCCPEGScholars@nih.gov**

Applications are due on September 1, 2020. Selected candidates will be notified by mid-October, 2020.

AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowship – Applications Now Open!

The AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowship application is [now open](#). The deadline to apply is **November 1, 2020**.

AAAS has organized a Live Chat Series to share more information about the Fellowship. Upcoming webinars for this application season include:

- August 20, 1pm ET | [The Perks of Being a Fellow: Networking, Influence and Impact](#)
 - September 16, 4pm ET | [A Day in the Life: What's It Like to Be a Fellow?](#)
 - October 15, 2pm ET | [Ask a Fellow Anything](#)
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Daily Phone “Drop-Ins” with Penn Career Services

In place of walk-ins, Career Services is offering a variety of phone and web appointments, which students can schedule through [Handshake](#). These include the option for same-day, 15-minute appointments with a career adviser. New appointment times open up every day at 9:15 AM ET. To schedule an appointment, sign in to Handshake and click the “Career Center” tab near the top right corner.

Twitter users can also follow [@PennCareerJobs](#), a daily automated feed that highlights new job posts. And be sure you’ve customized your email settings in Handshake to receive a weekly newsletter featuring jobs and resources tailored to you! Detailed instructions on how to do so are available [here](#).

RESOURCES

[BGS Career Development Site](#)

[BGS Career Twitter](#)

[BGS Alumni & Current Students LinkedIn](#)

[Black Women in Computational Biology Network](#)

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

[Handshake](#)

[Request a sponsored Membership to the New York Academy of Sciences](#)

STUDENT RESOURCES

[Slack for BGS Students](#)

[Roommate Ads – Google Doc](#)

[BGSA Website](#)

[Grad Center at Penn](#)

[Family Center at Penn](#)

[Ask Isaac: Your Personal IS Guru](#)

[Request a sponsored Membership to the New York Academy of Sciences](#)

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