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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome New Students

BGS would like to extend a warm welcome to incoming students! As a reminder, **BGS Virtual Orientation begins today, August 17, at 1PM and continues through August 28.** The [BGS New Student web page](#) has information to get you started virtually, including the **BGS schedule of orientation activities.** (This schedule is in addition to the schedule for your graduate group.) Today's activities will include:

- 1pm Welcome from the Deans and Graduate Group Chairs
- 2pm Intro to Graduate School/Professionalism
- 3pm How to Survive Graduate School from a Student's Perspective
- 4pm Panel Session – Graduate Student Organization Representatives

The BGS New Student web page also includes a link to [BGS Faculty Research Mini-Talks](#). These videos are conducted in a chalk-talk format and are provided to help you learn about some of the rotation opportunities available this year. Note that there are many PIs who didn't have a chance to

add a video, so feel free to reach out to graduate group faculty who are not on this list during your search. Also please continue to check back, as more videos will be added over the next few weeks.

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.

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](#).

Penn Medicine VotER Initiative

Those who are eligible can visit <http://vot-er.org/penn>, text **VOTE PENN** to 34444, or scan the [QR code](#) to register to vote and/or request a mail-in ballot. Each option takes just a few minutes. The last day to register to vote in Pennsylvania is October 19, 2020.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fundraising Challenge - 2020 Virtual Breakthrough Bike Challenge!

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.**

Cancer and COVID-19: Update from Penn's Abramson Cancer Center September 30, 2020, 5:45PM - 8:45PM

This event is designed to focus on the major areas in which the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted how cancer care is delivered and experienced by patients. Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., Director NIAID and Founding Member of the White House Coronavirus Task Force to Deliver Keynote. Dr. Fauci will share his latest insights on COVID-19, the state of the science, and the impact of the pandemic on cancer. Register [here](#).

THESIS DEFENSES

Aug. 18, 10:30 AM (<https://bluejeans.com/493314806>): **Annie Toulmin (IGG), "The regulation and function of MHC class II on type II alveolar cells."** Contact [Mary Taylor](#).

Aug. 19, 10 AM (<https://bluejeans.com/639328272>): **Edward Chuang (PGG), "Pharmacological stimulation of the human Hsp70 protein disaggregase system."** Contact [Sarah Squire](#).

Aug. 19, 11 AM (<https://bluejeans.com/284744586>): **Matt Paul (GCB), "Genomic evolution of breast cancer metastasis."** Contact [Maureen Kirsch](#).

Aug. 21, 10 AM (<https://bluejeans.com/909606251>): **Marianne Kramer (CAMB), "Life after transcription: Post-transcriptional gene regulation and non-coding RNAs during stress and development."** Contact [Meagan Schofer](#).

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

Aug. 19, 12 PM: **GTV Journal Club**. Contact [Kylie Konrath](#) for BlueJeans link.

Aug. 19, 2 – 4 PM: **CAMB Chair Dan Kessler's Virtual Office Hours**. Sign up [here](#) for a virtual meeting.

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.

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.

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

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

Penn Libraries Workshops

The Penn Libraries is offering a variety of online workshops. Miss a workshop? Check online for archived [materials and recordings](#).

Upcoming sessions include:

- [Wellness Wednesday: Virtual Mindfulness Workshop](#) | Wednesday, August 26, 12:00 - 1:00 PM
- [R Basics: Get Started in RStudio](#) | Wednesday, September 2, 1:00 - 2:00 PM
- [Research Poster Design and Presentation](#) | Friday, September 4, 12:00-12:30 PM
- [R Basics: Prepare Data for Modeling and Analysis](#) | Wednesday, September 9, 1:00 - 2:30 PM ET

For full details, more upcoming sessions, and to register visit the [Penn Libraries website](#).

FDA Staff Fellow Position

Please see the attached [announcement](#) for a Cell Biologist reviewer position at the FDA.

Open Positions at Incyte

Incyte is seeking applications for two positions:

- **Sr. Research / Principal Investigator, Bioinformatician**
- **Sr. Research / Principal Investigator, Target Validation**

Learn more [here](#).

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](#).