



Click hyperlinks to navigate this week's content:

- [General Announcements](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Thesis Defenses](#)
- [Program Announcements](#)
- [Career Development](#)
- [Student Resources](#)

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome New Students

BGS would like to extend a warm welcome to incoming students! As a reminder, 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.)

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.

The IDOM Student Interest Group has also been working to put together a [document](#) to highlight labs in the Institute for Diabetes, Obesity, and Metabolism that are recruiting graduate students. This link is also available on the New Student web page.

Fall 2020 Technology Grants

Round 1 Deadline: August 24 at 12 noon

Round 2 Deadline: September 18 at 12 noon

Applications are now open for Fall 2020 Technology Grants! The Office of the Provost and GAPSA are funding these grants to support new technology expenses that are required to make academic progress during the Fall 2020 semester. Graduate and professional students who demonstrate financial need [may apply for grants](#) (up to \$500) related to new technology needs required to remotely conduct research, take courses, or teach courses during the Fall 2020 semester.

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.

The Grad Center at Penn will host two drop-in Q&A sessions on **Friday, September 4** to answer questions about these grants. Two virtual sessions are available: **9-10am and 12-1pm EDT**. Register at gsc.upenn.edu/events.

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 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

COVID-19: Scientific Advances and Its Impact on Women's Health

September 11, 2020, 8:30AM – 12:30PM CST

[Register here](#)

This symposium will feature a panel of internationally-recognized speakers on the front line of basic science and global health who will discuss cutting-edge research into COVID-19 pathogenesis at the cellular and molecular levels, gender differences in COVID-19 pathogenesis, current therapies and how COVID-19 has impacted the health of women in our local and global communities. The featured speakers will include Penn's own **Dr. Susan Weiss**, co-director of the [Penn Center for Research on Coronavirus and Other Emerging Pathogens](#).

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. 26, 2 PM (<http://bluejeans.com/716119748>): **Austin Zimmet (BMB)**, "Mechanisms of Activation and Inhibition of Arp2/3 complex." Contact [Kelli McKenna](#).

Aug. 28, 10 AM (<https://bluejeans.com/656745446>): **Carolyn Keating (NGG)**, "Characterizing and Manipulating Neuronal Plasma Membrane Mechanoporation in Traumatic Brain Injury." Contact [Keyana Moody](#).

Sept. 1, 12 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/343583295>): **Ari Kahn (NGG), "Behavioral and Neural Correlates of Graph Learning."** Contact [Keyana Moody](#).

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

Aug. 25, 10-11 AM: **Orientation: Q&A Session with Grad Group Chair/Vice Chair.** Check the [CAMB Orientation website](#) for the virtual meeting information. Contact [Christina Strathearn](#).

Aug. 26, 10-11:30 AM: **DSRB Orientation Meeting.** Check the [CAMB Orientation website](#) for the virtual meeting information. Contact [Meagan Schofer](#).

Aug. 28, 9-10 AM: **MVP Orientation Meeting.** Check the [CAMB Orientation website](#) for the virtual meeting information. Contact [Anna Kline](#).

Aug. 28, 10 AM – 4 PM: **MVP Virtual Retreat.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

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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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](#).

Google PhD Fellowship

Penn has been invited to submit up to 4 nominees for the Google PhD Fellowship Program. Self-nominations are made to the Provost's office, which decides which to nominate to Google. The internal competition deadline is **September 11, 2020, 11:59 PM EDT**. Please see the full announcement, including eligibility information, [here](#).

AAAS' 45th Annual Science and Technology Policy Forum

Registration is now open for [AAAS' 45th Annual Science and Technology Policy Forum](#), a free event for those interested in policy to come together to discuss current challenges at the intersection of science, policy and society. The forum will take place virtually on **October 13-14**.

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:

- 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](#).