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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

BGS Virtual Commencement Ceremony

Please join BGS today at 1:30pm for a Virtual Commencement Ceremony. Our ceremony will last approximately 45 minutes and follows the University Commencement Ceremony, which will take place at 11:00am. Learn more here: <https://med.upenn.edu/bgs/bgs-virtual-graduation-2020.html>

Congratulations to all our graduates! [#BGSGraduation2020](#)

BGSA Virtual Elections – Nominations Close 5/20

BGSA Executive Board Position Nominations close this Wednesday, May 20. [Click here](#) to nominate yourself or someone else for our open positions!

Don't know which position you want to run for? Use our virtual election guide or hear directly about positions from our current EB [here](#). Please email bgsa.chair@gmail.com with questions and concerns.

2020-2021 Nominations for NRSA T32s

Cell and Molecular Biology - June 15 deadline
Genetics - June 15 deadline

These training grants are soliciting nominations of graduate students for the 2020-2021 academic year through a BGS-managed web-based system. Learn more here:
<https://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/2020-2021-nominations-for-nrsa-t32s.html>

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

Deadline: June 22

Due to COVID related concerns, deadline extensions will be considered.

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 Bethany Germany, bgermany@upenn.edu or Andrew Fesnak, MD, fesnak@pennmedicine.upenn.edu to learn more.

UPCOMING EVENTS

None this week.

THESIS DEFENSES

May 19, 2 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/545721991>): **Bihui Xu Melidosian (CAMB)**, “**Cancer Cell Antiviral Signaling Amplifies Transcription Output Through Chromatin Alterations to Drive Therapy Resistance.**” Contact [Kathy O’Connor-Cooley](#).

May 19, 2 PM: **Eli Cornblath (NGG)**

May 22, 9 AM: **Katerina Placek (NGG)**

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

May 19 – 20, **GTV PhD Prelim Exams**

May 19 – 21, **MVP PhD Prelim Exams**

May 22, 12:15 – 1:30 PM: **CPM Research in Progress: Vineet Kulkarni (Maday lab), Emily Fernandez Garcia (Foskett lab), and Karina Chaudhari (Bashaw Lab) presenting.** Contact [Kathy O’Connor-Cooley](#) for the BlueJeans link.

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](#).

NGG

ANNOUNCEMENT

- **New!** Check out this week’s PennNeuroKnow article [The Hope for a Cure](#) by *Nitsan Goldstein*. Huntington’s disease ravages the brain, but exciting new therapies offer hope for the future.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tue, 05/19 2:00-4:00pm - Eli Cornblath Thesis Defense

Fri, 05/22 9:00-11:00am - Katerina Placek Thesis Defense

Daily 'Meet an NGG alum' sessions this week (<https://upenn.bluejeans.com/2277199130>)

Mon, 05/18 12:00-12:30 pm - Patrick Connolly

Tue, 05/19 12:00-12:30 pm - Rachel Smith

Wed, 05/20 12:00-12:30 pm - Greg Carr

Thur, 05/21 12:00-12:30 pm - Brigid Jensen

Fri, 05/22 8:30-9:00 am - John Burke

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Webinar Series for the NIGMS Training Community

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences has announced a new webinar series for students, postdocs, and faculty. Each hour-long webinar will include a 10- to 15-minute presentation by the speaker followed by a moderated question and answer session. Upcoming sessions include:

Behavioral Research in Biomedicine

Tuesday, May 19, 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET

See the full schedule and webinar login information [here](#).

Preparing for your First-Year as a Faculty Member (Online Q&A)

Thursday, May 21st, 2020, 1:00pm-2:00pm

This virtual program is intended to help those beginning their new faculty position and to better understand ways to succeed in their first year on the job. Current faculty members will address aspects of starting a new faculty position that they feel are most important, such as how to stay engaged in research, handle the time demands related to teaching, and navigate the different types of "service" that come with joining a new department and institution. *Please register for this online event, and we will send you the online video link.* The panel session will be interactive with questions. If you have questions to ask the faculty panelists, please email them to Marianne Lipa (mlipa@upenn.edu) in Career Services.

The panelists will be:

- Dr. Yun Ding, Assistant Professor of Biology, University of Pennsylvania
- Dr. Anna Schapiro, Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of Pennsylvania
- Dr. Xi Song, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania

To register, click here: <https://upenn.joinhandshake.com/events/431743>

Illustrator Training with Penn Biomed Library

Tue, May 26, 2020, 12:00 PM EDT

Do you have data you want to share with the world, but get stuck whenever you leave PowerPoint? Want to create better figures for posters and publications? On May 26, Lexi Voss, Visualizationist for the Penn Biomedical Library, will walk you through the basics of Adobe Illustrator and get you on the

path to professional diagrams and figures. [Registration](#) is required to receive workshop materials. Hope to see you then!

CPRIT TRIUMPH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Translational Cancer Research

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center is currently accepting applications for the CPRIT TRIUMPH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Translational Cancer Research. This three-year fellowship provides basic, translational, and clinical training and aims to further develop talented PhD or MD/PhDs into successful clinical/translational research scientists. Applications are reviewed quarterly with the next cycle due dates of **June 30, 2020 and September 30, 2020**.

Additional information regarding eligibility, application process, and current trainees and program alumni profiles are found at www.mdanderson.org/CPRITTRIUMPH. Please contact Dr. Kari Brewer Savannah, Program Manager, with any questions at ksavannah@mdanderson.org.

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](#)

[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](#).