



***Click hyperlinks to navigate this week's content:***

- [\*\*General Announcements\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Upcoming Events\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Thesis Defenses\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Program Announcements\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Career Development\*\*](#)
  - [Career Development Events](#)
  - [Other Career Development Announcements](#)
  - [Job Openings](#)
- [\*\*Student Group Events/Resources\*\*](#)

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BGS Racial Climate Survey from CRIC | Survey closes November 25<sup>th</sup>**

The BGS and BPP leadership formed the Combating Racial Inequities Committee (CRIC), to evaluate the current climate with respect to race in order to make recommendations to improve it. The CRIC has formulated a survey (check email for link) to collect information and establish metrics on racial and ethnic diversity, equity, and inclusion culture within BGS and BPP by focusing on 5 areas: Journey to and Selection of Penn, Resources, Environment, Unconscious Bias Training, and Community. The survey results will inform the committee's recommendations to BGS, BPP, and the Perelman School of Medicine in implementing initiatives to improve the culture and climate around race at Penn.

A prize will be awarded to the graduate group or department with the highest percentage response to the survey! So take the survey and encourage your colleagues to take it too! The survey closes **November 25<sup>th</sup>**.

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## **Counseling and Wellness**

[Counseling and Psychological Services](#) has a variety of virtual options and some in-person options.

Call 215-898-7021 anytime (24/7) to make an appointment or talk with a licensed counselor. On campus appointments are available 9am-5pm Monday-Friday. Virtual appointments are available Mon-Thurs, 9am-6pm, Fri, 9am-5pm, and Saturday, 10am-2pm. Press 2 to make an in-person or virtual appointment.

You may also use [Let's Talk](#) virtual hours: <https://caps.wellness.upenn.edu/ltplohours/>  
Use 215-898-7021, press 2, to schedule a Let's Talk session.

Dr. Tiffany Brown is the embedded CAPS counselor for BGS. You may schedule appointments with her directly [[nicobr@upenn.edu](mailto:nicobr@upenn.edu)] or by calling 215-898-7021 (press 2). Demand for Dr. Brown's services is currently high, but you may arrange to work with other CAPS counselors by calling the main CAPS number.

For peer support networking, please feel free to reach out to one of the BGS student volunteers of [Peer Support Network](#).

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## **Expanded route and hours through Penn Shuttle Service**

The PSOM Shuttle Service with expanded route and hours is now operational! The buses are labeled "PSOM Center City" – see photo, route, and schedule [here](#).

Additional details: <https://www.med.upenn.edu/evdcommunications/follow-up-and-options-for-a-safe-commute-home.html>

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## **Graduate Student Space Reservations**

Graduate and professional students can reserve a seat in the Houston Hall Class of 1949 Auditorium through December 11. The space can be used for study or relaxation; however, face masks and physical distancing are required at all times and eating/drinking in the space are prohibited.

For more details and to request a seat, visit: [www.gsc.upenn.edu/online/graduate-space-reservations](http://www.gsc.upenn.edu/online/graduate-space-reservations)

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## **ORDT Office Hours**

The Office of Research and Diversity Training (ORDT) will host daily office hours from Monday through Thursday for the rest of November (see details [here](#)). Please [sign in](#) to receive the Zoom information.

Please note we will not hold office hours on Thanksgiving (11/26).

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### **COVID-19 Testing**

Please be aware that testing is available in Houston Hall. Details, including appointment scheduling links, are available here: <https://wellness.upenn.edu/coronavirus/#About-Testing-at-Hall-of-Flags>

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### **Project Meow Accepting Donations**

Project Meow builds winter shelters for the stray cats of West Philadelphia. More than 500 shelters were constructed last season! They are once again accepting donations of large styrofoam boxes (Illumina boxes are ideal). See flyer [here](#); contact [Anne Froehling](#) (215)-485-6121 to arrange pick up outside the building.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Fall 2020 Neuroscience Public Lecture Series**

**Date & Time: Thursday, December 3rd, 6:00pm EST**

**Location: Crowdcast Virtual Platform**

Penn Neuroscience graduate students are hosting a public lecture entitled "Under Pressure: The Neuroscience of Stress" which will feature three 15-minute TED style talks from Penn neuroscience faculty members Drs. Michael P. Hart and Allyson Mackey, and Temple University faculty member Dr. Debra Bangasser.

Check-in and a fun neuroscience demonstration will begin at 6pm. Please see the attached [flyer](#) for more details. Register [here](#).

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### **PennDemic 3 coming December 5th**

**Applications are due Nov. 23rd!**

Are you interested in disaster preparedness and response? Would you like to explore the field while gaining valuable interprofessional teamwork skills? PennDemic, our homegrown interprofessional education (IPE) activity, has moved to the virtual world! PennDemic 3 will take place on Saturday 5 December from 1 - 5 pm.

PennDemic 3 will involve a (non-coronavirus) infectious disease outbreak in pre-COVID Philadelphia. Students will work in interdisciplinary groups with colleagues from across Penn and University of the Sciences. This event is sure to be a fun and valuable educational experience! Many BGS students participated in PennDemic 1 and 2 and had only great things to say about it!

You can click [here](#) for more information and a link to the application.

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### **Drop in workshops now through Finals week: LIBRARY 101**

#### **The basic tools to getting books, articles, and other materials digitally or in print**

Are you working on a paper and need to quickly get your hands on books, articles, or other media from the Penn Libraries? Discover the best way to request something for pick up at Van Pelt Library, or have it mailed directly to your door, or to receive a PDF scan of an article or book chapter. **Library 101** will make it easy and has the answers for you.

Even if you only have **5 minutes**, feel free to pop in with all your questions about Pickup@Penn, Books by Mail, Request Digital Delivery and getting things from other libraries via Borrow Direct, E-ZBorrow and Interlibrary Loan. Find out "How to Library"! In the meantime, check out our [Library 101 video tutorials](#).

[Link to dates, times and registration](#)

## **THESIS DEFENSES**

Nov. 23, 3 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/893573815>): **Gregory Sousa (CAMB), "Dissecting the melanization immune response in the malaria vector Anopheles gambiae."** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

Nov. 23, 4 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/505384207>): **Hannah Greenfeld (CAMB), "Interpretation of the BMP morphogen gradient during dorsal-ventral axial patterning."** Contact [Meagan Schofer](#).

Nov. 25, 9 AM ([via Zoom](#)): **Lucy Shan (GCB), "THE GLOBAL LANDSCAPE OF RNA-PROTEIN INTERACTIONS IN PHYSCOMITRIUM PATENS ABA RESPONSE AND IN A MODEL OF MAMMALIAN ERYTHROPOESIS."** Contact [Maureen Kirsch](#).

## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CAMB**

Nov. 23, 2 – 3 pm: **MVP Drop-in hours with Elizabeth White**. The GatherTown link is in Slack or contact [Anna Kline](#).

Nov. 24, 2 – 4 pm: **CAMB Chair Dan Kessler's Virtual Office Hours**. Sign Up [here](#) for a virtual meeting. Contact [Dan Kessler](#).

## NGG

### CALENDARS

[NGG and GLIA](#)

[MINS](#)

[BGSA](#)

# CAREER DEVELOPMENT

## Events this Week

- **None this week.**

## Future Events

- Dec. 5, 1-5 PM: **PennDemic 3. Applications are due Nov. 23rd!** Are you interested in disaster preparedness and response? Would you like to explore the field while gaining valuable interprofessional teamwork skills? PennDemic, our homegrown interprofessional education (IPE) activity, has moved to the virtual world! You can click [here](#) for more information and a link to the application.

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## ITMAT Education Short Course Opportunity

**Application Deadline January 8 – Learn more [here](#)**

- Learning methods such as role-playing, case study and journal article reviews, and round tables will be utilized
- The course will provide an overview of the multi-dimensional nature of drug development, which involves regulatory, new technologies, statistical and quality considerations
- The course will introduce the concepts of drug development, which include pharmacology, toxicology, product development, and clinical trials
- Topics will be addressed based on regulatory requirements by the FDA

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## Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship | November 29 Deadline

Penn is permitted to forward three nominees for the 2021-22 Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fund fellowship, which pays full tuition plus a stipend of \$18,000 for up to three years. U.S. citizens

pursuing a graduate degree in 2021-22 in any recognized field of study in the humanities, social sciences, or natural sciences (including law, medicine, engineering, architecture or other formal professional training) are eligible. The selection committee has a strong preference for supporting scholarly endeavors.

An internal selection process will be coordinated by the **Center for Undergraduate Research & Fellowships**. For the purposes of the internal competition, students should complete the application and submit the requested supporting documentation by **November 29, 2020**.

This internal Penn application requires 1 letter of recommendation from a professor (not a postdoc or lecturer) who has taught or worked closely with you. You will request this through the application process, but please alert your preferred recommender as soon as possible so as to give your recommender ample time to submit letters of recommendation before the Penn Deadline. See the [CURF website](#) for additional application requirements.

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### **Regeneron Postdoctoral Training Program** **Applications due December 1, 2020**

The application period for the Regeneron Postdoctoral Training Program has begun. Learn more [here](#), see flyer [here](#).

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### **Job Openings**

- **New NCATS/FDA Translational Science Interagency Fellowship – Applications due 1/15/2021** – See full announcement [here](#).
- **Fellowship in Life Sciences Consulting – Alacrita Consulting, Inc.** – See full announcement [here](#).
- **Stem Cell Biologist – Fate Therapeutics** – See full announcement [here](#).
- **Protein Engineering Scientist – Nabla Bio** – See full announcement [here](#).

Request to join the [BGS Alumni and Current Students LinkedIn](#) to stay updated on job opportunities.

### **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**

## Events this Week

- **None this week.**

[Peer Support Network \(PSN\)](#)

[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](#)

[Request a University-sponsored MATLAB license](#)

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