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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

(NEW) - COVID-19 Requirements

Vaccinations. Penn students, faculty, and staff are required to be vaccinated. Students must upload their vaccine record through [Student Health](#). Information regarding current student immunization requirements can be found [here](#).

Masking/Testing. All members of the Penn community and visitors must wear masks while indoors in public or shared spaces. In addition, **twice-a-week** Penn Cares screening testing is required for members of our community who are not vaccinated or choose not to report their vaccination information. Learn more about student compliance with testing [here](#).

Gateway Testing Requirement for Current Students

As you are all aware, there has been a concerning increase of COVID infections due to the Delta Variant. In an effort to prevent the spread of the variant on campus, as you return to academic and clinical activities, you are required to be "[gateway tested](#)" – although the messaging from the University refers to "arrival" testing, the University is defining gateway testing as a COVID test

between July 7 and Sept 7 (without departing Philadelphia) for all students. [Here's the link to the Penn site describing this initiative](#). This testing REQUIRED, regardless of your vaccination status.

For those of you currently on campus, gateway testing can be performed via Penn Cares, which is managed by Student Health Services (SHS), anytime now.

If you are on campus or in Philadelphia AND plan on traveling outside the city for any reason, you will need to get tested upon your return to school.

To be clear: **EVERYONE** who will be on site this semester needs to have gateway testing by September 7, 2021. There will be no exceptions.

We really appreciate your efforts to help us preserve the health of our community in BGS and at Penn.

Additional questions can easily be answered by accessing this [FAQ](#) page. Please contact Judy Jackson (jjackso@penmedicine.upenn.edu) with any specific or individualized questions regarding this process.

We look forward to seeing you in person this fall!

ITMAT Education Fall 2021 Course Offerings

The ITMAT Fall 2021 course offerings include:

REG 510 – Introduction to Clinical & Translational Research

Instructor: Emma Meagher, MD

Time: MW, 8:30 – 10 am

Modality: Online

Open to nondegree: Yes

REG 616 Quality Assurance

Instructor: Dawn Lundin

Time: Tuesdays, 4 – 7 pm

Modality: Online

Open to nondegree: Yes

See the full announcement and course request forms [here](#).

Sharing Roommate Ads & Slack for BGS Students

BGS students are welcome to post their housing and roommate ads in the following [Google doc](#). There is also a channel within the BGS Slack workspace intended for sharing roommate ads, titled **#attn_roommate-ads**.

As a reminder, the Slack workspace was created to help facilitate communication among BGS students. There are different channels, or chat groups, on the BGS Slack workspace for various student led ad-hoc discussions about activities, events, and classes. All BGS students are invited to join [here](#).

Graduate & Professional Student Emergency Fund

The Office of the Provost has provided over \$70,000 to the VPUL Emergency Fund specifically dedicated for graduate and professional student urgent and unanticipated needs. Students facing emergency financial hardships can learn more at gsc.upenn.edu/grad-emergency-grant.

Call for Nominations - Lok and Kanefield Prizes for BGS Students Conducting Cystic Fibrosis Research or Related Research

BGS seeks nominations for the two prizes described [here](#). Nominations may be made on a rolling basis. If the award money is to be used for travel to a conference, please submit the nomination at least 2 months prior to the date of the conference. BGS faculty members should nominate their students via email to rebecca.lopez@penncare.upenn.edu.

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/ltplchours/>
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] or by calling 215-898-7021 (press 2). You may also arrange to work with other CAPS counselors by calling the main CAPS number.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Date: Wikipedia Edit-a-thon

Wednesday, October 13th, 2021, 12 - 2 PM

[Registration](#)

Penn Libraries and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) Patient and Family Education Committee are observing Health Literacy Month by participating in the National Library of Medicine's #citeNLM Wikipedia Edit-a-thon initiative to edit health-related pages on Wikipedia, an online open-source encyclopedia that has become one of the world's most popular websites. Learn how to edit Wikipedia pages using information found on MedlinePlus, PubMed, and other credible health websites. No prior experience with Wikipedia is necessary for this volunteer activity.

THESIS DEFENSES

Aug. 11, 3 PM (JMB Class of '62 Auditorium OR [virtually](#)): **Suhee Chang (PGG)**, "Developmental Role of H19 and IGF2 in Mouse and Human." Contact [Sarah Squire](#).

Aug. 11, 3 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/772785108/9937>): **Monika Eiva (CAMB)**, "Disentangling T cell Heterogeneity in Human Ovarian Cancer: A Focus on Tumor-Specific and Early Memory T cells." Contact [Anna Kline](#).

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

Aug. 12, 10 AM – 1 PM (251 BRB): **DSRB June Matric Advising**. Contact [Meagan Schofer](#).

Aug. 12, 12 – 1 PM (4054 Colket Building or via BlueJeans): **CAMB Vice Chair Craig Bassing's Office Hours**. Craig will physically be in his office, but if you would like to set up a virtual meeting instead please use the [sign up google sheet](#). Contact [Craig Bassing](#).

NGG

CALENDARS

[NGG and GLIA](#)

[MINS](#)

[BGSA](#)

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Events this Week

- Aug. 9 – 12: **Faculty Job Search Prep Camp.** If you're planning to apply for faculty jobs, either in this upcoming cycle or in the future, join Penn Career Services for this four-day Faculty Job Search Prep Camp to get a head start on planning your job search. Through workshop presentations and faculty and alumni panels, we'll help you understand how you can best prepare for each step of the process, from assessing your readiness to go on the faculty job market and crafting application materials to preparing for interviews and negotiating offers. See the schedule [here](#).
- Aug. 13, 11 AM ([Register](#)): **Penn Libraries, "Critical Issues in Data and Research discussion group: Accessibility."** The August CIDAR discussion will be about making data accessible to people with different abilities. Displaying data in ways that allow everyone to use it, designing data collection instruments that everyone can contribute to, and other issues that surround data and research will be discussed. Kara Gaulrapp from Information Systems and Computing will be joining us.

Janssen Scholars of Oncology Diversity Engagement Program (SODEP)

Registration Deadline August 16, 2021

Note: Early registration is encouraged, as admission is rolling and will be closed when they reach 100 registrants.

We are delighted to announce the launch of the [Janssen Scholars of Oncology Diversity Engagement Program \(SODEP\)](#). SODEP consists of three steps:

1. Exposure to industry at the virtual **Janssen Oncology Day**, an all-day program that will provide an overview of the various opportunities within science and medicine.
2. **One-on-one mentorship.** Up to 10 scholars who attend Janssen Oncology Day will be selected for this step of the program, in which the scholars will be paired with Janssen leaders in an ongoing one-year mentoring experience, where they will receive career coaching and guidance. In addition, scholars will receive a \$10,000 stipend for conference travel, research supplies, and training courses.
3. **Potential placement.** If scholars are interested in transitioning into a career in industry, their relationship with their mentor will provide them with support in identifying and applying for any appropriate open positions at Janssen.

Learn more about [eligibility requirements here](#). Registration is currently open for the Janssen Oncology Day, which will take place on **September 15, 2021**.

Postdoc Opportunity for PhDs: Apply for Postdoc Preview, October 2021 at Univ of Michigan

Application Deadline August 20, 2021

View flyer [here](#)

The University of Michigan Medical School will host Postdoc Preview, October 18-22, 2021. This recruiting event is an opportunity for upper-level graduate students to explore the extensive

postdoctoral research and training opportunities in biomedical sciences at University of Michigan. During a virtual visit, guests will interview with prospective mentors, network with current postdocs, learn about funding opportunities, and about life in Ann Arbor. Applicants are selected from a national pool of candidates who expect to complete their thesis research within the next year. Applications will be accepted through **August 20, 2021**.

For more information and to apply: https://ogps.smapply.io/prog/postdoc_preview_october_2021/

IBSA Foundation for scientific research – Fellowships 2021 Call

Application Deadline: December 31, 2021

Applications are open for the 9th edition of the [IBSA Foundation Fellowships 2021 Call](#) that awards 6 fellowships of € 30,000/each (one additional fellowship compared to the previous edition) to young researchers under the age of 40, from Universities and Research Institutes around the world, who have distinguished themselves for their skills and have ongoing projects of particular relevance in the following research areas:

- dermatology
 - endocrinology
 - fertility/urology
 - orthopaedics/pain medicine/rheumatology
- and the 2021 special edition
- regenerative medicine

Please find more information about the Call on the IBSA Foundation's [website](#).

NHGRI Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Transition Award for a Diverse Genomics Workforce (F99/K00)

Application Due Date(s): December 8, 2021

This two-phased award will facilitate completion of a doctoral dissertation (F99) and transition to a strong postdoctoral research position (K00) focused on the scientific, medical, ethical, social and/or legal areas of genomics research.

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-143.html>

Job Openings

- **(NEW)** - [Benchspace – August 2021 Postdoc Job Opportunities](#)
- [Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Thomas Jefferson University](#)
- [Postdoctoral Position Gennarino Laboratory, Columbia University](#)
- [Open Postdoc Positions - Weill Cornell Medicine](#)
- [Post Doctoral Fellow – Nephrology/Cell Biology, University of Pittsburgh](#)
- [Post Doctoral Fellow – Cardiovascular Signal Transduction, Harvard Medical School](#)

- [Archive of other Job Listings](#)

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

RESOURCES

[BGS Career Development Calendar](#)

[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 GROUP EVENTS/RESOURCES

PSN GBM (Tuesday 8/10) and Call for Volunteers!

The Peer Support Network is helping to organize breakout sessions during the wellness-themed day of BGS orientation, and we need your help!

Given the record high number of incoming BGS students, we need as much help as we can get to facilitate these breakout sessions!

EVENT DETAILS

Date: August 18th

Time: 10:30AM – 12:00PM (~45 minutes of active time in breakout room)

Location: BRB lobby/classrooms

Volunteer Description: as a breakout room facilitator, you will lead a group of 10-15 incoming BGS students in an in-person discussion about wellness and self-care as a graduate student at Penn. PSN will provide you with a script for the discussion and a list of activities that you can conduct during the sessions.

Volunteer Training: we will provide breakout room facilitators with a review of the planned activities at our **next GBM on Tuesday August 10th at 5:00PM**. Volunteers may also participate in a **CAPS-led training session** on August 9th.

To sign up to lead a breakout room, click [here](#)!

And, to learn more about PSN and our planned activities for orientation, attend our GBM next Tuesday (8/10) at 5:00PM (<https://bluejeans.com/3984200643>)!

BGSA: Student volunteers needed at BGS Orientation!

Hello Current BGS Students!

We need your help! BGSA is hosting a Mentorship Workshop during BGS New Student Orientation on August 17th from 2:00-4:10pm. In particular, we are looking for students to join us in helping to facilitate breakout groups and participating in our mentorship panel. It's important that our many BGS graduate groups are represented at this event!

Sign up here and BGSA will be reaching out with more information:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1aIDYjN1qYFQYewZRae2THbnEiA-MfmERC2OeYniISAs/edit?usp=sharing>

We hope to thank you for your time in the form of snacks or swag - stay tuned :) This is also a great opportunity to pay it forward and welcome the 149(!) new students joining our programs.

[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](#)

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