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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Winter Break 2020-21

In observance of the University's Winter Break, the BGS Office's virtual operations will be suspended from December 24, 2020 – January 5, 2021.

There will be no weekly bulletin during winter break. We will resume sending the weekly bulletin on January 6, 2021. BGS wishes everyone a restful winter break and Happy New Year!

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] 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](#).

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>

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>

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

None this week.

THESIS DEFENSES

Jan. 6, 2 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/279511093>): **Robert Norgard (CAMB), "Cellular plasticity and heterogeneity: implications in tumor cell invasion and metastasis."** Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](#).

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

Dec. 22, 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

NEW - **Call for Applications: 2021 Career Services' PhD Career Exploration Fellowship**
Application Deadline: Wednesday, January 13th, 2021

The [PhD Career Exploration Fellowship \(CEF\)](#) program encourages non-faculty career exploration among doctoral students by facilitating networking experiences and fostering mentorship relationships with advanced degree holding professionals. This unpaid opportunity allows doctoral students to gain a better understanding of day-to-day life in administrative offices, libraries, pharmaceutical companies, museums, science outreach, and other organizations, on Penn's campus, in the greater Philadelphia area, and beyond. In 2021, the program will be conducted virtually, which also gives students the opportunity to interact with hosts in offices all across the country.

For more information, including eligibility and application details, see the full announcement [here](#). If you have any questions about this program, please contact Career Services' PhD Professionalism Fellow, Kate Webb (katwebb@penncare.org).

NEW - **2021 International Emory Global Health Case Competition**
Application Deadline: January 15, 2021

The Center for Global Health is collecting applications to form a multidisciplinary team of 6 students to virtually compete in the 2021 International Emory Global Health Case Competition!

See the full [call for applications](#) or view [flyer](#) for details.

If you are interested in applying to be a member of the Penn team, please send your CV & Statement of Interest (500 words max) to Andie Yost at ayost@pennmedicine.upenn.edu by **January 15, 2021**.

NEW - Regeneron Prize for Creative Innovation

Internal Application Deadline: 12 noon ET, February 3rd, 2021

The University of Pennsylvania has been invited to nominate two PhD students for the Regeneron Prize for Creative Innovation in biomedicine, broadly defined. See the [attachment](#) for details.

Penn coordinates an internal competition. **The deadline for the internal competition is 12 noon Eastern Time, February 3rd, 2021.**

To be considered for Penn nomination, applicants must complete the Penn Regeneron Prize application (<http://apply.interfolio.com/81904>), consisting of :

- Curriculum Vitae
- 2-page single-spaced description of the applicant's "dream research idea" in the field of Biomedical Science
- A letter of recommendation from your Penn faculty advisor, requested through the above process

Applicants should not submit the application directly to Regeneron. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Aaron Olson at CURF, aolson@upenn.edu.

SACNAS Career Panel With BGSA

We're excited to announce our 2020 Career Panel with BGSA! The style of this panel is "*by the audience, for the audience*", so the survey below is to gauge everyone's interest and see what careers you would like to hear about.

Here is the link to the survey: https://upenn.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4Po4391xPmuQd01

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
-

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

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[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](#).