



Click hyperlinks to navigate this week's content:

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

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Intersections Science Fellows Symposium

January 6-8, 2021

Intersecting science and diversity to support future leaders in the life sciences. Registration is free and open to all! For more information, see the following links:

[Event Program](#)

[Registration](#)

[Flyer](#)

Green Labs Working Group Meeting

Friday, Jan. 8, 1pm EST

Come learn how to make your lab more sustainable, and learn about Penn's first Freezer Challenge starting January! Register here: bit.ly/jangreenlabs

Black Queer Town Hall in STEM **January 12th-15th**

Significantly, on **January 12th-15th**, in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania, University of Iowa, and Black Queer Town Hall, we present Black Queer Town Hall in STEM. Notably, this is a virtual four-day conference to increase Black Queer scientists' visibility worldwide. Join us for a day of panels on **January 12 starting at 9:30AM EST** to connect and learn about Black Queer scientists' adversities in and out of the lab. Equally, this is an opportunity for institutions to learn how to increase Black Queer representation in STEM and foster community among Black Queer scientists. The Black Queer Town Hall in STEM will be hosted by Trans actor/entertainer and activist Miss Peppermint, from RuPaul's Drag Race and appearances by Bob the Drag Queen from RuPaul's Drag Race.

Subsequently, **January 13-15 starting at 8:20AM EST** are filled with seminars presented by Black Queer scientists from around the world with topics ranging from physics, biology, biochemistry, chemistry, bioengineering, epidemiology, and sociology.

The Town Hall will be broadcast live on BlackQueerTownHall.org and its associated YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfAcG1VazHZFPnTZXxQrsLA>

You can find more information on the background, motivation, and program layout at this link below.

<http://crosstalk.cell.com/blog/join-us-to-celebrate-the-intersection-of-blackness-queerness-and-science>

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.

Jan. 11, 12 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/428366152>): **Jennifer Stiso (NGG)**, “Data-based and theory-based models of perturbations to neural dynamics.” Contact Keyana Moody.

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

NGG

CALENDARS

[NGG and GLIA](#)

[MINS](#)

[BGSA](#)

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

EVENTS

- The **NIH Office of Intramural Training & Education (OITE)** has three upcoming events:
 - Wellness and Setting our intentions for 2021 (Jan 11, 1:00 – 3:15 PM)
 - Career Planning for Scientists (Jan 11, 1:30 – 2:30 PM)
 - Becoming a Resilient Scientist Series: V. Feedback Resilience (Jan 12, 2:00 – 4:00 PM)See more information about each event and registration links [here](#).
 - **BGS Improv Night & Workshop Series.** Are you interested in practicing improv to improve your communication skills? Sign up for an introductory class and/or the full BGS Improv Series:
 - Interested in finding out how improv can improve your communication skills? Sign up for the BGS Improv Workshop Tryout to see if it's right for you. Invite a friend, too! The session will be held via zoom on **January 14th from 6:30-7:30.**
BGS Improv Night Sign up Link: <https://forms.gle/1YFWjBwfuKr3yDdDA>
Please reach out to Laura Ohl (laura.ohl@pennteam.upenn.edu) with any questions.
 - Interested in improving your communication through improvisation? Sign up for the spring session of the BGS Improv Workshop! The course is planned to run on **Mondays (February 1st - March 8th) from 6-8 PM.** Space is limited, so sign up today!
BGS Improv Series Sign up Link: <https://forms.gle/jjxn5gAQL6Ah9FCLA>
Please reach out to Laura Ohl (laura.ohl@pennteam.upenn.edu) with any questions.See event flyers [here](#).
-

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
-

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@pennterapeutics.com).

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@pennterapeutics.com by **January 15, 2021**.

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.

iBiology Share Your Research Competition 2021 **Application Deadline: February 15, 2021 (11:59pm PT)**

More info and Application Details: <https://www.ibiology.org/syr-competition/>

This competition is a unique opportunity for early-career scientists to improve their communication skills, become part of the iBiology community, and showcase their work as part of the [Share Your Research series](#)! Eight winners will receive virtual science communication training from iBiology's team of expert science communication trainers.

Job Openings

- **NCATS/FDA Translational Science Interagency Fellowship – Applications due 1/15/2021**
– See full announcement [here](#).
- **Fellowship Abroad – Science Corps – Applications due 1/31/2021** – See full announcement [here](#).
- **Postdoctoral Fellowships: Molecular Molecular Neuroscience of Substance Abuse Research Training (Rutgers University)** – 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 GROUP **EVENTS/RESOURCES**

BGSA, Dental, and Engineering together with CaPhe presents: Virtual Vietnamese Coffee Brewing Event

Saturday, January 23, 2021, 11 am - 12 pm

Jump-start your spring semester by learning how to brew Vietnamese coffee with our friends from Càphê Roaster, a local coffee roastery! All participants will receive all the necessary supplies including the espresso blend, coffee phin (specialty filter) and condensed milk (vegan option available). You just need to supply the water and your favorite mug!

Deadline to sign up is 1/13, so don't hesitate to claim your spot today!

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ipf-bgsa-x-dental-x-engineering-caphe-tickets-135414232615>

[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](#).