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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

(NEW) – 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 (jajackso@penndelaware.edu) with any specific or individualized questions regarding this process.

We look forward to seeing you in person this fall!

An Update on Penn's Plans for the Fall Semester

The University recently issued updated guidelines for the Fall semester, available [here](#).

COVID-19 Vaccination/Testing Requirements. 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](#). Beginning July 1, and in accordance with the latest Philadelphia Department of Public Health guidance, fully vaccinated students, faculty, staff, and postdoctoral trainees will no longer be required to participate in weekly [Penn Cares COVID-19](#) screening testing. Students who have not uploaded their fully COVID-19 vaccinated documentation to Student Health Service by July 1 must take part in weekly Penn Cares screening testing. Non-compliance will result in a Red Pass from PennOpen Pass. Learn more about student compliance with testing [here](#).

[COVID SAFE surveillance testing](#) sites closed on June 23, 2021.

(NEW) - 2021 Tom Kadesch Prize in Genetics awarded to Qin Zhu

In 2011, the Department of Genetics established the "Tom Kadesch Prize in Genetics" to honor the legacy of our friend and colleague Dr. Tom Kadesch. Dr. Kadesch was a member of the Genetics Department from 1984 until his death in 2011 and served as Interim Chairman for his final 4 years. He was not only an excellent scientist but also a tremendously dedicated mentor, teacher, and University citizen whose contributions inspired those around him. In his memory, with the help of many generous donors, we were able to set up an endowed fund that will support in perpetuity an annual award to "a graduate student demonstrating excellence in research achievement and citizenship".

We are pleased to announce that this year's Tom Kadesch Prize in Genetic Research will be awarded to **Qin Zhu**. Qin is a PhD student in the Genomics and Computational Biology (GCB) graduate group and recently completed his thesis work in the labs of Drs. Kai Tan and Junhyong Kim. His research focuses on computational methods for single cell RNA sequencing (scRNAseq) data analysis to identify different cell types and their fate transitions during development and disease. Qin has been involved in multiple different scRNAseq projects across different systems, ranging from a lineage-resolved molecular atlas of *C. elegans* embryogenesis to single-cell transcriptomes of the kidney and of developing hematopoietic stem cells in the mouse, to profiling of various human tumors. These works have resulted in 11 publications (so far) during his PhD, including first or co-first author publications in *Science*, *Blood*, and *BMC Bioinformatics*. As part of his work, Qin developed user-

friendly interfaces like VisCello that allow non-programmers to easily mine scRNAseq data relevant to their own biological questions. Not only has Qin been a valuable collaborator for many groups on campus, but he also helped introduce scRNAseq technology and analysis methods to the Penn community more broadly by running multiple workshops, serving as a teaching assistant in BIOL437, and giving lectures on this topic in UPenn undergraduate and graduate courses. Finally, he has been active in admissions and recruitment activities for the GCB graduate group.

The Kadesch prize will be presented to Qin Zhu at a special session of the Genetics Friday Research Talks this winter (date TBD). In addition to receiving a \$1000 cash prize, Qin will present a short seminar on his research. Please join us in congratulating him!

The 2021 Kadesch Prize Selection Committee
(Shelley Berger, Doug Epstein, Celeste Simon, Meera Sundaram, Ken Zaret)

(NEW) - 2021 Kaushal Family Awards in Genetics

The Department of Genetics is pleased to recognize **Kamen Simeonov** (MD/PhD candidate in Chris Lengner's lab) and **Tingfang Chen** (postdoctoral fellow in Doug Epstein's lab) as the recipients of the 2021 Kaushal Family Awards in Genetics, which recognizes excellence in genetic research through publication by a graduate student and postdoctoral fellow. Kamen's use of a CRISPR-Cas9 based single-cell lineage tracing approach to study metastatic tumor heterogeneity and Tingfang's discovery of a new genetic cause of hearing loss are exemplary for their use of genetic and genomic innovations to address fundamental questions of biomedical importance. An award ceremony with presentations by the recipients will be scheduled in the Fall.

Kamen Simeonov - Lengner Lab
Predoctoral Award Recipient

[Single-cell lineage tracing of metastatic cancer reveals selection of hybrid EMT states.](#)

Tingfang Chen - D. Epstein Lab
Postdoctoral Award Recipient

[Cochlear supporting cells require GAS2 for cytoskeletal architecture and hearing.](#)

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_roomate-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](#).

Sign up for free Membership to the New York Academy of Sciences

To support your professional and career development, Perelman School of Medicine will sponsor interested students, postdocs, and faculty for complimentary 1-year Membership to the [New York Academy of Sciences](#). For over 200 years, the Academy has helped scientists, engineers, and innovators pursue successful careers.

SIGN UP AT [NYAS.ORG/PERELMAN](https://nyas.org/perelman) TO REQUEST A SPONSORED MEMBERSHIP

We're committed to our mission providing premier scientific content and career development resources during these challenging times. As an Academy Member, you'll benefit from access to:

- **Career Readiness Training:** [Career Development resources](#), including online courses and webinars to help you acquire the skills you'll need to succeed in a STEM-related field.
 - **Cutting Edge Content:** Unlimited digital access to our [publications](#) and [eBriefings](#).
 - **Networking & Resume Building:** opportunities to [present your research](#), apply intensive leadership training, [become a mentor](#), and connect with other Members from our global Membership network, using an [online Directory](#).
 - **Upcoming Webinars & Programs.** Discounted and free registration on all of our [upcoming events](#) featuring the latest research presented at the Academy. For the time being, all 2021 events will be presented through online platforms while some of our previously scheduled events are being postponed to a later date.
For our programs and resources on COVID-19, click [here](#).
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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

2021 Chemistry-Biology Interface Summer Retreat

Thursday, July 29th, 9 AM – 12 PM

[See flyer here](#)

The Fellows of the Chemistry-Biology Interface Training Grant would like to invite you to join us for our **2021 Chemistry-Biology Interface Summer Retreat on Thursday, July 29th from 9am-12pm**, which will be held **virtually over zoom**. We are still accepting abstract submissions for short (15 min) oral presentations. Talks may cover *any topic* within Chemistry and Biology, you will also receive a CBI t-shirt if you participate! **The deadline to be considered for a talk is approaching quickly on July 10th.**

Our keynote speakers this year are **David Van Valen (Caltech)** and **Virginia Cornish (Columbia)**.

Please register using the following link: <https://forms.gle/uj3jYpmpnXYJnEF9>

You can visit our CBI website (<https://www.med.upenn.edu/cbit32/>) for information on past symposia. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Best,

The CBI Planning Committee

Jean Etersque (Jean.Etersque@penncmedicine.upenn.edu)

Kollin Schultz (kollin.schultz@penncmedicine.upenn.edu)

Jennifer Ramirez (Jennifer.Ramirez@penncmedicine.upenn.edu)

Andrea Detlefsen (Andrea.Detlefsen@penncmedicine.upenn.edu)

Christopher Johnny (cjohnny@sas.upenn.edu)

THESIS DEFENSES

None this week

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

- July 29, 12 – 1 PM (4054 Colket Building or a Virtual Meeting 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

- July 27, 12 – 1 PM ([Register](#) / [Submit Questions](#)): **BPP/BPC Virtual Panel Discussion: “Translational Research— Everyone’s Talking about it but What is it and How Can You Better Help Patients and Your Career.”** See flyer [here](#).
- July 29, 1 – 2 PM ([Register](#)): **NIH OITE Job Search Strategies Workshop.**

Upcoming Events

- **(NEW) - Faculty Job Search Prep Camp from August 9 – 12, 2021.** 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](#).

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/

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**.

Save the Date: Pfizer Pharmaceutical Careers and Postdoctoral Opportunities Educational Event

Tuesday, 11/16/21

The Pfizer Pharmaceutical Careers and Postdoctoral Opportunities Educational Event is an opportunity for PhD students within 12 months of graduation to attend a virtual event at Pfizer to learn more about the Pfizer Worldwide Research, Development and Medical Postdoctoral Program. The [attached flier](#) provides additional details and the application link.

E-Resource: Aurora by Beyond the Professoriate

Aurora by Beyond the Professoriate, Penn's newest digital resource for PhD career exploration, is an eLearning Platform with on-demand, self-paced learning modules that allow PhDs and Postdocs to explore career options and discover ways to apply the skills acquired through their education. Learn more [here](#).

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)

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.

Application Due Date(s): August 8, 2021; December 8, 2021
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-143.html>

Job Openings

- **(NEW)** - [Open Postdoc Positions - Weill Cornell Medicine](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Post Doctoral Fellow – Nephrology/Cell Biology, University of Pittsburgh](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Post Doctoral Fellow – Cardiovascular Signal Transduction, Harvard Medical School](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Post Doctoral Fellow – Genetics/Neurodegenerative diseases, Columbia University Medical Center](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Post Doctoral Fellow - Genetics, Baylor College of Medicine](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Post Doctoral Fellow - Organelle Trafficking, University of California Irvine](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Post Doctoral Fellow - Cancer Biology, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Post Doctoral Fellow - Liver Physiology/Metabolism, Wayne State University](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Post Doctoral Fellow - Cardiovascular senescence, University of Pittsburgh](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Post Doctoral Fellow - Oncogenic Signal Transduction, Yale University School of Medicine](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Senior Research Investigator, Oncology Discovery, Incyte](#)
- [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

Events this Week

Future Events

August 2, 3 PM: **Campus Ecology Tours.** Join Penn Sustainability & Penn's Landscape Architecture team for Ecology tours. All graduate and professional students are welcome. Learn more and register: www.gsc.upenn.edu/events

PSN is recruiting to our leadership team!

The Peer Support Network is actively recruiting for leadership positions! Looking to host wellness-focused social events? Eager to expand your advertising and social media skills? Want to learn how to manage an organization's budget? Consider joining the PSN leadership team!

Open Leadership positions include:

- Co-Vice Chairs for Group Programming
- Vice Chair for Volunteer Recruitment & Retention
- Vice Chair for Social Media & Advertising
- Vice Chair for Communications and Website Management
- Vice Chair for Finance
- Vice Chair for Volunteer Training & Education

As a member of the PSN leadership team, you will work together with PSN volunteers to build community within BGS. You will also gain translatable, soft skills that will enhance your CV and impress future employers!

Click [here](#) for full descriptions of leadership positions

Interested in a specific leadership position? Complete this [form](#)!

To learn more about PSN, visit our website [here](#)!

[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](#).