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## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BGS Virtual Graduation | Today, 1:30 PM**

BGS will hold a virtual graduation ceremony on **Monday, May 17th, 2021 at 1:30 PM ET!** The event will last approximately 45 minutes and will include remarks from Dean Jameson and Executive Vice Dean Epstein as well as a presentation of each graduate. Although the event will be pre-recorded, there will be an opportunity for everyone to use the chat feature to communicate their congratulations in real time. A recording will be available following the event.

You may access the ceremony starting at 1:30 PM via web browser, mobile device, or phone. See more details [here](#).

Please join us in celebrating our graduates! [#BGSgraduation2021](#)

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**BGS: Celebrating the Pioneers of Today and Tomorrow**

See the Spring 2021 edition of The Dish: <https://www.pennmedicinedevelopment.com/the-dish-spring-2021>

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### **COVID-19 Testing and Vaccinations**

**Testing.** Graduate students who live on campus or come to campus each week must be tested. You may enroll in [Penn Cares Testing](#) or in [COVID SAFE](#) – but you should not be enrolled in both simultaneously. If you are working in a lab in CHOP, Wistar, or another affiliate and are NOT entering Penn/PSOM buildings, you should follow those entities' testing protocols and do NOT need to enroll in University testing. You may receive automated emails about testing even though you are not enrolled in Penn Cares Testing; you may ignore these emails.

**Red PennOpen Pass?** If you signed up for Penn Cares testing but are not scheduled for a weekly test, you may get a red PennOpen pass. You will need to schedule your weekly test in order to be given a green pass. If you are no longer coming to campus weekly or have switched to COVID SAFE, please email Judy Jackson, [jajackso@penntest.upenn.edu](mailto:jajackso@penntest.upenn.edu) to arrange to be un-enrolled from Penn Cares. Please refer to Perelman School of Medicine email of 1/25/21 4:24pm for more details about testing.

**Vaccinations.** Penn and the PSOM have begun rolling out vaccinations. Please refer to Penn's [Vaccinations](#) site for more information.

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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](https://gsc.upenn.edu/grad-emergency-grant).

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### **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@penntest.upenn.edu](mailto:rebecca.lopez@penntest.upenn.edu).

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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). You may also arrange to work with other CAPS counselors by calling the main CAPS number.

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### **Penn Marrow Drive**

As shown in the [infographic](#), many groups face significant barriers to finding life-saving matches for blood stem cell or marrow transplants. If you are interested in becoming a donor, please visit <https://join.bethematch.org/Penn> or text Penn to the number 61474. You can also view a recent [information session recording](#) to learn more about the process (patient stories from 00:00-23:00, information on donation process from 23:00-46:00, and Q & A from 46:00-56:00). Thank you! Questions? E-mail [hayp@upenn.edu](mailto:hayp@upenn.edu).

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### **Update on Penn Libraries' services for the summer**

#### **Stacks Access**

Starting May 17, stacks access will be available to all active Penn faculty, students, and staff by appointment in Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center. One- to two-hour [browsing appointments](#) may be scheduled between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. The tables in the Moelis Lounge and Moelis Electronic Research Center will be open to patrons with stacks appointments to consult materials while onsite.

#### **Seat Reservations**

[Seat reservations](#) will continue to be available for individual study in Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center. Starting May 17, operating hours will be 10am to 6pm on weekdays, and eligibility will expand to all active Penn faculty, students, and staff.

#### **Pickup@Penn**

[Pickup@Penn](#) will continue this summer. Operating hours will be 10am to 2pm on weekdays. Patrons may also continue to use the Libraries' [Books by Mail](#) and [Digital Delivery](#) services.

For more details and other services, please visit the [Penn Libraries' Phased Services FAQ](#)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

## Racial Equity and Action Lecture (REAL) Series

The NIH has launched the UNITE Initiative to institute new ways to support diversity, equity and inclusion and to identify and dismantle policies and practices that harm the workforce and science. Although the NIH has supported various programs to improve diversity in the scientific workforce, they acknowledge that these efforts have been insufficient and the goal of UNITE is to establish an equitable culture within the biomedical research enterprise and reduce barriers to racial equity in the biomedical research workforce.

The CAMB – Cancer Biology Racial Justice Working Group cordially invites you to a presentation titled:

*The NIH UNITE Initiative to Address Structural Racism in Biomedical Research by the Co-Chairs of UNITE*

Dr. Marie Bernard and her team will present for 45 minutes followed by 15 minutes Q&A.

**Date:** June 14, 2021

**Time:** 12-1pm

**Location:** <https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/aefjxqcz>

To facilitate the Q&A/discussion after the presentation, we are asking students to pre-submit questions. You can do so using this form: <https://tinyurl.com/ymnfe2yc>

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## Save the Date: Virtual Cores Day – September 30th, 2021

We are pleased to announce that we will again be hosting a virtual version of the annual Cores Day event! New this year, the event will be held via the PheedLoop event management platform, with an aim to enrich and enhance the Cores Day experience for participants and attendees.

The annual Cores Day event is a joint venture with CHOP, PSOM and Wistar, in an effort to showcase the many outstanding biomedical research resources and services available throughout our campus. This event is an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to interface with a multitude of research core facilities via informational presentations provided by core facility personnel. Stay tuned for more details, and we hope to see you on Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>! Please send any questions to April Weakley ([aweakley@penmedicine.upenn.edu](mailto:aweakley@penmedicine.upenn.edu)).

# THESIS DEFENSES

May 18, 11 AM (<https://bluejeans.com/228511191>): **Lisa Cucolo (CAMB), “Tumor RIPK1 Signaling Regulates Intrinsic and Extrinsic Mechanisms of Resistance to Immune Checkpoint Blockade Therapy.”** Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](mailto:Kathy O'Connor-Cooley).

May 18, 12 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/135599401>): **Ryan Roark (CAMB)**, “Recapitulation of HIV-1 V2 apex envelope-antibody coevolution in rhesus macaques.” Contact [Anna Kline](#).

## PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **CAMB**

- 5/18 - 5/20: **G&E PhD Prelim Exams**. Contact [Christina Strathearn](#).
- 5/19 - 5/20: **DSRB PhD Prelim Exams**. Contact [Christina Strathearn](#).
- 5/20, 12 PM – 1 PM: **CAMB Vice Chair Craig Bassing's Virtual Office Hours**. Sign Up [here](#) for a virtual meeting. Contact [Craig Bassing](#).
- 5/21, 12:15 PM – 1:30 PM: **CPM Research in Progress: Karina Chaudhari (Bashaw lab) and Abdias Diaz-Rosado (Bhoj lab) presenting**. Contact [Kathy](#) for the virtual link.

### **NGG**

#### **CALENDARS**

[NGG and GLIA](#)

[MINS](#)

[BGSA](#)

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT

### **Events this Week**

- None this week

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### **(NEW) - BGS Improv Workshop**

Are you interested in finding out how improvisation can improve your communication skills? Do you want to meet new people and have a fun time while learning how to think on your feet?

If you are curious but not sure whether you want to commit to a full workshop, come to **BGS Improv Night!** Join for 1 evening of improv via Zoom:

- Wednesday May 26th from 6:30 - 7:30 PM
- BGS Improv Night Signup Link: <https://forms.gle/8r8Jo7BXp3EvqkAK9>

Interested in the full workshop experience? BGS is hosting a free **Improv Workshop!** Sign up for the Summer Session which will meet once a week for 6 weeks via Zoom:

- Wednesdays (June 16th - July 21st) from 6:30 - 8:30 PM
- BGS Improv Workshop Signup Link: <https://forms.gle/Hz7Db6NvbAHFAmAa6>

You may register for one or both options! Space is limited, so sign up and invite a friend to join you, today!

Please reach out to Priyanka Chatterjee ([prichat@upenn.edu](mailto:prichat@upenn.edu)) or Laura Ohl ([laura.ohl@upenn.edu](mailto:laura.ohl@upenn.edu)) with any questions

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### **Shared Call for T32 Nominations: Computational Genomics; Developmental Biology; Cell and Molecular Biology; Genetics**

The following training grants are soliciting nominations of graduate students for the 2021-2022 academic year through a BGS-managed web-based system. Training grants fund a significant portion of a student's tuition, fees, and stipend. Appointment to a training grant is recognition of academic promise and distinction and, in some cases, provides additional training opportunities or funds for travel to scientific meetings. To be eligible for consideration, a student must be a US citizen or permanent resident (green card holder) and must have received no more than four years of NRSA funding by the time of appointment. Additional criteria for each grant are specified in the descriptions below. *Please note: you may apply for more than 1 grant, provided you meet the eligibility criteria; however, the grants may have different deadlines, so apply by the earliest deadline.*

#### **2021-2022 Nominations for NRSA T32s:**

Developmental Biology – Deadline May 27, 2021

Cell and Molecular Biology – Deadline June 15, 2021

Genetics - Deadline June 15, 2021

See additional criteria here: <https://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/2021-2022-nominations-for-select-t32s.html>

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### **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>

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## Reaching the Peak: A Science & Technology Career Summit

[Learn more and register](#)

Registration is now open for *Reaching the Peak: A Science & Technology Career Summit*, Research!America's summit for early career researchers, on **June 30, 2021 from 11-6 p.m. ET**.

During this one-day virtual event, early career researchers will have the opportunity to explore an array of career paths, network with fellow researchers, participate in professional development workshops, and engage in meaningful discussions around issues critical to the success of the R&D ecosystem.

Sample workshops and topics the Summit will explore:

- Resume and CV Development
  - Effective Science Communication
  - Science Policy and Advocacy
  - Fostering Successful Mentorships
- 

### Job Openings

- **(NEW)** - [Eli Lilly and Company seeking postdoctoral fellow](#)
- **(NEW)** - [FDA Seeking Staff Fellow/Visiting Associate: Pharmacology/Toxicology Reviewer](#)
- [Memorial Sloan Kettering – Postdoctoral Fellow | Translational Research, Immunotherapy and Immunology](#)
- [The Gene Therapy Program \(GTP\) is seeking a Scientific Communications Specialist](#)
- [Dana Foundation Fellow in Neuroscience and Society](#)
- [Duke University, Postdoctoral Associate, Pharmacology and Cancer Biology](#)
- [PharMeridian LLC – Cell / Gene Therapy Opportunity for Graduates](#)
- [Job Opportunities at AstraZeneca](#)
- [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

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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](#)

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