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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spring 2021 Issue of The Dish

The Spring 2021 issue of 'The Dish: Biomedical Graduate Studies Newsletter' is available [here](#). This issue includes two Q&As - the first with Distinguished Graduate Award Honoree Leonard Hayflick, PhD and a second Q&A with three exceptional BGS students: Jose Campos, GR'26, Alejandra Fausto, GR'26, and Jorge (Jay) Ortiz-Carpena, GR'26, co-directors of Penn Interdisciplinary Network for Scientists Promoting Inclusion, Retention, and Equity, or INSPIRE. The issue also contains a link to the recording of a recent event titled, "BGS Alumni Leading at the Scientific Edge," which featured Drs. Michelle Kinder, GR'10, Adam M. Koppel, M'95, GR'97, WG'00, and Fiona A. Mack, GR'04.

Instructions for Uploading Immunization Records

Student Health Services has a process for verifying vaccinations, including the COVID-19 vaccine. Please see instructions here: <https://shs.wellness.upenn.edu/immreq/uploading-immunization-records/>

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@pennmedicine.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.

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

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.

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/aejxqcz>

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/yymnfe2yc>

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 30th! Please send any questions to April Weakley (aweakley@penncmedicine.upenn.edu).

THESIS DEFENSES

None this week.

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

- 6/1, **MVP Combined Degree Prelim Exams**. Contact [Anna Kline](#).
- 6/3, **G&E Combined Degree Prelim Exams**. Contact [Christina Strathearn](#)
- 6/4, 12:15 – 1:30 PM: **CPM Research in Progress: Jessica Chotiner (Wang, J. lab) and Ioana Soaita (Arany lab) presenting**. Contact [Kathy](#) for the virtual link.

NGG

CALENDARS

[NGG and GLIA](#)

[MINS](#)

[BGSA](#)

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Events this Week

- June 3, 1 – 3PM: **PSPDG SciComm Workshop Series: (UN)controversial Science.** Workshop Leader - Dr. Matthew Motta, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Oklahoma State University; research focus in identifying the social and political determinants of anti-science attitudes, investigating their policy impact, and designing communication strategies that promote effective engagement between the public and the scientific community on politically contentious issues. [Learn more and register here.](#)
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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?

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/Hz7Db6NvbAHFmAa6>

Space is limited, so sign up and invite a friend to join you, today!

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

(NEW) - Baxter Young Investigator Awards 2021 – Applications Due June 30th

Baxter International is now accepting applications for the 2021 Baxter Young Investigator Awards (BYIA). The BYIA is an annual program sponsored by Baxter to support and promote innovative research applicable to the development of our critical therapies and clinical diagnostics. All applicants must be currently enrolled graduate students or postdoctoral fellows in North, Central, or South America at the time of submission and must be primarily responsible for the research described.

To apply for this prestigious award, or to obtain more information, please visit the BYIA website: <https://www.baxter.com/our-story/fueling-collaborative-innovation/baxter-young-investigator-awards>.

This webpage provides the scope & criteria for the awards, as well as detailed eligibility requirements and conditions. It also provides links to past winners and their research titles.

The application deadline is June 30th.

(NEW) - 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](#).

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:

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>

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/PA-21-143.html>

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

- [Postdoctoral Position, Davidson Lab, Swarthmore College](#)
- [Eli Lilly seeking cell pharmacologist](#)
- [Eli Lilly and Company seeking postdoctoral fellow](#)
- [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](#)
- [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

BGSA GB Last Meeting: Tuesday June 1st 2021 @5PM

LINK: <https://pennteam.zoom.us/j/7713626246>

Do you want to host giveaway for your group: Penn merchandise, masks, care packages ?

COME FIND OUT ABOUT AVAILABLE FUNDING

Last day to apply for merit request May 31st 2021

Last day to use discretionary funds is June 30th 2021

More info: <https://www.med.upenn.edu/bgsga/getfunding.html>

PSPDG SciComm Workshop Series: (UN)controversial Science

June 3, 1 – 3PM

Workshop Leader - Dr. Matthew Motta, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Oklahoma State University; research focus in identifying the social and political determinants of anti-science attitudes, investigating their policy impact, and designing communication strategies that promote effective engagement between the public and the scientific community on politically contentious issues. [Learn more and register here.](#)

BGSA-funded Social Events

GGEB is hosting two BGSA-funded social events over Zoom for BGS PhD students. Please feel free to join us!

Montreal bagel-making virtual event

Thursday, 6/3/2021, 7-8 p.m.

Order a free ticket - <http://ggeeb.ticketleap.com/montreal-bagel-making-virtual-event>

Trapped in Space virtual escape room

Monday, 6/7/2021, 8-10 p.m.

Order a free ticket - <http://ggeeb.ticketleap.com/trapped-in-space-virtual-escape-room>

If tickets sell out, please order a waitlist ticket and you will be notified via e-mail if a seat opens up. Questions? E-mail Yoonhee Ha, BGSA GGEB Representative, hayp@penndu.upenn.edu.

Join PSN and BGSA for a night of music and meditation!

Join the Peer Support Network and BGSA for a private virtual *Cello Meditation Concert* on Thursday **June 10th** at **5:00PM!**

Sign-up for FREE tickets here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cello-meditation-concert-tickets-156980345439>

****Tickets are limited and distributed on a first come, first served basis. Get yours before they sell out!****

For more information about the event, click here:

<http://bit.ly/CelloMeditationConcertAirbnb>

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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](#).