



Click hyperlinks to navigate this week's content:

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

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 Requirements

Vaccinations. 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](#).

Masking/Testing. All members of the Penn community and visitors must wear masks while indoors in public or shared spaces. In addition, **twice-a-week** Penn Cares screening testing is required for members of our community who are not vaccinated or choose not to report their vaccination information. Learn more about student compliance with testing [here](#).

(NEW) - Biotech Commons Opens TODAY (9/20) at 9am!

Are you looking for a study space? The newly renovated Biotech Commons opens on Monday, September 20 at 9am! Learn about the available spaces, research support, and hours of operation: <https://pennbiomedlibrary.blog/2021/09/16/biotech-commons-to-open-monday-sept-20/>

Your library Liaison:

Manuel de la Cruz Gutiérrez, PhD, MLS
Director of Data & Innovation Services at the Biotech Commons
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARIES
Philadelphia, PA – [Lenapehoking](#)
215-746-2459
[@MDelaCG](#)
orcid.org/0000-0001-8796-941X

Fall 2021 Graduate Spaces

Looking for a quiet place to study, space to relax and meet up with friends, or rooms to reserve while the Grad Center is closed? This page has information about alternative and temporary spaces available for graduate student use during the Fall 2021 semester:

<https://gsc.upenn.edu/Fall2021/spaces>

PhD Grants for Family/Dependent Health Insurance, Dental Insurance, and Other Insurance Information

Family/Dependent Health Insurance: Beginning today, you will be able to apply for grants to help offset the cost of family or dependent insurance. The grants are offered by the Office of the University Provost and administered through the Family Resource Center. The deadline to apply is September 23, 2021. More information is available at <https://familycenter.upenn.edu/grants>; contact Jessica Bolker (jessal@upenn.edu) with any questions.

Dental Insurance: Students who enroll in the [Penn Dental Student Plan](#) by September 23, 2021, will automatically receive a 50% reimbursement from the University; beginning this year, BGS will reimburse the remaining 50%. Because this is a reimbursement and not a subsidy, you are responsible for paying the full cost as well as any fees accrued due to late payment. Reimbursements will come in two installments (one from the University and one from BGS) and will not be issued until after the enrollment deadline.

If you have any questions, please contact [Anne-Cara Apple](#).

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**.

There is a BGS slack for connecting the various departments and student groups and as a place for questions and discussion. For current students who are not a part of it yet and incoming students,

please join with the following link: https://join.slack.com/t/upennbgs/shared_invite/zt-99ajnayf-ImKfg7ic5niiE1u3ksyl5g

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.

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/ltplochours/>
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.

Voter Registration Deadlines

In order to vote in a state or federal election, it's imperative to register to vote beforehand. National Voter Registration day is Tuesday, September 28, but registration deadlines vary from state to state. To learn more about your state-specific deadlines, please visit [Voter Registration Deadlines](#). To register to vote now and/or request a mail-in ballot, text "Vote Penn" to 34444 or visit <https://voter.org/PENN/>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(NEW) - Penn Inspire COVID-19 Forum on September 23
Thursday, September 23rd from 5 PM to 6:30 PM ET
[Register here](#)

The COVID-19 Pandemic has left indelible marks in our community. This upcoming **Thursday, September 23rd**, a group of Penn scientists wants to share their vision on how to build a path forward.

The [Penn Interdisciplinary Network for Scientists Promoting Inclusion, Retention, and Equity \(Penn INSPIRE\)](#), cordially invites you to join us for our Community Forum on the COVID-19 Pandemic: *"Building a Path Forward: Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic."*

IDEAL Research x NIH Hosts: Becoming a Resilient Scientist Series

Together with the National Institutes of Health, IDEAL Research is presenting "Becoming a Resilient Scientist" series that is open to all current Ph.D. students and post-docs in BGS. Navigating school, the career exploration process, research environments, and the stress of life can seem overwhelming and lead us to doubt ourselves just when we need confidence the most. The goal of this series is to help you develop the resilience you need to navigate challenging situations in school, work, and life. The series will consist of five webinars, each followed by a small group discussion the following week. The webinars will highlight emotional intelligence competencies needed for academic success and for thriving in research and healthcare careers. We will discuss the cultivation of skills to help you realize resilience and identify and deal with obstacles that get in your way. The time commitment for participants is approximately 2.5 hours per session (1.5 hours to watch the webinar live or asynchronously plus 1 hour for small group discussions). The webinar sessions are offered live the Thursday before the group discussions and can also be watched asynchronously. The group discussions in the series are below. Participants are expected to commit to the entirety of the series.

- **Monday, September 27 – 1PM-2PM** - An Introduction to Resilience and Wellness
- **Monday, October 11 – 1PM-2PM** - Exploring our Self-Talk: Cognitive Distortions and Imposter Fears
- **Monday, October 25 – 1PM-2PM** - Self-Advocacy and Assertiveness for Scientists
- **Monday, November 8 – 1PM-2PM** - Developing Feedback Resilience
- **Monday, November 22 – 1PM-2PM** - Managing Up to Maximize Mentoring Relationships

Sign Up by 9/24: https://upenn.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1zu2YqERfDZDdNc

If you have any questions, please reach out to Lisa Lim (lisa.lim@penncelline.upenn.edu).

Virtual Cores Day Registration Now Open!

We are pleased to announce that registration is now open for Virtual Cores Day on **September 30th, 2021!**

Held from 10am-2pm, the annual Cores Day event is a joint venture with CHOP, PSOM and Wistar, a platform 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 and live chats.

New this year, our 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.

Please [click here for free registration](#), and be sure to check out the [Cores Day website](#) for event updates.

We hope to see you on Thursday, September 30th!

Please send any questions to April Weakley (aweakley@penncare.upenn.edu).

PennDemic 4

Applications due September 24th

What happens if an uncommon disease all of a sudden becomes much more common in the Philadelphia area? How do we respond? How do we communicate this to the public? What happens when you lose the public's trust?

PennDemic is an annual interprofessional education (IPE) simulation that invites students from across both UPenn and USciences who are interested in learning more about disaster and emergency preparedness to participate. PennDemic brings teams of students together to address issues that could arise during an emergency situation.

Details for this year's event can be found below:

What: PennDemic

Where: Virtual Event via Zoom

When: Saturday, October 9th, 2021, 1-5 pm

Applications are due September 24th, and the application and more details can be found at the following website: www.vet.upenn.edu/pennemic. Contact Dr. Hillary Nelson (hnelson@penncare.upenn.edu) with any questions.

Save the Date: Wikipedia Edit-a-thon

Wednesday, October 13th, 2021, 12 - 2 PM

[Registration](#)

Penn Libraries and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) Patient and Family Education Committee are observing Health Literacy Month by participating in the National Library of Medicine's #citeNLM Wikipedia Edit-a-thon initiative to edit health-related pages on Wikipedia, an online open-source encyclopedia that has become one of the world's most popular websites. Learn how to edit Wikipedia pages using information found on MedlinePlus, PubMed, and other credible health websites. No prior experience with Wikipedia is necessary for this volunteer activity.

Upcoming Symposium: Understanding COVID-19 and Addressing Disparities in Care

Please see the [attached flier](#) for the Coronavirus symposium "Understanding COVID-19 and Addressing Disparities in Care". The symposium will be both virtual and in person, **November 2**

from 1 to 5PM ET. Topics to be covered will range from viral evolution and human variation to delivery of care and vaccine hesitancy.

THESIS DEFENSES

None this week

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

Sep. 22, 3 PM (209 Johnson Pavilion): **MVP Faculty Talks.**

Sep. 23, 10 AM: **1st Year Student Town Hall.**

Sep. 23, 1:45 PM (Class of 62 Auditorium, JMB): **CAMB Faculty Mini Talks.**

Sep. 23, 3 PM (BRB Auditorium): **CBP Talks.**

Sep. 24, 12 PM: **DSRB Talks.**

Sep. 24, 12 PM (209 Johnson): **MVP Student Discussion.**

Sep. 24, 12:15 PM (302 CRB): **CPM Research in Progress.**

NGG

CALENDARS

[NGG and GLIA](#)

[MINS](#)

[BGSA](#)

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Events this Week

- Sep. 21, 5-6:15 PM ([Register](#)): **CTL Workshop, “The Academic Tightrope: Balancing Teaching, Mentoring, and Research in STEM Fields.”** Learn more [here](#).
- Sep. 21, 5:30 PM ([Register](#)): **Penn Science Policy and Diplomacy Group (PSPDG) kickoff meeting.** The Penn Science Policy and Diplomacy Group trains scientists to advocate for evidence-based policies, engage with domestic policymakers, foreign governments, and international agencies, and communicate scientific findings to these groups and to the general public. In past years, PSPDG has:
 - run a seven-part workshop series on different aspects of scientific communication
 - organized teams to write evidence-based policy memos, submitted them to a national competition (winning first place in 2019 and second place in 2020 and 2021), and took them to legislative offices in DC and Harrisburg (getting several members of Congress to cosponsor legislation)
 - attended the United Nations' Science Technology and Innovation forum
- Sep. 23, 9 – 10 AM ([Register](#)): **Penn 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) Virtual Information Sessions.** Explaining your research quickly and clearly is a great skill to have during networking, interviews, and unexpected social situations. The Penn 3MT competition this year will give you that experience and more! Come to one of our virtual information sessions to learn more and hear from past Penn 3MT winners!
- Sep. 23, 1 PM ([Register](#)): **NIH OITE Becoming a Resilient Scientist Training Series: 1.** Introduction to Resilience and Wellness.
- Sep. 23 - 24: **Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering (CASE) Workshop.** The AAAS Office of Government Relations is pleased to announce the 2021 Virtual Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering (CASE) Workshop. As the Workshop is virtual, registration is FREE and open to all STEM undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdocs. The CASE Workshop is an exciting opportunity to learn from science policy and advocacy experts about the role of science in policymaking and the federal policy-making process.
 - Register: https://aaas.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ntMnPu6KQZiidOGO4NjXiw
 - Learn more: <https://www.aaas.org/programs/catalyzing-advocacy-in-science-and-engineering>

Upcoming Events

- Sep. 28, 12 PM ([Register](#)): **PSPDG Science Communication Workshop #1: Presentation Skills.** PSPDG presents the 2021-2022 Science Communication Workshop Series, designed to educate the scientific community on how to communicate their work to all audiences. The first workshop will be delivered by students in the Engineering Ambassadors Program at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.
 - To receive updates about future workshops, sign up via the link in the [attached flyer](#) and [join the SciComm Workshop Slack](#)!
 - More info can also be found on our website: <https://pennsciencepolicy.squarespace.com/workshop-series>.

- Oct. 6, 5-6:30 PM ([Register](#)): **CTL Workshop, “Preparing Students for Midterms and Exams in STEM Fields.”** Learn more [here](#).
- Oct. 7, 12 – 5 PM: The virtual **Biosciences & Research Career Fair** hosted by Penn Career Services will take place **Thursday, October 7, 2021 from 12 – 5 PM.** Registration opens 9/29/2021: https://upenn.joinhandshake.com/career_fairs/24264.
- Oct. 9, 1 – 5 PM: **PennDemic 4:** PennDemic is an annual interprofessional education (IPE) simulation that invites students from across both UPenn and USciences who are interested in learning more about disaster and emergency preparedness to participate. PennDemic brings teams of students together to address issues that could arise during an emergency situation.
 - What: PennDemic
 - Where: Virtual Event via Zoom
 - When: Saturday, October 9th, 2021, 1-5 pm
 - **Applications are due September 24th**, and the application and more details can be found at the following website: www.vet.upenn.edu/penndemic. Contact Dr. Hillary Nelson (hnelson@penmedicine.upenn.edu) with any questions.
- Oct. 21, 1 PM: **Crystal Pharmatech Webinar Series.** Learn more [here](#).

(NEW) - Postdoctoral Research Opportunities in Science (PROS) – Apply by Oct 20th

[Postdoctoral Research Opportunities in Science \(PROS\)](#) allows students to explore the options for postdoctoral training and learn about the resources at **Baylor College of Medicine (BCM)**. We facilitate the matching of students with faculty who have aligned interests and provide guidance and support to students through the exploration process. A list of interested faculty who are currently seeking postdoctoral candidates is [here](#).

See the full announcement and flyer [here](#).

(NEW) – ITMAT Education Request for Applications Due Oct 22nd

The annual request for applications for our education programs in clinical, translational, entrepreneurial, and regulatory science has opened. **Applications are due October 22, 2021.** Please see the request for applications [here](#).

Students interested in a certificate program should review [Policies Governing Participation of BGS Students in Certificate Programs](#). Authorization is required through the form [Authorization to Participate in a Certificate Program](#).

(NEW) – Provost’s Postdoctoral Fellowships for Academic Diversity – November 15 Deadline

Email: vpr-pdfellow@pobox.upenn.edu

Application Deadline: November 15

- **Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowships for Academic Diversity at the University of Pennsylvania**
- **Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Fellowships for Academic Diversity**

The Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowships and CHOP's Postdoctoral Fellowships are competitive programs intended to increase the diversity of the academic research community at the University of Pennsylvania and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). While the Penn and CHOP programs have a common application form, they are independently funded and have separate review processes. Learn more here: <https://research.upenn.edu/postdocs-and-students/penn-provosts-postdoctoral-fellowships/>

[PCI] Penn I-Corps Program: Fall 2021

Application Deadline: September 28

Do you have an idea for a startup in STEM? Applications are currently being accepted for the upcoming Fall Penn I-Corps course (starting October 15). The final deadline is **September 28**.

Learn more here: <https://pci.upenn.edu/icorps/>

Use this link to sign-up for an [upcoming I-Corps Information session](#).

The I-Corps team is also happy to come to talk at your events, lab meetings, and to individual researchers. For more information, please email tomas@upenn.edu or pbertone@seas.upenn.edu.

2021 Penn Healthcare Case Competition

Save the date!

Are you a life scientist interested in consulting, business, or entrepreneurship? Do you wonder how game changing decisions are made about our innovative discoveries once they leave the lab? Penn Biotech Group (PBG) and Penn Graduate Consulting Club (PGCC) will be hosting our second annual Penn Healthcare Case Competition on **November 13, 2021**. This event will provide graduate students and postdocs the exciting opportunity to solve a real-world healthcare problem in teams of 4-6 members, with up to 2 MBA students per team. You will also be able to meet and engage with corporate leaders from top-tier healthcare, biotechnology, consulting, and venture capital firms who will serve as judges. All graduate students and postdocs are welcome to apply. No prior business experience is necessary. Cash prizes will be given to the top three teams, with the first-place team receiving \$4,000!

Applications open **October 6th!** More information can be found [here on our website](#).

Please submit the [Interest & Networking Coffee Chat Registration Form](#), if you are interested in participating. Registering for our Coffee Chat sessions gives you the opportunity to meet other participants who are looking for team members. We will then contact you with more details regarding the Case Competition.

If you have any questions, please contact us at pennhealthcarecc2021@gmail.com.

Benchspace September 2021 Biology Job Opportunities

Job postings: https://gotbenchspace.com/candidate-job-list/?mc_cid=5b31810524&mc_eid=e8a62e167b

Subscribe to the Benchspace newsletter: <https://gotbenchspace.com/newsletter-for-candidate/>

Career Development Resources for BGS Students

BGS maintains a number of career development resources, including a career blog and calendar of events, career path videos featuring alumni, and more. See [this page](#) for a summary of resources within BGS and across Penn's campus.

Ohio State College of Medicine Virtual Postdoc Recruiting Event Application Deadline: September 30, 2021

The Office of Postdoctoral Research at The Ohio State University College of Medicine is excited to announce a **Virtual 2021 Autumn Postdoctoral Recruitment Event on October 25!** Interviews will occur October 26-29.

This event will provide an excellent opportunity for outstanding postdocs and PhD students from leading graduate programs to meet our research faculty, interview for open postdoctoral positions, and discover the exciting and innovative research taking place at The Ohio State University and the Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital (NCH).

Application for this event is open to postdocs or senior graduate students who have completed or expect to complete their PhD by December 2021. See the [full announcement here](#).

NHGRI Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Transition Award for a Diverse Genomics Workforce (F99/K00)

Application Due Date: December 8, 2021

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.

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-143.html>

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](#).

Job Openings

- **(NEW)** - [Investigator Position at GSK](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Penn Medicine basic science communications position](#)
- [Leal Therapeutics hiring Scientist](#)
- [Scientific Editor, Cell Metabolism](#)
- [Virtual Postdoc Recruiting Open House](#)
- [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

(NEW) – [LTBGS Student Wellness Panel](#)

Tuesday, September 21st at 4 PM
[Virtual](#) or in-person (1101 BRB)

Figuring out grad school is hard enough! But figuring out LGBTQ-inclusive wellness resources shouldn't be! Come join us on **Tuesday, September 21st at 4 PM in 1101 BRB** and bring all your questions for our LGBTQ+ Student Wellness @ Penn panel. Speakers include:

Brittan Davis, PhD *Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)*
Julia Burton, CRNP *Student Health Services (SHS)*
Erin Cross, PhD *Penn LGBT Center*

Pre-packaged food will be available in person for take-out after the panel. If you can't join us in person, feel free to listen in virtually <https://bluejeans.com/2568980329>

(NEW) - Penn Science Policy and Diplomacy Group kickoff meeting
Tuesday, September 21 at 5:30 PM ET
Please [register here](#)

The Penn Science Policy and Diplomacy Group trains scientists to advocate for evidence-based policies, engage with domestic policymakers, foreign governments, and international agencies, and communicate scientific findings to these groups and to the general public.

In past years, PSPDG has:

- run a seven-part workshop series on different aspects of scientific communication
- organized teams to write evidence-based policy memos, submitted them to a national competition (winning first place in 2019 and second place in 2020 and 2021), and took them to legislative offices in DC and Harrisburg (getting several members of Congress to cosponsor legislation)
- attended the United Nations' Science Technology and Innovation forum

We'd like to invite you to our kick-off meeting for this year, to be held virtually **next Tuesday, September 21 at 5:30 PM ET**. Come hear about our plans for the coming year, and be a part of making it all happen. The current members all learned by doing, so **no prior experience is required!**

(NEW) - PSPDG Science Communication Workshop Series

Penn Science Policy and Diplomacy Group (PSPDG) presents the **2021-2022 Science Communication Workshop Series**, designed to educate the scientific community on how to communicate their work to all audiences.

The first workshop on presentation skills is **Tuesday, September 28th at noon!** This workshop will be delivered by students in the Engineering Ambassadors Program at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Sign up for the first workshop here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/science-communication-workshop-1-presentation-skills-tickets-173152161777>

People who want to receive updates for our workshops can sign up via the link in the [attached flyer](#) and also [join the SciComm Workshop Slack](#) !

More info can also be found on our website: <https://pennsciencepolicy.squarespace.com/workshop-series>.

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If you have any questions, please contact us at pennhealthcarecc2021@gmail.com.

[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](#).