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## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Onsite CAPS Counselor for BGS Students - Wednesdays, 12:00pm-4:00pm**

Reminder: BGS has arranged for a counselor from [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) to be available to meet on site with BGS students on **Wednesdays from noon to 4:00pm Smilow Conference Room 1-103** (in the hallway south of Rubenstein Auditorium). Tiffany Brown, PhD, is a psychologist at CAPS who will provide confidential services every Wednesday afternoon through August 7th. She will work with BGS students to provide initial consultation, support, brief counseling, and referral services.

In order to set up an appointment with Dr. Brown, you may call CAPS at 215-898-7021 and let them know you would like to meet with Dr. Brown onsite in the PSOM. Alternatively, you may email her directly at [nicoabr@upenn.edu](mailto:nicoabr@upenn.edu) to make an appointment. All of the meetings will be held in Smilow

Conference Room 1-103 (in the hallway south of Rubenstein Auditorium). If the door is open, you may walk in and schedule an appointment with Dr. Brown, in person, for the same day or a future date.

We know how busy your schedules are and we hope that having a counselor onsite will be useful. You will still have the option of going to CAPS at 3624 Market Street, and you may call CAPS at any time, 215-898-7021, and talk to a clinician. If you have questions, please contact Judy Jackson at [jajackso@penncare.upenn.edu](mailto:jajackso@penncare.upenn.edu)

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### **2019 Kadesch Prize in Genetics awarded to Camille Syrett and Enrique Lin Shiao**

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 jointly to **Drs. Camille Syrett and Enrique Lin Shiao**.

Camille recently completed her PhD in the Cell and Molecular Biology (CAMB) graduate group, and performed her thesis work in the lab of Dr. Monserrat Anguera. Her research identified a novel mechanism used for regulating X chromosome inactivation (XCI) in immune cells, and showed how errors in XCI can contribute to autoimmune diseases like lupus that are more prevalent in females. She was an author on 11 papers related to this work, and first author on 5 of these (including in *PLoS Genetics* and *Stem Cells and Development*). In addition to her research accomplishments, Camille was a prominent leader in the graduate student community at Penn and in several public outreach activities. She was the co-founder and editor of the CAMB student newsletter, which highlights the accomplishments and varied career paths of current students, faculty and graduates. She helped organize and run a booth about model organism research at the Philadelphia Science Festival, and she gave public science talks at the Franklin Institute and the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts. She served as a student representative for DSRB and as a member of the Penn Biotech group. Finally, she also mentored many junior students conducting research in the Anguera lab and worked as a TA for a Transcriptomics course at the Vet school.

Enrique recently completed his PhD in the Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics (BMB) graduate group, and he performed his thesis work in the lab of Dr. Shelley Berger. His research addressed how mutations in the p63 transcription factor cause cleft lip/cleft palate (CL/P). He identified a large set of gene enhancers whose establishment requires p63 and which are enriched for SNPs associated with CL/P; some of these genes play known roles in craniofacial development, suggesting how their misregulation could lead to CL/P. Enrique was an author on 5 papers during his PhD training,

including 2 as first author (in *Genes and Development* and *Science Advances*). In addition to his research accomplishments, Enrique led multiple new initiatives to promote diversity in science. He founded the Penn Diplomacy Group, which helps establish scientific collaborations and arranges visits between scientists and ambassadors from different countries. He cofounded a Spanish language podcast, "Caminos en Ciencia", that features interviews with scientists, to encourage young Spanish speakers to pursue scientific careers. He also attended multiple conferences to promote diversity in science and helped recruit students to Penn's programs. Finally, he also mentored many junior students conducting research in the Berger lab and worked as a TA for the undergraduate Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics Superlab (BIOL425).

**The Kadesch prize will be presented to Drs. Syrett and Lin Shiao at a special session of the Genetics Friday Research Talks this winter (date TBD).** In addition to receiving a \$1000 cash prize, each awardee will present a short seminar on their research. Please join us in congratulating them!

Meera Sundaram and the 2019 Kadesch Prize Selection Committee (Marisa Bartolomei, Maja Bucan, Doug Epstein, Celeste Simon)

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### **New NIA Pre-doctoral Funding Mechanism for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Year Students**

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) has recently announced a new initiative to support transition of outstanding graduate students, from a wide range of research areas, into aging-related postdoctoral research.

Below are some highlights of the Transition to Aging Research Award for Postdoctoral Students (F99/K00) program: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-20-009.html>

- Predoctoral students at their 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year of PhD, regardless of their research focus, are eligible to apply.
- Visa holders with proper institutional support letter are also eligible to apply for this opportunity; refer to the 'eligibility' section of the announcements for more details.
- The program has two phases: Dissertation (F99, up to 2 years) and aging-related postdoctoral (K00, up to 4 years) phases.

Application Due Date: **October 22, 2019, by 5:00 PM**

If you are interested to know more about this FOA or have any specific question, please contact [Shahrooz.vahedi@nih.gov](mailto:Shahrooz.vahedi@nih.gov).

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### **Request a sponsored Membership to the New York Academy of Sciences**

To support your professional and career development, the Perelman School of Medicine will sponsor interested students, postdocs, faculty and staff for **complimentary 1-year Membership**

to one of the oldest and most prestigious scientific organizations in the United States, the [New York Academy of Sciences](#).

[TO REQUEST A SPONSORED MEMBERSHIP, SIGN UP HERE](#)

As an Academy Member, you'll benefit from free/discounted access to:

**Cutting Edge Content:** [publications](#), [eBriefings](#), and [webinars](#) featuring the latest research presented at the New York Academy of Sciences

**Career Readiness Training:** online courses, webinars and other [career resources](#) to help you acquire the skills needed to succeed in a STEM-related field

**Networking & Resume Building:** opportunities to [present your research](#), apply for Travel Fellowships, qualify for intensive leadership training, or [request a mentor](#)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

No upcoming events.

## THESIS DEFENSES

July 30, 11 AM (Class of '62 Auditorium, JMB): **Julia Kahn (NGG)**, "Circuit-based Therapies Rescue Cognitive Dysfunction in Neurological and Psychiatric Diseases." Contact [Christine Clay](#).

Aug. 6, 12 PM (10-146 SCTR): **Alejandro Arroyo (PGG)**, "Activatable probes for the imaging of biological parameters using Cerenkov radiation." Contact [Sarah Squire](#).

Aug. 9, 2 PM (Jordan Law Auditorium, JMEC): **Kelsey Johnson (CAMB)**, "Haplotype-based approaches for the study of human evolution." Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](#).

## PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NGG

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

- **New!** We have revamped the GFAP form this year, to hopefully make the purchase/reimbursement request process more straightforward. Please start using this GFAP form from now on when making purchases. If you run into problems using the form, or if

something is confusing, please email the executive board at [ngg.glia@gmail.com](mailto:ngg.glia@gmail.com) so we can address your question and improve the form. The link for the new form is [here](#).

- **New!** Vote for APICAL (Award for Persistent Involvement, Commitment, and Leadership) by **August 2nd!** If you are interested in serving on the APICAL committee, please email [ngg.apical@gmail.com](mailto:ngg.apical@gmail.com)
- Check out this week's PennNeuroKnow [article](#), written by NGG students!
- Don't forget to pick up your NEW NGG T-SHIRT and THERMO! They are located in Tom's old office.

#### EVENTS THIS WEEK

7/30 11 am (Class of 1962 Auditorium): Julia Kahn Thesis Defense

#### FUTURE EVENTS

8/19 (Philadelphia Zoo) NGG Student Retreat

#### CALENDARS

[NGG and GLIA](#)

[MINS](#)

[BGSA](#)

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT

### University of Rochester Post-Doctoral Career Advancement Opportunity

**RocDocs** is a Post-Doctoral Career Advancement initiative. Graduate students nearing the completion of their studies and early career postdoctoral scholars are invited to apply to attend the two-day event, share their research, and take part in professional development programming and networking. With [over 50 host faculty](#), doing cutting edge research in a wide range of disciplines; RocDocs offers participants a vibrant and stimulating research environment. The event will take place **September 18-20, 2019** and will be held in conjunction with the National Post-Doctoral Appreciation Week.

They are especially interested in scholars from underrepresented groups in STEM. For further details, see: <https://www.rochester.edu/diversity/rocdocs/>. **Applications are due on August 5, 2019.** The [Facebook event page](#) has more information and a link to the application.

Please direct any and all questions to [dei@rochester.edu](mailto:dei@rochester.edu).

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**Postdoc Preview - UM Medical School Postdoc Recruitment event**

The University of Michigan Medical School will host its next postdoctoral recruitment event **October 10-11, 2019**. They invite senior graduate students to apply to attend [Postdoc Preview](#).

*Postdoc Preview* introduces upper-level graduate students in the biomedical sciences to the excellent research and training opportunities at the University of Michigan. During a fully-funded visit, recruits interview with two or more prospective mentors, learn about NIH-funded training programs, and network with current postdocs ([tentative schedule here](#)). Applicants are selected from a national pool of highly qualified individuals who expect to complete their thesis research over the course of the next year and be U.S. citizens or permanent residents or be currently enrolled in a U.S. graduate institution. The UM Office of Postdoctoral Studies sponsors and manages the logistics of their visit.

Applications for the event can be found at <https://postdocpreview.smapply.io/>. **Deadline: August 5, 2019**. Please contact [postdocoffice@med.umich.edu](mailto:postdocoffice@med.umich.edu) with questions.

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### **Opportunity for senior graduate students or recent postdocs - OSU Postdoc Recruiting Event:**

Applications are now being accepted for the Ohio State University 2019 Fall **Postdoctoral Recruitment Event**, being held **October 23-25, 2019**. This event will provide an excellent opportunity for outstanding postdocs and PhD students from leading graduate programs to meet 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). Selected candidates will visit the Ohio State campus, network with current OSU and NCH postdocs, present their research, interview with prospective mentors, and learn more about postdoctoral opportunities at Ohio State. Full funding will be provided for travel expenses and candidates may be considered for a variety of opportunities, including fellowships, training grants, and other internal training programs.

Application for this event is open until **September 9<sup>th</sup>** and is available to postdocs or senior graduate students who have completed or expect to complete their PhD between December 2018 and May 2020. Any candidates in the US (visa status does not matter) can apply and we are especially interested in reviewing applications from US Citizens and permanent residents who are training grant-eligible and/or who come from underrepresented backgrounds including African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaskan Natives, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders, or persons with a disability.

More information can be found on the web page or the application can be accessed directly through the link below.

<http://go.osu.edu/postdocrecruit>  
[http://go.osu.edu/pdre\\_application](http://go.osu.edu/pdre_application)

The event flyer can be found here: [http://go.osu.edu/pdre\\_eventflyer](http://go.osu.edu/pdre_eventflyer).

If you have any questions about this program, please contact [Jeffrey.Mason@osumc.edu](mailto:Jeffrey.Mason@osumc.edu) or call (614-685-9140).

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## FUTURE EVENTS

Aug. 14, 12-1:30 PM (McNeil Building, Conference Room 97): **Creating Effective Application Materials for Academic Jobs at Different Institutions – STEM**. In this workshop, a Career Services advisor will present some best practices for formatting and structuring your application materials, discuss tailoring your materials to different types of institutions, and will challenge you to think about what you want to get across in these documents.

Many of the topics covered will be applicable to students applying for postdocs. RSVP [here](#).

## CALENDAR

[Career Development](#)

## RESOURCES

[BGS Career Development Site](#)

[BGS Career Twitter](#)

[BGS Alumni & Current Students LinkedIn](#)

[Penn Career Services - Ph.D./Postdoc Careers Page](#)

[Handshake](#)

# STUDENT GROUPS & SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## FUTURE EVENTS

Sept. 4, 1-2 PM (Biomedical Library Relaxation Room): **#WellnessWednesday Workshop**. Learn how to relax your mind and body with strategies to help manage stress. During this session, you will be guided through mindful movements, self-applied massage, and meditation. To register, visit [bit.ly/mindfulnessatbiomed](http://bit.ly/mindfulnessatbiomed).

## Penn Today Events

To explore a wide variety of academic and social events happening across campus, visit: <https://penntoday.upenn.edu/events>.

## RESOURCES

[BGSA Website](#)

[Calendar of BGSA Events](#)

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