



*Click to navigate this week's content:*

- [General Announcements](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Thesis Defenses](#)
- [Program Announcements](#)
- [Career Development](#)
- [Student Groups & Social Announcements](#)

---

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Prism & MATLAB Licenses**

BGS students may obtain one year licenses for Prism AND MATLAB free of charge. Sign-up forms for each are below. **Forms are due today!**

#### 1) **PRISM LICENSES**

These are arranged through BGS. The new license year begins May 1st. **Please note that even if you already have a Prism license you need to sign up again.** You will not need to install the software again but when prompted you will need the new serial number to extend your license for another year.

**If you are interested in obtaining a Prism license, please complete this Google form:** <https://goo.gl/forms/JZhSRccqMFYBEI852>

#### 2) **MATLAB LICENSES**

These are arranged through Penn Computer Connection, but they have asked that we collect info. on the number of interested students so that they can prepare enough installation instruction packets. They will authenticate your license using your PennCard. After you sign up for MATLAB, you will receive an email when your installation instructions are ready for pick-up.

**If you are interested in obtaining a MATLAB license, please complete this Google form:** <https://goo.gl/forms/MJEVkvXKNnnM3RnC2>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **MD-PhD 60th Anniversary Symposium**

The Penn MD/PhD program is celebrating its 60th Anniversary! This special milestone will take place on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 from 12:00 -7:00 PM in Smilow Auditorium & Commons. Find more information [here](#).

---

### **CPHI Seminar Series: Gary Wu, MD**

**What's public health got to do with it? The impact of diet and the microbiome on health and disease.**

The rapidly increasing incidence of inflammatory and metabolic diseases has had many wondering whether this is being driven by changes in our environment, including the industrialization of our food supply. Current evidence suggests diet not only shapes the microbial communities that live in our intestinal tract, i.e. our microbiome, but also leads to the production of small molecules, or metabolites, that can have a direct effect on our well-being. Using the latest advances in technology, scientists are now beginning to unravel these complex interactions leading to innovative approaches by which these environmental factors can be modified to prevent and/or treat disease. Dr. Gary Wu will discuss the PennCHOP Microbiome Program and our evolving understanding of the microbiome to design interventions to promote health and cure disease. Dr. Wu will also talk about the new Penn Center for Nutritional Science and Medicine, and its focus on the independent effect of diet on human health and disease.

The seminar will take place **Thursday, March 28, 2019** from **12 – 1:30 PM** in **Gaulton Auditorium (Biomedical Research Building)**. See Dr. Wu's speaker bio and register [here](#).

## THESIS DEFENSES

Mar. 22, 10 – 11 AM (Austrian Auditorium, CRB): **Akriti Kharbanda (CAMB), "The Regulation of EGFR Signaling and KRAS Tumorigenesis by Receptor Palmitoylation."** Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](#).

Mar. 22, 11 AM – 12 PM (Class of 62 Auditorium, JMB): **Stephen Goldstein (CAMB), “Innate Immune Antagonism by Diverse Coronavirus Phosphodiesterases.”** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CAMB**

Mar. 20, 3 – 4 PM (9-104 Smilow): **CAMB Chair Dan Kessler Office Hours.** Contact [Dan Kessler](#).

Mar. 22, 12 – 1:30 PM: **DSRB Program Lunch: Rotation Talks.** Contact [Christina Strathearn](#).

---

### **NGG**

- **NEW!** Sign up to volunteer for GLIA's spring outreach events [here](#). Reminder that you must have 2 credits of volunteering per year (if you are not an event leader) in order to maintain GLIA membership.
- Join the Mahoney Institute for Neuroscience on **April 3, 2019, from 8:30am-5:30pm in Smilow Auditorium** for a full day of engaging neuroscience discussion and talks! Highlights include a minisymposium featuring neurodegeneration research happening at Penn and a poster session on neuroscience broadly. Breakfast and lunch will be served and a reception will follow the event. **WE ARE ACCEPTING POSTERS UNTIL MARCH 22. POSTERS MAY PERTAIN TO ANY AREA OF NEUROSCIENCE, NOT EXCLUSIVELY NEURODEGENERATION. REGISTER HERE.**
- New resources available to BGS students: sign up for [Prism](#) and [Matlab](#) (finally!) licenses **by March 18th**. Also your Penn email now gets you free access to [Lynda!](#) Lynda is a great compilation of online tutorials for all kinds of professional skills, ranging from coding, to management, to graphic design.
- GABE (Graduate Activities in Bio-Engineering) has again extended an invitation to NGG students to join their intramural Ultimate Frisbee team in the Spring. Based on previous seasons, games will **\*\*likely\*\*** occur late March thru early May, on weeknights, at Franklin Field, once a week, for about 45 minutes. The league is low-key and open to players of any experience level (including no experience!). For more info on how to sign-up contact Mike Iannacone ([iannm@penmedicine.upenn.edu](mailto:iannm@penmedicine.upenn.edu)) or Colin Huber ([chuber3@seas.upenn.edu](mailto:chuber3@seas.upenn.edu)).

#### **EVENTS THIS WEEK**

**3/22/19 (Independence Charter School, 16th and Lombard):** Elementary School Outreach Day

Sign up [here](#) to volunteer for a shift!

**3/22/19 12-1pm (Barchi):** Fuel for Successful Scientists: Women in Science

**3/22/19 3:30-4:30pm (Barchi):** Dessert for Lunch

#### **FUTURE EVENTS**

3/29/19 9am-12:15 (Houston Hall, Bodek Lounge): Kid's Judge  
Sign up [here](#) to volunteer for a shift!

# CAREER DEVELOPMENT

## **NEW! Career Path Alumni Videos on the BGS Career Development Site**

As a reminder, the BGS Career Development Site features a wide variety of resources, from [websites for career exploration](#) to a [Career Blog](#) dedicated to sharing upcoming events and career-related articles. Noteworthy among the site's resources is the 'Career Paths' section, which provides a description of the profession, advantages of an advanced degree, key competencies, on-campus student organizations, first steps, alumni videos, and resources.

Two new alumni videos have been uploaded to the site. [Aaron Gitler](#), Professor at Stanford University, and [Josh Friedman](#), Director and Lead at Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., share insights on their respective fields of academic and industry research. The BGS alumni describe their typical day, the things they like most and least about their chosen career, the typical traits and skills required, and much more.

---

## **EVENTS THIS WEEK**

Mar. 21, 2 – 3 PM (Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center): **Researcher Identifier Workshop**. Are you curious about tools that help you track or demonstrate your research impact and scholarly output? If yes, attend this workshop, in which you will compare and contrast researcher identifier tools including ORCID ID, Author ID, ResearcherID, and Google Scholar Citations and learn how to create, use, and modify researcher profiles associated with these tools. Register [here](#).

## **FUTURE EVENTS**

Mar. 26, 12 – 1:30 PM (Perelman Quad – Houston Hall, Golkin Room): **Finding the Right Postdoc in STEM (Academic Job Search Series)**. This program is open to doctoral students and postdocs as part of Career Services' Academic Job Search Series. This discussion panel will feature Penn postdocs from science and engineering fields who will talk about their own experiences looking for postdocs, provide advice on what you can do when you start your search, and answer any questions you have on where and how you can seek out postdoc opportunities. This panel discussion will be a valuable resource for anyone considering a postdoc once they have finished with their PhD – even if you are still several years from finishing up right now. RSVP via [Handshake](#).

Mar. 26, 4 – 5 PM (Barchi Library, 140 John Morgan Building): **BGS Professional Skills Series, “Philanthropy & Fundraising”** led by **Torren Blair**, Senior Director of Development, Basic Science and Translational Science Programs and **Megan Osvath**, Associate Director of Development for Biomedical Research. Light refreshments will be served. [Registration is now open!](#)

Apr. 2, 2 – 4 PM (CURF Fireside Lounge, Arch Building 2nd Floor): **Compete in the Graduate Student Center’s Pitch Your PhD Competition.** Co-sponsored by Career Services and the Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships (CURF). With only 1 slide and 180 seconds, practice your communication and public presentation skills. Two winners will be chosen to attend an inter-Ivy-League competition and reception in New York City on April 25th hosted at the United Nations, and all costs associated with that trip will be covered! More details and register [here](#).

Apr. 6, 10 AM – 1 PM (Perry World House, 3803 Locust Walk): **PSOM Center for Global Health presents the 4<sup>th</sup> annual, “Career Pathways in Global Health.”** Global health is less about geography and more of a lens through which one approaches health care delivery and outcomes in the larger global context. The career paths in this field are as vast as the topic itself. Come learn about the career trajectories and work lives of our featured speakers regarding local and global public health research and practice. Featuring keynote speaker Joan Bensen, MD, MPH - Executive Director, Public Health Partnerships, Merck Vaccines. [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

## March BGS Social Gaming

If you like playing board games, eating pizza, and drinking beer, **fill out the Doodle poll below with your availabilities!**

<https://doodle.com/poll/xukr5fgdfvg8xxsr>

Want to make sure you get reminders about upcoming social gaming events? **Join the BGS Social Gaming mailing list at the link below!**

<https://groups.google.com/d/forum/bgs-social-gaming/join>

---

### Community Impact Fund (Deadline: Rolling)

The Provost's Office has dedicated funds to support graduate student initiatives and activities that build a community of mutual respect and intercultural understanding on campus. In particular, the fund supports graduate student-driven activities that address racial, cultural, or gender-based bias. For more details and to apply, click [here](#).

---

### EVENTS THIS WEEK

Mar. 19, 12 – 2 PM (Biomedical Library): **#IPSAG Health Sciences Lunch at the Biomedical Library**. The Biomedical Library welcomes all students interested in health-related careers to attend a networking lunch, as a part of the InterProfessional Student Advisory Gatherings (#IPSAG). Register [here](#).

Mar. 20, 12 – 1 PM (Johnson Pavilion 209): **EE Just March 2019 GA Meeting**. Qdoba Mexican-style food will be served! A Career Advisor from Penn's Career Services will be talking about the helpful services and opportunities that they provide. Come learn about useful things to consider in planning for your career. We will touch on several topics, including using social media and networking platforms to make connections and learn about employment/career opportunities! Flyer [here](#).

Mar. 22, 11:15 AM – 12:45 PM (U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, 30 N 41<sup>st</sup> St): **Registering New Citizens to Vote with PICC**. In partnership with the Philadelphia Immigration and Citizenship Coalition, Penn grad students will assist new US citizens with registering to vote following their naturalization ceremony and citizenship oath. Students will work with PICC staff to walk new citizens through the voter registration process, answer any questions, and celebrate this landmark occasion in their lives. Students will meet at 11:15 AM at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services building. Registration is required! [Sign up here!](#)

Mar. 22, 4:30 – 5:30 PM (Rubenstein Auditorium): **PSPDG and 314Action** will co-host, '**Climate Change in Trump Era**' a talk with renowned climatologist **Dr. Michael Mann**. A book signing and open bar reception will follow. See [flyer](#) for details and [RSVP here](#).

Mar. 22, 5 – 6:30 PM (Grad Student Center 1<sup>st</sup> Fl Common Room): **Fourth Fridays @ Five: Get Crafty!** Take a break to enjoy craft brews and a DIY snack bar, then get creative with some make-and-take craft projects! Register [here](#).

### FUTURE EVENTS

Mar. 25, 12 – 1 PM (Irvine Auditorium, Amado Recital Room): **Supporting Autistic Grad Students Panel**. Join the Grad Student Center for a catered lunchtime panel discussion (chaired by Prof. Nancy Hirschmann) for autistic students, their allies, and faculty, staff, and administrators. This hour-long discussion will explore questions unique to autistic students participating in graduate programs and provide recommendations of best practices to their peers and advisers. More info and register [here](#).

Mar. 27, 12 – 1 PM (Biomedical Library Conference Room): **#WellnessWednesday Workshops at the Biomedical Library: Sleep Trivia**. To register, visit [bit.ly/sleeptrivia](https://bit.ly/sleeptrivia).

Apr. 3, 12 – 1 PM (Biomedical Library Relaxation Room): **#WellnessWednesday Workshops at the Biomedical Library: Introduction to Mindfulness & Meditation**. To register, visit [bit.ly/intromind](https://bit.ly/intromind).

Apr. 7, 1:30 – 4:30 PM (Café 58 – Irvine Auditorium): **I CARE Student Training – Wellness Week**. I CARE is an interactive training that builds a caring community with the skills and resources to intervene in student stress, distress, and crisis. Register [here](#).

## **RESOURCES**

[BGSA Website](#)

[Calendar of BGSA Events](#)

---

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