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## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

The following training grants are soliciting nominations of graduate students for the 2019-2020 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 available here](#).

**Nominations must be initiated by the student** through the following web-based process:

Go to <http://my.med.upenn.edu/>

and select the Training Grant Nomination form through this route:

MY.MED > Student Tools > BGS Forms > Training Grant Nominations

1. Student indicates which grant(s) s/he's applying for, checks the information pre-populated by the system, provides additional information, and indicates the faculty members who will be writing letters of support.

NOTE: The student should provide a statement of research interests and two letters of recommendation, one from their thesis advisor if the student has already selected their thesis research laboratory. If the thesis lab has not been chosen, the statement of research interests should include potential research project(s) from lab(s) that the student is likely to choose for dissertation research. In addition, the thesis advisor (or potential thesis advisor if the lab has not yet been chosen) must include in their letter of support a statement that he/she agrees to participate in training grant-related activities.

2. System automatically sends email requests to writers of recommendations identified by student.

3. Once the letters are received, the application is assembled and made available to the selection committees.

Students who are entering year 2 are eligible for the [Cell and Molecular Biology](#) and [Genetics](#) grants; these grants have a **June 7** deadline.

[Cell and Molecular Biology](#) and [Genetics](#) grants: The deadline for students to submit their applications is **June 7, 2019**. Letters from recommenders will be solicited by the nomination system once the student submits the application. Letters are due by **June 21, 2019**. Appointments will be made effective July 1 or according to availability.

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### **ITMAT Education – TL1/T32 Slots Available for Certificate in Regulatory Science**

Deadline: May 17, 2019

ITMAT Education's Certificate in Regulatory Science provides PhD students with training to build upon their scientific expertise and prepares them to understand regulatory strategy, the execution of clinical trials, and approaches to translate early discoveries and preclinical investigations into therapeutics. This program is designed for PhD students who wish to pursue regulatory science careers in academia, the pharmaceutical & biotechnology industry, consulting and legal industries, and federal agencies.

The certificate includes a one-year engagement in a regulatory science research project (a new research project or as an additional aim to research currently being conducted) and four courses. TL1 appointees will receive one year of funding including a stipend per NIH policy and tuition funding to cover the cost of the certificate.

<http://www.itmat.upenn.edu/CertificateinRegulatoryScience.html>

Contact Rachel McGarrigle, MEd, [rmcg@upenn.edu](mailto:rmcg@upenn.edu) or Emma Meagher, MD, [emma@upenn.edu](mailto:emma@upenn.edu) to learn more.

**Please note** – 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.’ Both forms are available [here](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Basser Center for BRCA: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Breakthroughs & Discoveries Panel**

Join Basser Center and internationally renowned BRCA experts for a dynamic panel discussion on the latest in the field of BRCA-related cancer research and care. This panel will be moderated by **Susan Domchek, MD, Executive Director of the Basser Center for BRCA.**

Tuesday, May 7, 2019  
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine  
3400 Civic Center Boulevard  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Click [here](#) for event details and to register. This event is geared toward the general public and all are invited to be part of the conversation. Please submit your questions for the panel in advance through the registration link.

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### **Symposium in Honor of P. Leslie Dutton**

One of the PSOM’s most distinguished faculty members, **P. Leslie Dutton**, FRS, Eldridge Reeves Johnson Professor of Biophysics and Biochemistry, is retiring. Leslie is a former chair of the B&B department, and a former chair of the Biophysics Graduate Group (before BC and BP merged). There will be a scientific symposium in his honor, **Friday, May 31st – Saturday, June 1st.**

More than 25 PhD students graduated from Leslie’s lab, from 1978 onwards, and almost ALL of them will be at the symposium! About 10 of them will be speaking. These alumni have gone on to successful careers in **academia, industry, gov. research, consulting etc.**, so this would be a unique opportunity for BGS students to see and meet them. The symposium is open to everyone, and there are also two breakfasts which would provide opportunities for students to meet and talk informally with these alumni.

To see the full itinerary for ‘Les Fest,’ click [here](#).

# THESIS DEFENSES

May 15, 3PM (Brian L. Strom Conference Room, 701 Blockley Hall): **Todd A. Miano (GGEB), “Drug-Drug Interactions and Kidney Disease in Hospitalized Patients.”** Contact [Cathy Vallejo](#).

# PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **CAMB**

May 6, 5:30 – 7:30 PM: **MVP Practice Prelims.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

May 7, 5:30 – 7:30 PM: **MVP Practice Prelims.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

May 8, 5 – 7 PM: **DSRB Practice Prelims.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

May 9, 12 – 1 PM (4054 Colket): **CAMB Vice Chair Craig Bassing Office Hours.** Contact [Craig Bassing](#).

May 9, 5-7 PM: **DSRB Practice Prelims.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

May 9, 5:30 – 7:30 PM: **MVP Practice Prelims.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

May 10, 4:30 – 6 PM: **CB Happy Hour.** Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](#).

May 10, 12:15 – 1:30 PM: **CPM Research in Progress Seminar: Aileen Ren (Kahn lab) and Quentin McAfee (Arany and Prosser labs) presenting.** Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](#).

May 10, 12 – 1:30 PM: **DSRB Program Lunch: Olivia Farrelly (Rompolas lab) and Derek Liberti (Morrisey lab) presenting.** Contact [Christina Strathearn](#).

## **CAMB Preliminary Exams (PhD and CD)**

Preliminary exams for the PhD programs begin in May. Combined degree exams will take place in June. To see the complete schedule of exams, click [here](#).

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## **NGG**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

- Mark your calendars! The final GLIA meeting of the year will be on May 16, from 5:30-7pm. Remember, you are required to attend 2 of the 3 meetings during the years to maintain GLIA membership.
- Don't forget to pick up your NEW NGG T-SHIRT. They are located in Tom's old office.

#### **EVENTS THIS WEEK**

5/6/19 5pm (SCTR 8-100): Jesscia Schwarz Prelim Practice Talk

5/8/19 4pm (BRB 251): Leah Middleton Prelim Practice Talk

5/9/19 5pm (Barchi): Adam Pines Prelim Practice Talk

#### **FUTURE EVENTS**

5/15/19 5:30-6:30pm (Barchi): Upward bound Interest Meeting

5/16/19 5:30-7pm (Barchi): Summer GLIA meeting of the year

## **CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

### **Summer Teaching Positions: Journal Club Leaders Penn Summer Biomedical Research Academy, Summer 2019**

The College of Liberal and Professional Studies of the University of Pennsylvania has position openings for Journal Club Leaders for the Penn Summer Biomedical Research Academy being held from **Monday, July 8th – Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. The Penn Summer Biomedical Research Academy is a non-credit program for academically talented high school students who are considering careers in biology or medicine.

Journal club leaders will be responsible for choosing a topic as well as two primary scientific articles on a subject area of biomedical research to discuss with a small group of eight or nine students. During the twelve 1-hour meetings over the course of the month, journal club leaders will teach students techniques for reading scientific papers, present background information, and answer student questions. For more information on the program, responsibilities, and qualifications, see the [full description here](#).

**Compensation:** \$1,200

**To Apply:** Please send email of interest and CV to [Kieran Dilks, Ph.D.](#)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** May 15th, 2019

**Please find the BGS policy regarding 'Teaching Assistantships and Other Jobs' as well as the Job Request Form for BGS students [here](#).**

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### **ARL Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellowship Program Research Funding**

The Army Research Laboratory (ARL) invites exceptional young researchers to apply for an [ARL Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellowship](#) ([www.nas.edu/arl](http://www.nas.edu/arl)). This fellowship provides recipients the

opportunity to pursue independent research while working alongside some of the nation's best scientists and engineers. Applicants must display extraordinary ability in scientific research and show clear promise of becoming outstanding leaders. Successful candidates will have already tackled a major scientific or engineering problem or will have provided a new approach or insight, evidenced by a recognized impact in their field.

The fellowship includes an annual stipend of \$100,000, among other benefits. *Applicants who intend to defend their dissertation after the application deadline (May 31<sup>st</sup>, 5 PM Eastern Standard Time) are not eligible.* See more details [here](#).

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## EVENTS THIS WEEK

May 7, 10 – 11 AM (BRB 501): **BGS CTL Workshop: Communicating your Science with Confidence.** How can BGS students conquer nervousness to confidently present their work to others? [Dr. Nandita Mitra](#) will lead an engaging workshop to help attendees communicate their science with confidence, focusing on 'tips and tricks' to use for preparation, presentation, and managing feedback when publicly communicating your science. RSVP [here](#). Contact [Katerina Placek](#) for more information.

May 8, 12 - 2 PM (Stemmler Hall, Room 105): **Walk-In Wednesdays with Career Services.** Stop by to have your resume/CV reviewed, prep for interviews, and get networking and career advice! Flyer [here](#). **Please note – this will be the last Walk-In session for the semester.** During the summer, walk-ins will be held daily from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM in the Career Services Office. If you can't attend those walk-ins you can always call Career Services at 215-898-7530 to schedule an appointment with a career counselor. Career Services is located at 3718 Locust Walk, Suite 20, McNeil Building.

## FUTURE EVENTS

May 16, 4 – 5:30 PM (Barchi Library, 140 John Morgan Building): **BGS Professional Skills Series: Science & International Diplomacy.** Presented by **Dr. Mahlet Mesfin**, Deputy Director of the Center for Science Diplomacy at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Dr. Mesfin will speak to the intersections of science, policy, and society. An alum of Penn (SEAS PhD '11), Mesfin joined AAAS in May 2017. She also serves as executive editor of the open-access policy journal *Science & Diplomacy*. Read more on her background [here](#). This event is co-hosted by the **Penn Science Policy & Diplomacy Group (PSPDG)**, and light refreshments will be served! **Please register here:** <https://forms.gle/wkibmCk5XbQjvNQs6>

## 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

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

May 7, 5:30 PM (Smilow 09-146AB): **BGSA GA Meeting**. Join BGSA for their monthly GA meeting and to participate in elections for the 2019-2020 Executive Board! Catering from Real Food Eatery will be provided.

May 9, 12 – 1 PM (BRB 251): **PSPDG, “How to Meet with Your Representative.”** PSPDG has an exciting event coming up, with **Hannah Silverfine from the Union of Concerned Scientists**. This workshop is aimed at anyone who is interested in being able to effectively lobby for their cause and meet with their Representative in Government (at the different levels), and make the whole process seem a lot less daunting. See flyer [here](#). RSVP: <https://bit.ly/2VA5juY>.

May 9, 5:30 – 6:30 PM (CRB Conference Room, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor): **EE Just Spring 2019 BGS Prelim Practice Talks**. Food from Pattaya Thai Restaurant will be served! The final of three sessions will have:

**5:30-5:50pm: Melanie Schaffler, NGG, Abdus-Saboor Lab**

“Elucidating the effects of gentle touch neurons on reward and anxiety”

**5:50-6:10pm: Stephen Coscia, CAMB-CPM, Holzbaur Lab**

“Dissecting the mechanism behind F-actin assembly on mitochondria as a wave”

**6:10-6:30pm: Shaun Egolf, CAMB-CB, Capell Lab**

“Interrogating the role of KMT2D during epidermal homeostasis and carcinogenesis”

May 10, 7:45 PM (Brasils Night Club, 112 Chestnut St.): **Penn SACNAS Noche de Salsa**. Join SACNAS for one hour of private salsa classes, taught by Mike Andino from EstiloDanceStudio. All levels welcome! See flyer [here](#). RSVP: <https://forms.gle/VzifB9dJu7oKKNnw7>.

## 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](#).**

