Trainee Advocacy Alliance (TAA) is a collaborative group of BGS graduate students, post-docs, and faculty members who are committed to nurturing a Penn community that embodies inclusivity, diversity, and equity.

TAA is a resource for all trainees facing adversity, especially for those experiencing racial, gender, or other identity-based bias.

TAA is a non-escalating and confidential service personalized for all individuals who approach us regardless of scale of the issue.

TAA Student Founders

Prioty Sarwar, PhD (CAMB/MVP)
Narwar Naseer, PhD (CAMB/MVP)

TAA Student Leader

Sarah Maddux (IGG)
Responsibilities of a TAA member

**Training (~12 hours)**
- Restorative Justice
- Mental Health Intervention
- Inclusive Mentorship

**Circle Meetings**
- TAA community building
- Case studies
- Breaking power dynamics

Support TAA offers trainees

- Confidential Advising
- Mediation & Intervention
- Incident Reporting
- Resource Navigation
- Community Connection
How does a trainee get help from TAA?

**Need TAA Support?**

Contact a TAA Member

View our TAA member biographies below to find a member you feel most comfortable contacting by email

OR

Match with a Member

Be matched with a TAA member we believe can support you best

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**Jill (Hyejin) Eisenhauer**

**Affiliated Graduate Group:** Cell and Molecular Biology -- Gene Therapy and Vaccines

**Email Address:** eisej@pennmedicine.upenn.edu

**Why did you choose to join the Trainee Advocacy Alliance?**

As a Korean-American adoptee, I have never fit into the generalized Asian-American stereotypes placed upon me. Throughout my career, I have been able to share my AAPI narrative and pursue my STEM-related goals with the endless support from my past mentors and professors. I would like to join TAA with the hopes of giving back that same mentorship while creating a safe and inclusive scientific community.

**What experiences and strengths do you bring to the Trainee Advocacy Alliance?**

In undergrad, I was a member of Presidential Envoyos, a student ambassador organization, at the University of North Florida and served as Vice President of Marketing where I focused many social media efforts towards informing students about our organization as an opportunity to network and grow professionally within the Jacksonville community. I also worked as a lab assistant where I was able to mentor and train students from a local community college!

**Research Interests & Experience:** Currently, I am interested in understanding ways to design DNA-encoded monoclonal antibodies as a therapeutic for protection against infectious diseases. I am also interested in DNA vaccine design.

**Fun Fact:** I own 14 berets and counting! All different colors!
TAA Leadership

Dan Kessler (faculty)
Elizabeth Heller (faculty)
Robin Wilder (student)
Jill Eisenhauer (student)
Vanessa Martinez Penn (Admin Coord)

Currently 65 TAA members!