

Hello McKay!

Summer is officially here, and to this newsletter writer, it always feels a bit magical. A bit chaotic too. But magical nonetheless. As we welcome our summer students, we're reminded of the wonder and awe we experienced when we first started. Remember how cool it was to run your first cell culture experiment or your first mechanical test? In the midst of an otherwise chaotic world, we hope you can take refuge in those memories this month.

Welcome McKay Summer Students!



Last month we welcomed our department's many summer students with a coffee and donut hour. Don't be afraid to strike up a conversation with them as you see them around McKay. Their summer is flying by, and they'll be gone before you know it! If you forgot anyone's name, [please consult our master list of summer students to jog your memory.](#)

You Scream, I Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream!



Thank you to everyone who came out to our DEI Committee summer ice cream social last week! We hope you had the opportunity to spend time with people you may not normally get the opportunity to connect with.

How do we respond to the recent Supreme Court Decisions?

The Supreme Court has recently made two decisions on cases that challenge the values of many members of our community.

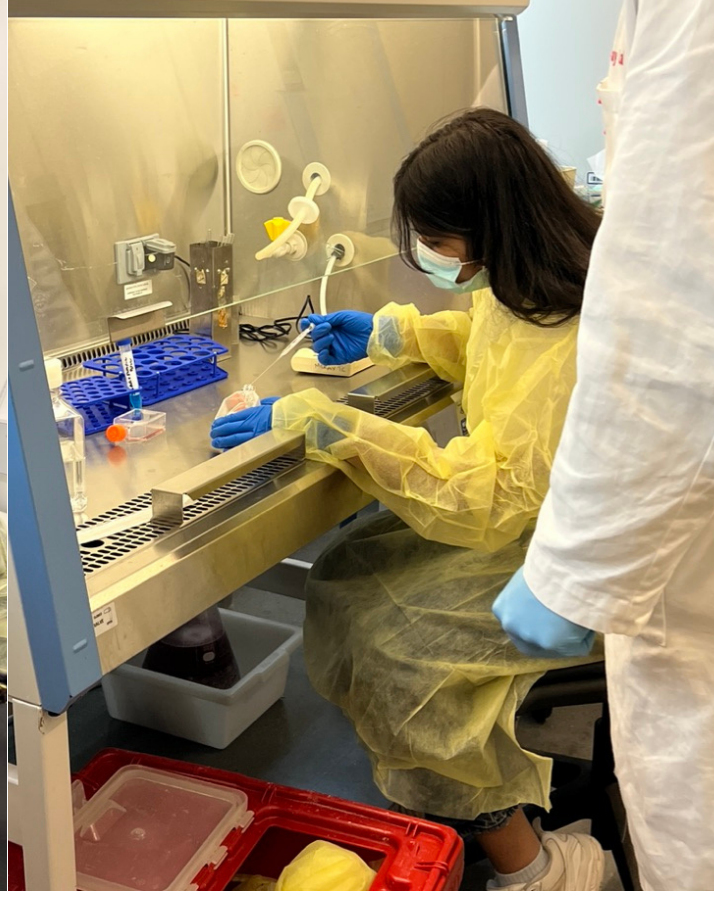
- [The decision in *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard/University of North Carolina*](#) bars universities from using race as a factor in admission decisions, a strategy often used to ensure a diverse class of students is admitted.
- [The ruling in *303 Creative LLC v. Elenis*](#) reversed a lower court's ruling, giving a graphic designer in Colorado the ability to refuse to provide services to same-sex couples.

Obviously, we won't be able to unpack the complexities of these cases in this newsletter, but we reiterate PSOM's statement: This new ruling will not erode our dedication to a culture of inclusive excellence. "Embracing diversity in all its forms shapes a more inclusive and equitable future for health care and enriches our scientific discovery."

Understandably, many of our colleagues will be processing these decisions as well as other recent decisions, including the [overturning of *Roe v. Wade*](#). If you would like support please consult:

- the [support resources for students](#)
- the [MindWell resources for staff.](#)

Events



Learning on a Limb 2023



Funding Opportunities for Non-US Citizens Panel

8/15 1:00 - 2:00 pm CRB Austrian Auditorium

The DEI Committee in collaboration with the Penn Postdoctoral Association (PPA) is hosting a seminar on funding opportunities for non-US citizen postdocs and scholars. Networking reception to follow. Please be on the lookout for a formal invitation to submit your questions ahead of time! Panelists will include:

- NIAMS Program Officer Dr. Kristy Nicks
- Representatives from the International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)
- A NIAMS administrated K99 awardee
- An Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship awarding

What we're...



Matthew recommends reading: [The Kissing Bug: A True Story of a Family, an Insect, and a Nation's Neglect of a Deadly Disease.](#) This book has everything! Complicated family dynamics, immunology, and an examination of the social failings of our healthcare system.



In case you missed it, you can now [listen to the playback of the Juneteenth lecture "The Power of Community: Building Bridges and Driving Change."](#) featuring Renita Miller, PhD, chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer at The Wharton Business Schools.



Do you have something you're reading, watching, or listening to that you want to share with McKay? [Let us know,](#) and we'll send it out with next month's newsletter!

Cheers,

Your McKay DEI Committee

[Read previous DEI newsletters loaded with relevant resources](#)

Do you have suggestions for the DEI committee? Send your resources, comments, and concerns directly to us: McKayDEI@pennmedicine.upenn.edu

McKay DEI Committee
McKayDEI@pennmedicine.upenn.edu

<https://www.med.upenn.edu/orl/mckay-dei-committee/>