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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Please note: This coming Wednesday, 8/7, is the last summer date scheduled with Tiffany, the onsite CAPS counselor for BGS students. We are working with CAPS to schedule sessions for the fall and will announce details once they are finalized.

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 nicobr@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@pennmedicine.upenn.edu

Grants for Penn Dental Insurance and Family/Dependent Health Insurance

The University is offering two grants to help BGS PhD students offset insurance costs:

Dental Insurance: The Office of the University Provost will reimburse you for 50% of the cost of dental insurance if you sign up by October 11, 2019. You are responsible for the full cost of purchasing the insurance and may incur late fees if these are not paid on time. The reimbursement (\$215) will be issued by early November. More information is available at <https://gsc.upenn.edu/resources/graduate-funding-and-finances/insurance-subsidies-and-grants#dental>; please contact gradcenter@upenn.edu with any questions.

Family/Dependent Insurance: Beginning on August 27, 2019, you will be able to apply for grants to help offset the cost of family or dependent insurance. The grants are offered by the Office of the University Provost and administered through the Family Resource Center. More information is available at <https://familycenter.upenn.edu/grants>; contact Jessica Bolker (jessal@upenn.edu) with any questions.

2019 Recipients of the Blavatnik Family Fellowship in Biomedical Research

In 2018, BGS received a \$2 million gift from the Blavatnik Family Foundation to help transform the education and training of the next generation of scientific leaders. Headed by industrialist and philanthropist Len Blavatnik, the Blavatnik Family Foundation has a strong record of supporting talented young scientists at premier institutions around the globe.

The gift established the **Blavatnik Family Fellowship**. This is now the second year in which the Fellowship is competitively awarded to six Penn BGS students. By 2021, the Fellowship will have supported a total of 24 students.

BGS is pleased to announce the 2019 Recipients of the Blavatnik Family Fellowship:

Megan Clark (VMD-PhD), IGG student in the lab of Dr. Jorge Henao-Mejia.

Ryan Cupo, PGG student in the lab of Dr. James Shorter.

Kelsey Kaeding, CAMB G&E student in the lab of Dr. Kenneth Zaret.

Yekaterina Kori, BMB student in the lab of Dr. Benjamin Garcia.

Danielle Murashige (MD-PhD), CAMB CPM student in the lab of Dr. Zoltan Arany.

Daniel Zhang (MD-PhD), BMB student in the lab of Dr. Hongjun Song.

Please join us in congratulating them!

HHMI Gilliam Fellowships for Advanced Study

BGS is pleased to announce that **Natasha Lopes Fischer** is a winner of the **2019 Gilliam Fellowships for Advanced Study**, from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). Natasha is a CAMB MVP student, working in the lab of **Dr. Sunny Shin**. Her research is focused on the innate immune mechanisms to *Coxiella burnetii*. She is investigating the role of the host inflammasome pathway in detecting *Coxiella* within infected cells and determining whether the bacteria can inhibit activation of this host immune response.

The Gilliam Fellowship program was created in 2004, with the goal of increasing diversity among scientists who are prepared to assume leadership roles in science. The program provides awards to pairs of students and their dissertation advisers who are selected for their scientific leadership and commitment to advance diversity and inclusion in the sciences. Read more about the Gilliam Fellowship and this year's fellows and advisers [here](#).

Please join us in congratulating Natasha on this accomplishment!

New NIA Pre-doctoral Funding Mechanism for 3rd and 4th 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 3rd and 4th 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.

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](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MINS Year of Brain Science Technology Symposium

On behalf of the Mahoney Institute for Neurosciences at the University of Pennsylvania, the MINS Student Planning Committee would like to invite you to attend their student-led symposium for the **Year of Brain Science Technology**, highlighting innovative approaches to neural and behavioral data acquisition and analysis. This event will feature talks by students and postdocs from the Philadelphia area, poster sessions with prizes, and a reception with food and drinks.

If you would like to attend, give a talk, or present a poster, please register at the [form here](#).

The event is going to be held on **Friday September 13th from 1-6 pm** in the Rubenstein Auditorium, located in the **Smilow Center for Translational Research** (3400 Civic Center Boulevard, Philadelphia PA, 19104).

THESIS DEFENSES

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

CAMB

Aug. 7, 2 – 3 PM (9-104 Smilow): **Office Hours: CAMB Chair Dan Kessler**. Contact [Dan Kessler](#).

Aug. 9, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM: **CAMB 1st year MD/PhD Orientation**. Contact [Anna Kline](#).

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 so we can address your question and improve the form. The link for the new form is [here](#).
- 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

No events this week

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 [Applications due today]

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.

Postdoc Preview - UM Medical School Postdoc Recruitment event [Applications due today]

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 with questions.

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 9th** 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

The event flyer can be found here: http://go.osu.edu/pdre_eventflyer.

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

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.

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](#)

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