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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Provost and GAPSA COVID-19 Emergency Funding

Deadline: May 15 at 5:00 PM (ET)

The COVID-19 Emergency Fund, generously provided by the Provost and GAPSA, will support full- and part-time graduate and professional students who have incurred unexpected expenses as a direct result of the COVID-19 disruptions of this semester, including moving expenses, travel, insurance, covering multiple rents, and other urgent needs as appropriate.

Learn more and apply at:

www.gsc.upenn.edu/spring-2020

Special PSIP Enrollment Period

In response to COVID-19 pandemic, the Penn Student Insurance Plan (PSIP) will be offering a special enrollment period for uninsured Penn students and their dependents. **The special enrollment period will run from 4/13/2020– 4/30/2020.** Applications will not be accepted outside of this time frame.

Coverage will be offered for the time period of 4/1/2020 – 7/31/2020. The rate for the 4/1/2020 – 7/31/2020 will be \$1,195 for a student, spouse or child; \$2,390 for two or more children.

For additional questions and to enroll please contact Deborah Olson at OlsonD3@aetna.com.

Other Important changes to PSIP in response to the COVID-19 outbreak

- The Student Health Service Referral requirement is lifted for remainder of plan year.
- [Telehealth services are available to all PSIP enrollees.](#)
- [Aetna will waive co-pays for all diagnostic testing related to COVID-19.](#)

Please contact the Insurance Office at 215 746 3535 or vpul-shsinsur@pobox.upenn.edu with any questions.

2020-2021 Nominations for NRSA T32s

Computational Genomics Cell and Molecular Biology Genetics

These training grants are soliciting nominations of graduate students for the 2020-2021 academic year through a BGS-managed web-based system. Learn more here:

<https://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/2020-2021-nominations-for-nrsa-t32s.html>

Volunteer Opportunities - Philadelphia Organization of Health Professions Students

tl;dr - Join [POHPS](#), a new citywide student group working on COVID efforts and offering ways to connect and promote wellness during the pandemic. To join, please fill out [this quick Google form](#), [apply to join our Facebook group](#), and follow [our Instagram page for updates](#).

Hi all,

I hope this message finds you well. I am a third-year medical student at the University of Pennsylvania, but I'm writing to you as the founder and director of a city-wide student group called the [Philadelphia Organization of Health Professions Students \(POHPS -- check out our Instagram page for more info\)](#).

I'm writing to share a bit of information about POHPS, how you can get involved in our COVID-related efforts, and what resources and programs we offer that may be of interest to you.

We're a coalition of over 2,500 students from various health- and health-related graduate programs across the Philadelphia area, and we have been working to combat the COVID crisis and its effects on our communities in a variety of ways, including:

- **Collecting and distributing PPE** and other limited resources that can be utilized in healthcare facilities through our group called PPE2PHL, in close collaboration with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health and the CDC to optimize distribution based on immediate hospital need - you can learn more on the [PPE2PHL Instagram page](#);
- Developing and sharing a [large collection of informational resources](#), including:
 - COVID-related information and advice (in multiple languages and in the form of a daily newsletter, regular vlog series and an upcoming podcast)
 - Public support programs,
 - **volunteer opportunities based on the needs of collaborating community programs**
- Conducting the pilot study for the [Connect for COVID-19 program](#), which involves **collecting and distributing tablets to install in patient rooms to allow them to communicate with their friends and family members** outside of the hospital to address the current "no visitors" restrictions*

In addition to our opportunities for student involvement in COVID-related efforts, we also have various programs designed to promote wellness and social engagement during this time of social distancing. These programs are aimed towards [Health Professions/Graduate Students and members of the general public \(programs include virtual meditation, virtual meet-ups and buddy systems, and yoga\)](#) as well as [Health Care Workers in the area](#).

If you're interested in getting involved, please fill out [this quick Google form](#) and [apply to join our Facebook group](#).

Thanks for your time,
Ramie

Video Available: Update on the COVID-19 Situation in Italy and Beyond with John Holmes, PhD

On Thursday, April 16th, [John H. Holmes, PhD, FACE, FACMI](#), Professor of Medical Informatics in Epidemiology, hosted an insightful webinar from Pavia, Lombardy, Italy, where he is on sabbatical. Dr. Holmes discussed the COVID-19 pandemic as it has evolved in Italy and in Europe as a whole, including topics such as testing, containment, and mitigation policies in Italy as compared with other countries around the world.

- [Recording of the webinar](#)
- [Dr. Holmes' slide deck](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

36th Annual MINS UnRetreat Symposium Year of Brain Science Technology

Join the Mahoney Institute for Neurosciences online on **April 28th beginning at 9AM** for the all-day MINS Year of Brain Science Technology UnRetreat! Guest speakers include, Polina Anikeeva from MIT, Tony Zador from Cold Spring Harbor, and Michael Yartsev from UC Berkeley.

There will be mini symposia on recording/imaging and behavior with Penn faculty speakers, and parallel sessions with short talks. Please submit an abstract for short talk sessions - submissions are open immediately as part of event signup. The UnRetreat will also feature a "Brain Buddies" matchmaking program that will match registrants with others who have shared interests for future interaction.

Please sign up here (this is also where the meeting will happen and where all talks will be available afterwards): <https://crowdcast.io/e/Yobst>

THESIS DEFENSES

April 29, 11 AM (Meeting URL: <https://bluejeans.com/425148528>): **John Johnson (IGG), "Anatomic and functional bisection of B cell memory by T-bet."** Contact [Mary Taylor](#).

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

April 27, 4 – 6 PM: **G&E Pratice Prelim Talks**. Contact [Meagan Schofer](#) for the BlueJeans link.

April 28, 4 – 6 PM: **G&E Pratice Prelim Talks**. Contact [Meagan Schofer](#) for the BlueJeans link.

April 29, 2 – 4 PM: **CAMB Chair Dan Kessler's Virtual Office Hours**. Sign Up [here](#) for a virtual meeting. Contact [Dan Kessler](#).

April 29, 4 – 6 PM: **G&E Pratice Prelim Talks**. Contact [Meagan Schofer](#) for the BlueJeans link.

April 30, 12 – 1 PM: **GTV Trainee Seminar: Kelly Fagan (Davidson lab) and Kimberly Veliz (Gill lab) presenting**. Contact [Anna Kline](#) for the BlueJeans Meeting URL.

May 1, 12 – 1:30 PM: **DSRB Program Lunch: Sara Borst (Gadue lab), Hannah Greenfeld (Mullins lab), and Ian Penkala (Morrisey lab) presenting.** Contact [Meagan Schofer](#) for the BlueJeans Meeting URL .

NGG

ANNOUNCEMENT

- **New!** Check out this week's PennNeuroKnow article [Healing in Nature](#) by *Carolyn Keating*. How the outdoors can improve mental health!

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tue, 04/28 9:00am-7:15 pm - MINS UnRetreat Symposium

Daily 'Meet an NGG alum' sessions this week

Mon, 04/27 12:00-12:30 pm - Joe Kable

Tue, 04/28 12:00-12:30 pm - Lex Kravitz

Wed, 04/29 8:30-9:00 am - Mike Higley

Thur, 04/30 8:30-9:00 am - Jenn Orthmann Murphy

Fri, 05/01 12:00-12:30 pm - Colin Smith

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Upcoming Webinars with NIH Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE)

Essential Leadership Skills for Scientists

Apr 27, 2020 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

[Register here.](#)

Gain leadership skills as a scientist. We will discuss understanding yourself and how you relate to others. Good communication skills and developing your emotional intelligence. Speaker, Dr. Sharon Milgram

CVs, Resumes, and cover letters: Essential Job Search Documents

Apr 30, 2020 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

[Register here.](#)

This workshop will highlight the critical elements and structure of CVs and resumes and cover letters. These important job documents serve as the foundation for all job searches, and knowing how to create them based on the employment sector and published position description is essential. Speaker, Dr. Lori Conlan

Pre-/post-publication peer review

May 01, 2020 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

[Register here.](#)

Pre-/post-publication peer review: You do a study, you write up the paper, and then you publish it. That's it, right? Not so fast: peer review has always been a recurring step in the scientific process, but methods to do so are even more widespread than ever. We will talk about benefits and challenges of using preprint sites like bioRxiv, and the wide world of peer-reviewed feedback after publishing your manuscript. Speaker, Dr. Chris Gunter

Penn Career Services - Finding a STEM Postdoc (Online Q&A)

This program is open to doctoral students and postdocs as part of Career Services' Academic Job Search Series on **Tuesday, April 28th 2020, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm EDT.**

Join Career Services for an informational online Q&A session with **Melvin Bates, Ph.D.** (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/shawnbatesphd/>), a current postdoctoral fellow at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Bates will answer questions that you may have about how to identify and apply for postdoc opportunities. He will 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 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.

[Please register for this event to receive the online video link.](#) If you have questions you would like the moderator to pose to Dr. Bates, please send them to Dianne Hull (dhull@upenn.edu) in Career Services.

Interested in learning about postdocs in industry? RSVP for Career Services' online Q&A with **Dr. Ryan Staupe, IGG alum and current postdoc at Merck.** This event will take place **May 6, 2020, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm EDT:** <https://upenn.joinhandshake.com/events/486193>

CVI Core Workshop Series

In lieu of the CVI Seminar Series this Spring, the Penn Cardiovascular Institute will host a Core Workshop Series. This will be a 3 part series in which the Metabolomics Core, iPSC Core, and Mouse Cardiac Phenotyping Core will each present to you their core offerings and examples of how they can provide service to you. The schedule and BlueJeans information is below. **All seminars will be during the lunch hour, beginning at noon.** Upcoming seminars include:

Tuesday, April 28, iPSC Core: Wenli Yang

Meeting URL

<https://bluejeans.com/222470128>

Meeting ID

222470128

Tuesday, May 5, Mouse Cardiac Phenotyping Core: Swapnil Shewale and Kendra McDaid

Meeting URL

<https://bluejeans.com/400407949>

Meeting ID

400407949

The Data Incubator's Summer 2020 Fellowship (Virtual)

The Data Science Fellowship Program has announced that they are moving their Spring 2020 Cohort to an online format. The deadline to apply is **May 2, 2020**.

Program: The Data Incubator is an intensive 8 week fellowship that prepares masters students, PhDs, and postdocs in STEM and social science fields seeking industry careers as data scientists. The program is free for Fellows and supported by sponsorships from hundreds of employers across multiple industries. In response to the overwhelming interest in our earlier sessions, we will be holding another fellowship.

Who Should Apply: Anyone who has already obtained a masters or PhD degree or who is within one year of graduating with a masters or PhD is welcome to apply. Applications from international students are welcome.

Application Link: <https://www.thedataincubator.com/fellowship/apply.html>

Session Dates: 2020-06-29 – 2020-08-21

Daily Phone “Drop-Ins” with Penn Career Services

In place of walk-ins, Career Services is offering a variety of phone and web appointments, which students can schedule through [Handshake](#). These include the option for same-day, 15-minute appointments with a career adviser. New appointment times open up every day at 9:15 AM ET. To schedule an appointment, sign in to Handshake and click the “Career Center” tab near the top right corner.

Twitter users can also follow [@PennCareerJobs](#), a daily automated feed that highlights new job posts. And be sure you’ve customized your email settings in Handshake to receive a weekly newsletter featuring jobs and resources tailored to you! Detailed instructions on how to do so are available [here](#).

RESOURCES

[BGS Career Development Site](#)

[BGS Career Twitter](#)

[BGS Alumni & Current Students LinkedIn](#)

[Black Women in Computational Biology Network](#)

[Penn Career Services - Ph.D./Postdoc Careers Page](#)

[Handshake](#)

[Request a sponsored Membership to the New York Academy of Sciences](#)

STUDENT RESOURCES

[Slack for BGS Students](#)

[BGSA Website](#)

[Grad Center at Penn](#)

[Family Center at Penn](#)

[Ask Isaac: Your Personal IS Guru](#)

[Request a sponsored Membership to the New York Academy of Sciences](#)

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