



Click hyperlinks to navigate this week's content:

- [General Announcements](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Thesis Defenses](#)
- [Program Announcements](#)
- [Career Development](#)
- [Student Group Events/Resources](#)

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 Requirements

Vaccinations. Penn students, faculty, and staff are required to be vaccinated. Students must upload their vaccine record through [Student Health](#). Information regarding current student immunization requirements can be found [here](#).

Masking/Testing. All members of the Penn community and visitors must wear masks while indoors in public or shared spaces. In addition, **twice-a-week** Penn Cares screening testing is required for members of our community who are not vaccinated or choose not to report their vaccination information. Learn more about student compliance with testing [here](#).

Gateway Testing Requirement for Current Students

As you are all aware, there has been a concerning increase of COVID infections due to the Delta Variant. In an effort to prevent the spread of the variant on campus, as you return to academic and clinical activities, you are required to be "[gateway tested](#)" – although the messaging from the University refers to "arrival" testing, the University is defining gateway testing as a COVID test

between July 7 and Sept 7 (without departing Philadelphia) for all students. [Here's the link to the Penn site describing this initiative](#). This testing REQUIRED, regardless of your vaccination status.

For those of you currently on campus, gateway testing can be performed via Penn Cares, which is managed by Student Health Services (SHS), anytime now.

If you are on campus or in Philadelphia AND plan on traveling outside the city for any reason, you will need to get tested upon your return to school.

To be clear: **EVERYONE** who will be on site this semester needs to have gateway testing by **September 7, 2021**. There will be no exceptions.

We really appreciate your efforts to help us preserve the health of our community in BGS and at Penn.

Additional questions can easily be answered by accessing this [FAQ](#) page. Please contact Judy Jackson (jjackso@penncare.upenn.edu) with any specific or individualized questions regarding this process.

We look forward to seeing you in person this fall!

ITMAT Education Fall 2021 Course Offerings

The ITMAT Fall 2021 course offerings include:

REG 510 – Introduction to Clinical & Translational Research

Instructor: Emma Meagher, MD

Time: MW, 8:30 – 10 am

Modality: Online

Open to nondegree: Yes

REG 616 Quality Assurance

Instructor: Dawn Lundin

Time: Tuesdays, 4 – 7 pm

Modality: Online

Open to nondegree: Yes

See the full announcement and course request forms [here](#).

Sharing Roommate Ads & Slack for BGS Students

BGS students are welcome to post their housing and roommate ads in the following [Google doc](#).

There is also a channel within the BGS Slack workspace intended for sharing roommate ads, titled **#attn_roommate-ads**.

As a reminder, the Slack workspace was created to help facilitate communication among BGS students. There are different channels, or chat groups, on the BGS Slack workspace for various student led ad-hoc discussions about activities, events, and classes. All BGS students are invited to join [here](#).

Graduate & Professional Student Emergency Fund

The Office of the Provost has provided over \$70,000 to the VPUL Emergency Fund specifically dedicated for graduate and professional student urgent and unanticipated needs. Students facing emergency financial hardships can learn more at gsc.upenn.edu/grad-emergency-grant.

Call for Nominations - Lok and Kanefield Prizes for BGS Students Conducting Cystic Fibrosis Research or Related Research

BGS seeks nominations for the two prizes described [here](#). Nominations may be made on a rolling basis. If the award money is to be used for travel to a conference, please submit the nomination at least 2 months prior to the date of the conference. BGS faculty members should nominate their students via email to rebecca.lopez@penncare.upenn.edu.

Counseling and Wellness

[Counseling and Psychological Services](#) has a variety of virtual options and some in-person options. Call 215-898-7021 anytime (24/7) to make an appointment or talk with a licensed counselor.

On campus appointments are available 9am-5pm Monday-Friday. Virtual appointments are available Mon-Thurs, 9am-6pm, Fri, 9am-5pm, and Saturday, 10am-2pm. Press 2 to make an in-person or virtual appointment.

You may also use [Let's Talk](#) virtual hours: <https://caps.wellness.upenn.edu/ltplchours/>
Use 215-898-7021, press 2, to schedule a Let's Talk session.

Dr. Tiffany Brown is the embedded CAPS counselor for BGS. You may schedule appointments with her directly [nicobr@upenn.edu] or by calling 215-898-7021 (press 2). You may also arrange to work with other CAPS counselors by calling the main CAPS number.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(NEW) - Virtual Cores Day Registration Now Open!

We are pleased to announce that registration is now open for Virtual Cores Day on **September 30th, 2021!**

Held from 10am-2pm, the annual Cores Day event is a joint venture with CHOP, PSOM and Wistar, a platform effort to showcase the many outstanding biomedical research resources and services available throughout our campus. This event is an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to interface with a multitude of research core facilities via informational presentations and live chats.

New this year, our event will be held via the PheedLoop event management platform, with an aim to enrich and enhance the Cores Day experience for participants and attendees.

Please [click here for free registration](#), and be sure to check out the [Cores Day website](#) for event updates.

We hope to see you on Thursday, September 30th!

Please send any questions to April Weakley (aweakley@penmedicine.upenn.edu).

Save the Date: Wikipedia Edit-a-thon

Wednesday, October 13th, 2021, 12 - 2 PM

[Registration](#)

Penn Libraries and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) Patient and Family Education Committee are observing Health Literacy Month by participating in the National Library of Medicine's #citeNLM Wikipedia Edit-a-thon initiative to edit health-related pages on Wikipedia, an online open-source encyclopedia that has become one of the world's most popular websites. Learn how to edit Wikipedia pages using information found on MedlinePlus, PubMed, and other credible health websites. No prior experience with Wikipedia is necessary for this volunteer activity.

(NEW) - Upcoming Symposium: Understanding COVID-19 and Addressing Disparities in Care

Please see the [attached flier](#) for the Coronavirus symposium "Understanding COVID-19 and Addressing Disparities in Care". The symposium will be both virtual and in person, **November 2 from 1 to 5PM ET**. Topics to be covered will range from viral evolution and human variation to delivery of care and vaccine hesitancy.

THESIS DEFENSES

Aug. 19, 10 AM (Smilow 11-146AB and via [Bluejeans](#)): **Hybrid Thesis Defense: Bridget Gosis (CAMB), "The role of folliculin in hepatic lipid metabolism and the pathogenesis of NAFLD and NASH."** Contact [Meagan Schofer](#).

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

Aug. 16, 12 – 3 PM: **Orientation CAMB Photo Session.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

Aug. 17, 4 – 5 PM: **CB Orientation and Advising.** Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](#).

Aug. 18, 12 – 3 PM: **Orientation CAMB Photo Session.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

Aug. 18, 2 – 4 PM (9-104 Smilow Center or a Virtual Meeting via BlueJeans): **CAMB Chair Dan Kessler's Virtual Office Hours.** Dan will physically be in his office, but if you would like to set up a virtual meeting instead please use the [sign up google sheet](#). Contact [Dan Kessler](#).

Aug. 19, 11 AM – 1 PM: **MVP Orientation and Advising.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

Aug. 20, 1 – 3 pm (4054 Colket Building or a Virtual Meeting via BlueJeans): **CAMB Vice Chair Craig Bassing's Office Hours.** Craig will physically be in his office, but if you would like to set up a virtual meeting instead please use the [sign up google sheet](#). Contact [Craig Bassing](#).

Aug. 20, 3 – 4 PM: **1st year MD/PhD CAMB Orientation.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

Aug. 23, 12 – 1 PM: **GTV Orientation.** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

Aug. 23, 12 – 1 PM: **DSRB Orientation.** Contact [Meagan Schofer](#).

Aug. 23, 12:30 – 1:30 PM: **CB Chalk Talks.** Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](#).

NGG

CALENDARS

[NGG and GLIA](#)

[MINS](#)

[BGSA](#)

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Events this Week

- None this week

(NEW) - Recitation leader for chemistry course needed

Recitation leader for chemistry course needed! The course is super basic, with algebra-level calculations. This position is open to ANY person in the sciences who wants some valuable teaching experiences to impact non-majors to consider a science track. This is open to all fields of biology and chemistry, physics, whatever. In fact, this position is open to graduate students who want teaching experience. If you are interested, contact Antonio Davila at: davilaa@pennterms.edu.

Description: I am looking for a recitation leader for my freshman chemistry course in the School of Nursing this fall. I've taught this course for 5 years and have a pretty good system in place. In the past, I've had female graduate students perform this important role, but I don't have anyone for this fall term. Briefly, NURS 061 is a very basic-level chemistry course that focuses on calculations and "practical application" of chemistry in nursing. There are three one-hour recitation sections on Thursdays which will all be virtual. Generally, there is a worksheet that students work on during recitation then the leader goes over them together with the class to clarify and answer questions. These sections can also be used to ask for homework help, exam reviews, etc. The recitation leader doesn't not have to deal with grading, student emails, etc. - I have a separate class T.A. for that. I think that this can be an excellent opportunity for one to gain some valuable teaching experience and, equally important, to engage with students at this early stage in one's academic career. I am very cognizant of the fact that my course is almost completely female, and so I incorporate women scientists and nurses in my case studies, presentations and recitations to deliver the material and also to act as role models. A major priority in my course is to promote research and community engagement and to encourage women and minorities to pursue grad school. I am confident that we all share these values and goals, and this job opportunity is a prime way to make an impact. This is a paid gig, 5-10 hours per week (depending on level of involvement), and pays \$25/hour.

BGS students should review the policies regarding [Compensation for Teaching Assistantships](#) and complete the appropriate approval form:

- [Job Request Form for BGS students](#)
- [Job Request Form for MD-PhD students](#)

Janssen Scholars of Oncology Diversity Engagement Program (SODEP)

Registration Deadline August 16, 2021

Note: Early registration is encouraged, as admission is rolling and will be closed when they reach 100 registrants.

We are delighted to announce the launch of the [Janssen Scholars of Oncology Diversity Engagement Program \(SODEP\)](#). SODEP consists of three steps:

1. Exposure to industry at the virtual **Janssen Oncology Day**, an all-day program that will provide an overview of the various opportunities within science and medicine.
2. **One-on-one mentorship.** Up to 10 scholars who attend Janssen Oncology Day will be selected for this step of the program, in which the scholars will be paired with Janssen leaders in an ongoing one-year mentoring experience, where they will receive career coaching and guidance. In addition, scholars will receive a \$10,000 stipend for conference travel, research supplies, and training courses.

3. **Potential placement.** If scholars are interested in transitioning into a career in industry, their relationship with their mentor will provide them with support in identifying and applying for any appropriate open positions at Janssen.

Learn more about [eligibility requirements here](#). Registration is currently open for the Janssen Oncology Day, which will take place on **September 15, 2021**.

Postdoc Opportunity for PhDs: Apply for Postdoc Preview, October 2021 at Univ of Michigan
Application Deadline August 20, 2021

View flyer [here](#)

The University of Michigan Medical School will host Postdoc Preview, October 18-22, 2021. This recruiting event is an opportunity for upper-level graduate students to explore the extensive postdoctoral research and training opportunities in biomedical sciences at University of Michigan. During a virtual visit, guests will interview with prospective mentors, network with current postdocs, learn about funding opportunities, and about life in Ann Arbor. Applicants are selected from a national pool of candidates who expect to complete their thesis research within the next year. Applications will be accepted through **August 20, 2021**.

For more information and to apply: https://ogps.smapply.io/prog/postdoc_preview_october_2021/

IBSA Foundation for scientific research – Fellowships 2021 Call

Application Deadline: December 31, 2021

Applications are open for the 9th edition of the [IBSA Foundation Fellowships 2021 Call](#) that awards 6 fellowships of € 30,000/each (one additional fellowship compared to the previous edition) to young researchers under the age of 40, from Universities and Research Institutes around the world, who have distinguished themselves for their skills and have ongoing projects of particular relevance in the following research areas:

- dermatology
 - endocrinology
 - fertility/urology
 - orthopaedics/pain medicine/rheumatology
- and the 2021 special edition
- regenerative medicine

Please find more information about the Call on the IBSA Foundation's [website](#).

NHGRI Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Transition Award for a Diverse Genomics Workforce (F99/K00)

Application Due Date(s): December 8, 2021

This two-phased award will facilitate completion of a doctoral dissertation (F99) and transition to a strong postdoctoral research position (K00) focused on the scientific, medical, ethical, social and/or legal areas of genomics research.

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-143.html>

Job Openings

- **(NEW)** - [Postdoctoral Research Associate – Benaroya Research Institute \(BRI\)](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Postdoc Position-Mossé lab](#)
- [Benchspace – August 2021 Postdoc Job Opportunities](#)
- [Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Thomas Jefferson University](#)
- [Postdoctoral Position Gennarino Laboratory, Columbia University](#)
- [Open Postdoc Positions - Weill Cornell Medicine](#)
- [Archive of other Job Listings](#)

Request to join the [BGS Alumni and Current Students LinkedIn](#) to stay updated on job opportunities.

RESOURCES

[BGS Career Development Calendar](#)

[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 GROUP EVENTS/RESOURCES

Call for Volunteers! Help Lead Orientation Breakout Sessions!

PSN is looking for volunteers to help lead breakout sessions during BGS Orientation!

The Peer Support Network is helping to organize breakout sessions during the wellness-themed day of BGS orientation, and we need your help!

Given the record high number of incoming BGS students, we need as much help as we can get to facilitate these breakout sessions!

We still need 7 more volunteers! FREE LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!

EVENT DETAILS

- **Date:** August 18th
- **Time:** 10:30AM – 12:00PM (~45 minutes of active time in breakout room)
- **Location:** BRB lobby/classrooms
- **Volunteer Description:** as a breakout room facilitator, you will lead a group of 10-15 incoming BGS students in an in-person discussion about wellness and self-care as a graduate student at Penn. PSN will provide you with a **script for the discussion and a list of activities** that you can complete during the sessions.

To sign up to lead a breakout room, click [here!](#)

Thank you!!

[Peer Support Network \(PSN\)](#)

[Slack for BGS Students](#)

[Roommate Ads – Google Doc](#)

[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](#)

[Request a University-sponsored MATLAB license](#)

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