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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save-the-Date: BGS Virtual Graduation

BGS will hold a virtual graduation ceremony on **Monday, May 17th, 2021 at 1:30 PM ET!** The event will include remarks from Dean Jameson and Executive Vice Dean Epstein as well as a presentation of each graduate. Although the event will be pre-recorded, there will be an opportunity for everyone to use the chat feature to communicate their congratulations in real time. A recording will be available following the event.

Stay tuned for updates [here](#).

Please join us in celebrating our graduates! [#BGSgraduation2021](#)

COVID-19 Testing and Vaccinations

Testing. Graduate students who live on campus or come to campus each week must be tested. You may enroll in [Penn Cares Testing](#) or in [COVID SAFE](#) – but you should not be enrolled in both

simultaneously. If you are working in a lab in CHOP, Wistar, or another affiliate and are NOT entering Penn/PSOM buildings, you should follow those entities' testing protocols and do NOT need to enroll in University testing. You may receive automated emails about testing even though you are not enrolled in Penn Cares Testing; you may ignore these emails.

Red PennOpen Pass? If you signed up for Penn Cares testing but are not scheduled for a weekly test, you may get a red PennOpen pass. You will need to schedule your weekly test in order to be given a green pass. If you are no longer coming to campus weekly or have switched to COVID SAFE, please email Judy Jackson, jajackso@penntesting.upenn.edu to arrange to be un-enrolled from Penn Cares. Please refer to Perelman School of Medicine email of 1/25/21 4:24pm for more details about testing.

Vaccinations. Penn and the PSOM have begun rolling out vaccinations. Please refer to Penn's [Vaccinations](#) site for more information.

Penn Chinatown Charter Service - Saturdays 1-4pm ET

Penn Charter Bus going from campus to Chinatown (and vice versa) is for Penn faculty, post-docs, staff and students.

Reserve your seat(s) to and from Chinatown. Be sure to register for seats to Chinatown AND seats back to Penn, if needed.

MAKE RESERVATIONS HERE: <http://bit.ly/PennChinatown>. See route and schedule [here](#).

- Guests must enter the bus through the front door and exit through the rear door.
- Guests must display with bus driver a valid Daily COVID Screening Pass or participate in driver screening and offer a verbal attestation.
- Face masks or coverings must be worn at all times.
- Guests must observe physical distancing and sit in the designated "open" seats.
- Maximum occupancy for each bus is 20 guests and 1 driver.
- No eating or drinking while aboard the vehicle.

The route is named "Chinatown Charter – PAACH, UA, & GAPSA." **The Chinatown Charter is accessible on the PennRides App** or at www.upenn.edu/pennrides via any web browser when using a computer or a mobile device. Real-Time Bus Tracking and route options and will be active from 12pm to 5pm, each Saturday there is service.

Pan-Asian American Community House (PAACH) in partnership with Undergraduate Assembly (UA) and Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) is providing this service for the community.

Questions/Comments? Please direct inquiries to PAACH at paach@lists.upenn.edu.

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@penntestmed.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.

Penn Marrow Drive

As shown in the [infographic](#), many groups face significant barriers to finding life-saving matches for blood stem cell or marrow transplants. If you are interested in becoming a donor, please visit <https://join.bethematch.org/Penn> or text Penn to the number 61474. You can also view a recent [information session recording](#) to learn more about the process (patient stories from 00:00-23:00, information on donation process from 23:00-46:00, and Q & A from 46:00-56:00). Thank you! Questions? E-mail hayp@upenn.edu.

Request Your Mail-in Ballot for PA Primary Elections

Planning on voting by mail in the Primary Elections on May 18? You'll need to request your mail-in ballot by May 11. Penn Leads the Vote has information on requesting your mail-in ballot at <https://www.pennvotes.org/mailinpa/>. More information about the elections and other voting options can be found at pennvotes.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rescheduled Green Labs Working Group Meeting

Tuesday, May 11 at 2pm

Please join us for our re-scheduled [Earth Week](#) Green Labs meeting on Tuesday, May 11 at 2pm to discuss ways to improve the sustainability of labs on Penn's campus!

Zoom link to register for this virtual meeting: bit.ly/maygreenlabs

THESIS DEFENSES

May 6, 2 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/807208377>): **Blake Caldwell (CAMB), "The role of active DNA demethylation in mammalian epigenetic reprogramming."** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

May 10, 1 PM (<https://bluejeans.com/301487850>): **Vineet Kulkarni (CAMB), "Compartment-specific Regulation of Neuronal Autophagy by Synaptic Activity."** Contact [Kathy O'Connor-Cooley](#).

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

- 5/6, 12:00pm - 1:00pm: **CAMB Vice Chair Craig Bassing's Virtual Office Hours.** Sign Up [here](#) for a virtual meeting. Contact [Craig Bassing](#).
- 5/7, 12:00pm - 1:00pm: **DSRB Program Lunch: Jessica Brandt (Raper lab), Alex Dimitri (Frialetta lab), and Liz Gallagher (Holzbaur) presenting.** Contact [Kathy](#) for the virtual link.
- 5/7, 12:15pm - 1:30pm: **CPM Research in Progress: Emily Fernandez Garcia (Foskett lab) and Danielle Minichino (Beherens lab) presenting.** Contact [Kathy](#) for the virtual link.

NGG

CALENDARS

[NGG and GLIA](#)

[MINS](#)

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Events this Week

- None this week

CEET T32 Opportunity

We are pleased to announce that the [Center of Excellence in Environmental Toxicology \(CEET\)](#) Training Grant has a predoctoral appointment available to begin on 7/1/2021.

To be eligible, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a US citizen or permanent resident
- Conduct thesis work in translational environmental health sciences and be enrolled in (or willing to enroll in) the [Certificate Program in Environmental Health Sciences](#)

For more information about the application process (including additional requirements), please click here - <https://ceet.upenn.edu/training-career-development/training-grant-in-environmental-health-sciences/>

The deadline for applications is **Monday, May 3rd**.

Shared Call for T32 Nominations: Computational Genomics; Developmental Biology; Cell and Molecular Biology; Genetics

The following training grants are soliciting nominations of graduate students for the 2021-2022 academic year through a BGS-managed web-based system. Training grants fund a significant portion of a student's tuition, fees, and stipend. Appointment to a training grant is recognition of academic promise and distinction and, in some cases, provides additional training opportunities or funds for travel to scientific meetings. To be eligible for consideration, a student must be a US citizen or permanent resident (green card holder) and must have received no more than four years of NRSA funding by the time of appointment. Additional criteria for each grant are specified in the descriptions below. *Please note: you may apply for more than 1 grant, provided you meet the eligibility criteria; however, the grants may have different deadlines, so apply by the earliest deadline.*

2021-2022 Nominations for NRSA T32s:

Computational Genomics - Deadline May 10, 2021

Developmental Biology – Deadline May 27, 2021

Cell and Molecular Biology – Deadline June 15, 2021

Genetics - Deadline June 15, 2021

See additional criteria here: <https://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/2021-2022-nominations-for-select-t32s.html>

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

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.

Application Due Date(s): August 8, 2021; December 8, 2021
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-143.html>

Reaching the Peak: A Science & Technology Career Summit [Learn more and register](#)

Registration is now open for *Reaching the Peak: A Science & Technology Career Summit*, Research!America's summit for early career researchers, on **June 30, 2021 from 11-6 p.m. ET.**

During this one-day virtual event, early career researchers will have the opportunity to explore an array of career paths, network with fellow researchers, participate in professional development workshops, and engage in meaningful discussions around issues critical to the success of the R&D ecosystem.

Sample workshops and topics the Summit will explore:

- Resume and CV Development
 - Effective Science Communication
 - Science Policy and Advocacy
 - Fostering Successful Mentorships
-

Job Openings

- **(NEW)** - [Memorial Sloan Kettering – Postdoctoral Fellow | Translational Research, Immunotherapy and Immunology](#)
- **(NEW)** - [The Gene Therapy Program \(GTP\) is seeking a Scientific Communications Specialist](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Dana Foundation Fellow in Neuroscience and Society](#)
- **(NEW)** - [Duke University, Postdoctoral Associate, Pharmacology and Cancer Biology](#)
- [PharMeridian LLC – Cell / Gene Therapy Opportunity for Graduates](#)
- [Job Opportunities at AstraZeneca](#)
- [Postdoctoral Positions – Elovitz Laboratory](#)

- [Vivodyne seeking Senior Scientists](#)
- [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

BGS/DART Technology Needs Survey

PSOM/DART/BGS/BGSA have launched the BGS/DART Technology Needs Survey to assess and improve the computing and technology services offered to students within the BGS PhD program. Please take a moment to complete it. Your responses are important, as they will help determine what services are provided in the future.

https://upenn.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cBVcDRREKxT7iBM

BGSA 2021 Virtual Elections | VOTING ENDS May 7th

BGSA is having virtual elections for the academic year 2021-2022 executive board.

Use link below to vote!

https://upenn.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ahlykeY0R2pinI2

Please find link to the election guideline information and information on each nominee.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1E9Pt9gw_vnGFzNDleHBqFOlqaJqCvQjH?usp=sharing

BGSA Executive Board Election start on Monday April 26th 8:00am and end on Friday May 7th 5:00pm

Please email bgsa.chair@gmail.com with questions and concerns.

PSN Survey: participate & enter for the chance to win a wellness prize!

Survey closes on May 7, 2021

The Peer Support Network would like to hear from you!

PSN is planning additional community-building events for BGS students. To help direct our efforts, we'd like to hear from you! Are you interested in attending a wellness workshop? Looking for a space to commiserate and vent with other graduate students? **Let us know by completing this survey!**

After completing the survey, enter for a chance to win one of four wellness-themed prizes! A description of prizes can be found [here](#).

Thank you!! Survey closes on May 7, 2021. Questions? Email us at bgspeernetwork@gmail.com.

[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](#).