



Click to navigate this week's content:

- [General Announcements](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Thesis Defenses](#)
- [Program Announcements](#)
- [Career Development](#)
- [Student Groups & Social Announcements](#)

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

We are pleased to announce that beginning next week on May 22, we will have a counselor from [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) available to meet on site with BGS students on **Wednesdays from noon to 4:00pm**. Tiffany Brown, PhD, is a psychologist at CAPS who will provide confidential services every Wednesday afternoon throughout the summer. She will work with BGS students to provide initial consultation, support, brief counseling, and referral services.

Next week, Dr. Brown will be available on **Wednesday, May 22, 12:00-4:00pm in Smilow Conference Room 1-103** (in the hallway south of Rubenstein Auditorium).

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. Most of the meetings will be held in Smilow Conference Room 1-103 or 1-102 (in the hallway south of Rubenstein Auditorium). **The location for the next 3 weeks (5/22, 5/29, 6/5) is Smilow 1-103.** We will include the week's location each Monday in the BGS Bulletin. If the door is open, you may also 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 bringing 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. We look forward to having Dr. Brown join us. If you have questions, please contact Judy Jackson at jajackso@penncare.upenn.edu

ITMAT Education – TL1/T32 Slots Available for Certificate in Regulatory Science

Deadline: May 17, 2019

ITMAT Education's Certificate in Regulatory Science provides PhD students with training to build upon their scientific expertise and prepares them to understand regulatory strategy, the execution of clinical trials, and approaches to translate early discoveries and preclinical investigations into therapeutics. This program is designed for PhD students who wish to pursue regulatory science careers in academia, the pharmaceutical & biotechnology industry, consulting and legal industries, and federal agencies.

The certificate includes a one-year engagement in a regulatory science research project (a new research project or as an additional aim to research currently being conducted) and four courses. TL1 appointees will receive one year of funding including a stipend per NIH policy and tuition funding to cover the cost of the certificate.

<http://www.itmat.upenn.edu/CertificateinRegulatoryScience.html>

Contact Rachel McGarrigle, MEd, rmcg@upenn.edu or Emma Meagher, MD, emma@upenn.edu to learn more.

Please note – students interested in a certificate program should review 'Policies Governing Participation of BGS Students in Certificate Programs.' Authorization is required through the form, 'Authorization to Participate in a Certificate Program.' Both forms are available [here](#).

Request for Applications - NIH Structural Biology and Molecular Biophysics (SBMB) Pre-Doctoral Training Program 2019-2020

The NIH Structural Biology and Molecular Biophysics (SBMB) pre-doctoral training program is soliciting applications for appointments beginning September 1, 2019 and running through August 31, 2020. This training program exposes students to leading edge developments in the fields comprising structural biology and molecular biophysics (SB & MB); provides the students with ample opportunity to develop presentation skills; develops analytical strategies for evaluation of the SB & MB literature; provides exposure through authoritative speakers to traditional and non-traditional career paths in SB & MB; subsidizes travel by students to major meetings of the field. Training includes bi-weekly luncheon meetings with training faculty and outside speakers, student research presentations, and other activities.

Students who are currently in their first or second year of graduate study at Penn (i.e. will be in their second or third year of graduate study during the appointment) are eligible to apply. Students need not have joined a thesis research group, but should have displayed an interest in pursuing thesis work in a field under the umbrella of structural biology or molecular biophysics. Only US citizens and permanent residents are eligible.

Applications are due by 12 pm, Friday, May 31, 2019. Please see the full announcement [here](#). If you have questions about this grant, please contact [Kelli McKenna](#).

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

The following training grants are soliciting nominations of graduate students for the 2019-2020 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 available here](#).

Nominations must be initiated by the student through the following web-based process:

Go to <http://my.med.upenn.edu/>

and select the Training Grant Nomination form through this route:

MY.MED > Student Tools > BGS Forms > Training Grant Nominations

1. Student indicates which grant(s) s/he's applying for, checks the information pre-populated by the system, provides additional information, and indicates the faculty members who will be writing letters of support.

NOTE: The student should provide a statement of research interests and two letters of recommendation, one from their thesis advisor if the student has already selected their thesis research laboratory. If the thesis lab has not been chosen, the statement of research interests should include potential research project(s) from lab(s) that the student is likely to choose for dissertation research. In addition, the thesis advisor (or potential thesis advisor if the lab has not yet been

chosen) must include in their letter of support a statement that he/she agrees to participate in training grant-related activities.

2. System automatically sends email requests to writers of recommendations identified by student.
3. Once the letters are received, the application is assembled and made available to the selection committees.

Students who are entering year 2 are eligible for the [Cell and Molecular Biology](#) and [Genetics](#) grants; these grants have a **June 7** deadline.

[Cell and Molecular Biology](#) and [Genetics](#) grants: The deadline for students to submit their applications is **June 7, 2019**. Letters from recommenders will be solicited by the nomination system once the student submits the application. Letters are due by **June 21, 2019**. Appointments will be made effective July 1 or according to availability.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Symposium in Honor of P. Leslie Dutton

One of the PSOM's most distinguished faculty members, **P. Leslie Dutton**, FRS, Eldridge Reeves Johnson Professor of Biophysics and Biochemistry, is retiring. Leslie is a former chair of the B&B department, and a former chair of the Biophysics Graduate Group (before BC and BP merged). There will be a scientific symposium in his honor, **Friday, May 31st – Saturday, June 1st**.

More than 25 PhD students graduated from Leslie's lab, from 1978 onwards, and almost ALL of them will be at the symposium! About 10 of them will be speaking. These alumni have gone on to successful careers in **academia, industry, gov. research. consulting etc.**, so this would be a unique opportunity for BGS students to see and meet them. The symposium is open to everyone, and there are also two breakfasts which would provide opportunities for students to meet and talk informally with these alumni.

To see the full itinerary for 'Les Fest,' click [here](#).

THESIS DEFENSES

May 15, 1PM (Reunion Auditorium, JMB): **Lindsey Weed (CAMB), "Addressing AAV-Mediated Gene Therapy Challenges in the Retina: Readministration and Capsid Optimization."** Contact [Anna Kline](#).

May 15, 3PM (Brian L. Strom Conference Room, 701 Blockley Hall): **Todd A. Miano (GGEB)**, “Drug-Drug Interactions and Kidney Disease in Hospitalized Patients.” Contact [Cathy Vallejo](#).

May 20, 9AM (130 Hill Pavillion): **Alexandra DeLaney (CAMB)**, “Caspase-8 promotes c-Rel-dependent inflammatory cytokine expression and resistance against *Toxoplasma gondii*.” Contact [Anna Kline](#).

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMB

May 15, 3-4 PM (9-104 Smilow): **CAMB Chair Dan Kessler Office Hours**. Contact [Dan Kessler](#).

May 17, 12-1:30 PM: **DSRB Program Lunch: Nicolette Johnson (Lengner lab) and Kelly Sullivan (Bashaw lab) presenting**. Contact [Christina Strathearn](#).

May 17: **CB PhD Prelim Exams**

May 17: **G&E PhD Prelim Exams**

CAMB Preliminary Exams (PhD and CD)

Preliminary exams for the PhD programs begin in May. Combined degree exams will take place in June. To see the complete schedule of exams, click [here](#).

NGG

ANNOUNCEMENT

- Don't forget to pick up your NEW NGG T-SHIRT. They are located in Tom's old office.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

5/15/19 5:30-6:30pm (Barchi): Upward bound Interest Meeting
5/16/19 5:30-7pm (Barchi): Summer GLIA meeting of the year

FUTURE EVENTS

5/20/19 12-1:30 (Barchi) GRiPPS - Jeni Stiso
5/20 2-4 (Barchi): NTG/Vision/CANAC retreat Journal Club
5/22 12-1 (Barchi): NTG/Vision/CANAC retreat seminar
5/23: NTG/Vision/CANAC retreat seminar

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Summer Teaching Positions: Journal Club Leaders Penn Summer Biomedical Research Academy, Summer 2019

The College of Liberal and Professional Studies of the University of Pennsylvania has position openings for Journal Club Leaders for the Penn Summer Biomedical Research Academy being held from **Monday, July 8th – Friday, July 26th, 2019**. The Penn Summer Biomedical Research Academy is a non-credit program for academically talented high school students who are considering careers in biology or medicine.

Journal club leaders will be responsible for choosing a topic as well as two primary scientific articles on a subject area of biomedical research to discuss with a small group of eight or nine students. During the twelve 1-hour meetings over the course of the month, journal club leaders will teach students techniques for reading scientific papers, present background information, and answer student questions. For more information on the program, responsibilities, and qualifications, see the [full description here](#).

Compensation: \$1,200

To Apply: Please send email of interest and CV to [Kieran Dilks, Ph.D.](#)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 15th, 2019

Please find the BGS policy regarding ‘Teaching Assistantships and Other Jobs’ as well as the Job Request Form for BGS students [here](#).

ARL Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellowship Program Research Funding

The Army Research Laboratory (ARL) invites exceptional young researchers to apply for an [ARL Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellowship](#) (www.nas.edu/arl). This fellowship provides recipients the opportunity to pursue independent research while working alongside some of the nation's best scientists and engineers. Applicants must display extraordinary ability in scientific research and show clear promise of becoming outstanding leaders. Successful candidates will have already tackled a major scientific or engineering problem or will have provided a new approach or insight, evidenced by a recognized impact in their field.

The fellowship includes an annual stipend of \$100,000, among other benefits. *Applicants who intend to defend their dissertation after the application deadline (May 31st, 5 PM Eastern Standard Time) are not eligible.* See more details [here](#).

EVENTS THIS WEEK

May 16, 4 – 5:30 PM (Barchi Library, 140 John Morgan Building): **BGS Professional Skills Series: Science & International Diplomacy.** Presented by **Dr. Mahlet Mesfin**, Deputy Director of the Center for Science Diplomacy at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Dr. Mesfin will speak to the intersections of science, policy, and society. An alum of Penn (SEAS PhD '11), Mesfin joined AAAS in May 2017. She also serves as executive editor of the open-access policy journal *Science & Diplomacy*. Read more on her background [here](#). This event is co-hosted by the **Penn Science Policy & Diplomacy Group (PSPDG)**, and light refreshments will be served! **Please register here:** <https://forms.gle/wkibmCk5XbQjvNQs6>

FUTURE EVENTS

May 21, 2:30 – 4 PM (Van Pelt Library Collaborative Classroom, RM 113): **Designing Your PhD: A Career Exploration Workshop.** Join Penn Career Services for this interactive workshop, designed for any stage of the PhD program. Activities will help you get a strong sense of what your interests, skills, and work-values are, gain the confidence to tell your story and explore career paths, and come away with a career roadmap and resources to make the best use of your time in graduate school. RSVP [here](#).

May 30, 12-1:30 PM (BRB 252): **Patent Law Panel featuring BGS alumni**, presented by NGG GLIA and open to all BGS students! Come and learn about the intricacies of a career in patent law, find out how you can explore if a career in patent law is for you, and how you can start preparing to pursue a career in this field. The 30 minute panel will feature:

- **Robert C. Netter (CAMB 2002)**
 - Patent attorney at Dann Dorfman Herrell & Skillman P.C.
- **Laura Gordon (NGG 2011)**
 - Associate attorney at Baker & Hostetler LLP
- **Daniel Scolnick (BMB 2000)**
 - Partner in the Health Sciences Department at Pepper Hamilton LLP.

The panel will be followed by a presentation by **Tomás Isakowitz (Program Director at Penn's Center for Innovation)** and then open the floor for Q&A to all of the speakers. See flyer [here](#). **RSVP:** <https://forms.gle/MwzCofGaJPapyE149>. Email Rosa Leon (rosaleon@pennteam.upenn.edu) with questions.

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**

RESOURCES

[BGSA Website](#)

[Calendar of BGSA Events](#)

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