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Career/Professional Development Events:

- **2015 Columbia University and NYC ASCENT Postdoc Research and Career Symposium**

The 2015 Columbia University Postdoc Research and Career Symposium will feature a postdoc research poster session with 100 posters presented and prizes awarded, five short research talks by postdocs with awards given to those selected, a keynote talk by Dr. George Yancopoulos, President and CSO of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a networking reception, and a half day graduate level career fair.

The symposium is for Columbia University Postdocs and NYC ASCENT Fellows to present their research to the Columbia University research community, network and form new interdisciplinary collaborations, and learn about career opportunities with featured employers.

The symposium will occur on the afternoons of Thursday, September 17th 2015 and Friday, September 18th on the Morningside Campus, Lerner Hall Boone Auditorium and Cinema. The postdoc poster session, research talks, keynote talk, and reception will occur on September 17th while the career fair (registration required) will take place on Friday, September 18th.

The symposium is for all postdocs at Columbia University and all ASCENT fellows. All members of the Columbia University research community are invited to attend the postdoc symposium sessions taking place on Thursday, September 17th. The event has been co-organized by the Columbia University [Office of Postdoctoral Affairs \(OPA\)](#) and the [NYC ASCENT Program](#) with assistance from members of the University's Postdoc Council. The graduate student and postdoc career fair was organized by the [Center for Career Education](#) in partnership with OPA and NYC ASCENT.

The initial abstract submission period will run from June 22nd through July 20th for consideration for oral presentations or poster presentations. A late abstract submission period will run from July 21st through August 17th for consideration for poster presentation if space permits.

Please see symposium website for further information about the event including abstract submission details: <http://www.cuascentpostdocsymposium.com/>

- **Medical Science Liaison Career Talk—RESCHEDULED**

Alexandria Wise, PhD, a medical science liaison with Genzyme and a recent Columbia University Postdoc Alum, will give a talk on medical science liaison careers in the evening of Wednesday, June 10th. Alexandria will discuss what being a medical science liaison entails, offer advice for those interested in pursuing this career, and share information about her own career trajectory. She will give an informal talk for the first 30 minutes and then address questions from the audience.

Date: Wednesday, July 1st
Time: 6:00-7:00 PM
Location: (CUMC) Hammer Health Sciences Building, Room LL108A&B
Registration: <https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/register.php?eventID=78496>

- **Medical Communications Career Talk and Workshop**

Deb Aronson, PhD, a Medical Director and Business Development Specialist with MedEdNow, LLC, will deliver a talk about her career journey pre- and post-PhD in the field of Medical Communications. She will take any and all questions about how to get to where you want to go/end up, resume dos and don'ts for PhDs, the search and interview process and the strategies needed for all.

Dr. Aronson will then lead a workshop which will begin with an interview role-play exercise. The workshop will also cover medical communication writing tests, which prospective job seekers may need to prepare for in advance of interviews for medical communications positions.

Date: Wednesday, July 8th
Time: 5:30-7:30 PM
Location: (CUMC) Hammer Health Sciences Building, Room LL203
Registration: <https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/register.php?eventID=78793>

- **Transitioning to Research Independence Course**

After securing a faculty position, a new principle investigator must establish their lab, hire staff, secure funding, publish, mentor trainees, serve on committees, and form collaborations, all whilst preparing for tenure. Making the transition from training as a postdoc to running a lab as a principle investigator can thus be a daunting process. Even the first step in this endeavor, applying and interviewing for faculty positions and negotiating an offer may seem unfamiliar to many postdocs. With these considerations in mind, this 10 session course in scientific management was developed. This course will cover topics such as the nuts and bolts of seeking a faculty position, considerations for establishing a lab, strategies for leading and managing a research group, securing funding, and mentoring trainees. The course has been modeled after the *Making the Right Moves, A Practical Guide to Scientific Management for Postdocs and New Faculty* manual by Burroughs Wellcome Fund (BWF) and Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). The course will be geared towards advanced postdoctoral researchers and fellows who plan to set up their own laboratory and develop their own research program at an academic institution. While most of the topics will be relevant to postdocs in any discipline, the faculty instructors are from the medical campus and will be speaking from their experience as faculty in biomedical and clinical departments.

The course will begin during the week of July 13th and run through the week of September 7th. The sessions will be held once per week, unless otherwise specified, for 60-120 minutes at noon and are mainly on Mondays. All sessions will occur on the medical campus. An optional chalk talk workshop will be held in October, and will be open only to those that have met the attendance requirements for the course.

Registration for the course is **required** as we only have capacity for 70 to participate in the course. Registration will be on a first come, first served basis and will be open on **June 29th**. It is anticipated that this course will reach the registration limit soon after registration is opened, so please plan on registering early if you are interested in participating in the course. The registration link for the course will be sent out on **June 29th in the weekly digest**.

For more information about the course and the specific sessions please visit the course website:
<https://canvas.instructure.com/courses/940262>

- **Office of Postdoctoral Affairs LinkedIn Group – Job ads and Career articles**

Do you have a LinkedIn account? If not, you should – networking is invaluable for landing the position you will seek following your training. If you do have a LinkedIn account, you should strongly consider joining the Columbia University Postdocs and Postdoc Alumni Group on LinkedIn. You can join the private group by searching for 'Columbia University Postdocs and Postdoc Alumni' under groups and submitting a request to join. The group has grown to 630 members, and beyond current Columbia Postdocs, there are also numerous Columbia Postdoc Alumni members that are employed across many different career sectors belonging to the group. The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs frequently receives position openings and job ads from employers both within and outside of Academia and we post these job ads exclusively on the LinkedIn group page. We also post relevant and timely career articles and pieces about the job market, professional and career development topics, and advice columns. Join the group today to start taking advantage of this great resource!

- **Office of Postdoctoral Affairs Website**

Did you know that the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA) maintains a website (<http://postdocs.columbia.edu/>) containing a wealth of information for postdocs? What types of information can be found on the OPA webpage? The Postdoc handbook with policies and procedures around being a postdoc at Columbia, the OPA monthly events calendar, funding opportunities, as well as career resources with listings of groups to join, webpages to browse, and job search sites to utilize. This is by no means an exhaustive list, so be sure to take a spin through the OPA webpage to see what information is most relevant and helpful to you. If you feel there are pieces of information that should be added to the OPA webpage that are not currently there, please let us know, as we are always looking to provide the most relevant and useful information to Columbia Postdocs.

Social/Networking Events:

- **Postdoc Weekly Coffee/Tea Hour – Morningside**

These coffee/tea hours are a great way for you to meet other postdocs and hear about upcoming events. The coffee/tea hour is informal and you can stop by for as long as you would like.

Morningside

Date: Thursday, June 22nd

Time: 3:30PM – 4:30PM

Location: Philosophy 301 – Graduate Student Center