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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 Roone 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 has concluded for consideration for oral presentations or poster presentations. A late abstract submission period is currently open and will run through August 17th for consideration for poster presentation if space permits.

Please see symposium website for further information: <http://www.cuascentpostdocsymposium.com/>

- **Graduate Level Career Fair**

The 2015 Columbia University and NYC ASCENT Postdoc Research and Career Symposium will feature a graduate level career fair on Friday, September 18th, the day following the poster session and research talks. The symposium and career fair will take place in the Roone Arledge Auditorium in Lerner Hall on the Morningside Campus.

The Graduate level career fair will include organizations from many industries including technology, pharmaceutical/biotechnology, big data, medical communications, data science, finance, consulting, media advertising, and more. The fair is open to graduate students (Masters and PhD), Post Docs and Alumni only, and we welcome Postdocs who are interested in internships as well as full time opportunities. It is a unique and productive way to meet employers looking to hire. Postdocs who are not currently on the job market but who would like more information about these featured companies and industries are also encouraged to attend.

Registration for the Graduate Level Career Fair is **required**, as space will be quite limited. In order to attend the career fair, you must complete your registration here: <https://cuascentpostdoccareerfair.eventbrite.com>

Visit the symposium [website's](#) section on the career fair in mid-August to find the details and profiles of employers who will be attending the career fair. For further information regarding this event, please email the [Columbia University Office of Postdoc Affairs](#) or the [NYC ASCENT Program](#).

Those attending the career fair should dress professionally (please no jeans & no sneakers). Attendees seeking employment opportunities should treat this event as if it is a job interview and dress accordingly. Attendees are strongly encouraged to bring copies of their resume and business cards and prepare an introductory pitch. Attendees should also take a look at the Center for Career Education Tipsheet on "Making the Most of a Career Fair": [Making the Most of a Career Fair: Preparation and Frequently Asked Questions](#)

When: 12- 4 PM, Friday, September 18th
Where: Roone Arledge Auditorium in Lerner Hall on the Morningside campus
Registration: **Required**; <https://cuascentpostdoccareerfair.eventbrite.com>

- **Team Leadership and Project Management Workshop:**

R. Kevin Grigsby, MSW, DSW, the Senior Director of Member Organizational Development at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) will be coming to Columbia University on August 10th and August 11th to lead two workshops for postdocs on project management and team leadership. Details about the remaining workshop can be found below. Please take a moment to register. Kevin Grigsby has led workshops in previous years at Columbia University and received tremendous feedback from postdocs that attended. ****** Please note that if you are a postdoc registered in the Transitioning to Research Independence course, you are already registered for these workshops and do not need to register separately.**

Are You Really a Team Leader?

Team leadership requires setting a direction, aligning people, and motivating people. There are clear differences in how leadership is *enacted* with teams as opposed to the way it is enacted in more hierarchical organizational structures.

Participants in this workshop will:

- Understand aspects of leadership that enhance effectiveness of leading teams
- Explain how effective team leadership is enacted differently than "top down" leadership
- Discuss pitfalls to be avoided in team leadership
- Understand how to bring out the "inner genius" of team members

Date: Tuesday, August 11th, 2015
Time: 11:00am—1:00pm (lunch provided)
Location: (CUMC)Hammer Health Sciences Building, room 301

Registration required: <https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/register.php?eventID=79057>

- **Alan Alda Center for Science Communication full day workshop**

Saturday, August 15th on the Medical Campus – room location will be provided to registrants
9:30 AM - 6 PM (Breakfast and Lunch included)

Participants will complete both the 'Improvisation for Scientists' and the 'Distilling Your Message' workshops during the day-long event.

'Improvisation for Scientists'

A workshop pioneered by science advocate, Alan Alda. Participants will take part in improvisational theater exercises aimed at helping them connect more directly and spontaneously with different audiences. This is not about turning scientists into actors or comedians, but about helping the participant recognize and engage with the audience on a level where the message of the scientist can land effectively with the listener. These games require participants to pay close, dynamic attention to others and emphasize the two-way nature of communication: What is received counts more than what is said. Through the course of training, participants will investigate body language, listen with more awareness, and respond with greater sensitivity.

'Distilling Your Message'

The combination of an interactive plenary and small group break-out workshops helps participants learn to speak clearly and vividly about their work and why it matters, in terms non-scientists can understand. Participants will practice finding common ground, speaking at different levels of complexity for different audiences, storytelling, and answering questions about their work. The plenary will address problems and solutions in public interactions as well as peer-to-peer communication.

There are only 13 spots available and registration is required. If you are interested in this workshop please register ASAP. Please do not register for this workshop if you are not fully committed to attending. Please register here: <https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/register.php?eventID=79276> .

- **How to conduct research that gets published and noticed – a monthly series for postdocs**

Publishing one's research in a top tier journal is often the goal for both a postdoc and their PI. This accomplishment, first and foremost, requires innovative and groundbreaking research. Not to be overlooked though, are the steps and processes taken when conducting the research that eventually may lead to a high impact publication. In this monthly seminar series we will examine the research life cycle for a postdoc from research design best practices through considerations for getting a publication noticed. Throughout the series we will use the theme of publishing one's research to delve into topics related to conducting research with integrity. The series will run from the months of April through December occurring from 12-1 PM on the third Thursday of each month at CUMC with lunch provided. Further information about the entire series can be found at: <http://postdocseries.wikischolars.columbia.edu/home>

The fifth session of the series will be held on Thursday, August 20th from 12-1PM and will focus on data integrity, in particular how to prevent data loss through data management planning. The session will delve into this topic through the perspective of publishing and will touch on data management plans and resources to implement and utilize while a postdoc as well as if one were to lead their own research group. This session will be led by Michelle Benson, the Research Integrity Program Specialist in the Office of Research Compliance and Training, and Amy Nurnberger, the Research Data Manager in the Center for Digital Research and Scholarship.

CUMC

When: Thursday, August 20th, 12-1 PM (lunch provided)
Where: (CUMC) Hammer Health Sciences Building, Room 401
Registration: <https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/register.php?eventID=79292>

- **SciPhD half-day workshop: Preparing for a job in Industry**

Friday, August 28th on the Medical Campus – room location will be provided to registrants

11 AM - 4 PM (Lunch Included)

This half-day workshop will address the following:

- Defining differences between academic science and the "Business of Science"
- Career opportunities: Kinds of companies and kinds of jobs available for PhDs
- Three critical identities that industry values and requires: Scientific/Technical, Business, and Social
- Building and marketing your personal brand based on your three identities
- Building and leveraging your network
- How to research a job, and the company to develop a targeted resume that shows how your brand is a good fit
- Preparing for interviews using your accomplishments that support your targeted resume

Workshop participants will also gain access to the SciPhD online training program and self-assessment instrument

Registration is required and can be completed here:

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/register.php?eventID=79275> .

- **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 – CUMC**

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. Please note that the coffee hour this week will take place on Wednesday instead of its usual Thursday occurrence.

CUMC

Date: Thursday, August 13th
Time: 3:30PM – 4:30PM
Location: Hammer Building, room 316

- **Summer Movie Nights Out**

We are announcing the sign-up for the upcoming August Movie Night! OPA is providing free movie tickets. Then after the movie, Postdocs are invited to stay with the group and go out for some drinks or food at the individual's expense at a nearby bar/restaurant.

August Movie Night Out*

Date: Wednesday, August 12th

Movie: Mission Impossible-Rogue nation (<http://www.missionimpossible.com/>)

Time: 7:15pm

(Further details will be emailed out to those who RSVP.)

*There are only 19 tickets available. To sign-up, email: cupostdocs@gmail.com