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## Career Development Events:

### Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

- **Individual Development Plan (IDP) Program at Columbia University – Begins this week!**

The Columbia University IDP program will assist NIH-funded graduate students and postdoctoral researchers with the implementation of IDPs. To learn more about what an IDP is and why they are critical for postdocs to develop, please read more [here](#) and [here](#). The IDP program developed at Columbia University has been designed for NIH-funded graduate students and postdoctoral trainees, with a particular goal of reaching graduate students in the third and fourth year of training and postdoctoral researchers in the first two years of training. However, the program will be applicable to non-NIH-funded graduate students and postdocs, particularly those in science, technology, mathematics, and engineering (STEM) fields.

The 2014 program will commence with a three-part seminar series on IDPs:

- **August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014:** “The Individual Development Plan: Strategically Navigate Your Scientific Career”. This seminar led by Cynthia Fuhrmann, University of Massachusetts Medical School, will cover the importance of career management, how to conduct a self-assessment, the significance of an IDP, and best practices for developing an IDP.

- **September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014:** “Bringing Your IDP To Life: Practical Career Strategies”. This seminar led by Keith Micoli, NYU School of Medicine, will cover career exploration, formulating career goals, and implementing an IDP.
- **September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014:** “Beyond the Elevator Speech: Understanding the Power of Networking”. This seminar led by Melanie Sinche, Harvard University, will cover the importance of networking, effective networking strategies, the value of informational interviews, and how to conduct an informational interview.

In addition, optional workshops will assist trainees in the completion of an IDP. Program participants will provide elements of their IDPs to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences or the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs to ensure compliance, and are encouraged to share portions of their IDPs with their faculty mentors.

Following the IDP seminar series, a monthly career panel and networking reception will allow trainees to learn about a variety of career opportunities both within and beyond academia. Postdoctoral researchers may also join peer mentoring groups to discuss their IDPs, career goals, and career exploration activities, and to receive support and feedback from their peers.

For more information about the Columbia University IDP program, including registration details, please visit: <https://www2.gsas.columbia.edu/idp/>

- **First Annual Columbia University Postdoc Research and Career Symposium**

The Columbia University Office of Postdoctoral Affairs is sponsoring the first annual Columbia University Postdoc Research and Career Symposium to be held on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> 2014. The event will feature a postdoc research poster session, data science career panel, and a networking and awards reception.

Postdoc Research Poster Session:

The poster session is intended for Columbia University Postdocs to share their research with their peers and faculty at Columbia University with the ultimate goal of fostering interdisciplinary collaborations. Postdocs from any of Columbia University's Schools, Departments, Institutes, and Centers are welcome to submit an abstract describing their research or scholarly projects for consideration of acceptance into the poster session. Postdocs may use existing posters that they have already been presented at a conference as well as research that they may have recently published. Please feel free to address any questions to me at ([rf2531@columbia.edu](mailto:rf2531@columbia.edu)) Postdocs that are considering presenting their research as a poster should submit an abstract of no more than 300 words as a PDF or word document to [postdocaffairs@columbia.edu](mailto:postdocaffairs@columbia.edu) with the email heading of 'Abstract Submission' by August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Top poster awards, including a laptop, tablet, and iPad will be announced during the networking and awards ceremony. Posters will be judged by a judging committee consisting of postdocs and faculty. If you are interested in serving as a judge on the judging committee, please send an email to [postdocaffairs@columbia.edu](mailto:postdocaffairs@columbia.edu) with the email heading of 'Judging Committee' by September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and further information will be sent to you about the expectations for the judges on the judging committee.

Data Science Career Panel

The data Science Career panel is intended for Columbia University Postdocs to learn about how data science can be used to answer a wide-range of critical questions, what a data science career entails, and potential career opportunities in Data Science, as well to hear the career stories of four data scientists who all have direct ties to Columbia University. The data science career panel will feature four panelists, one of which, Dr. Chris Wiggins, will give an overview of the field of data science at the onset of the panel session. The data science career panel will consist of:

Dr. Chris Wiggins, Associate Professor in the [Department of Applied Physics and Applied Mathematics at Columbia University with additional affiliations with](#) Columbia University's [Institute for Data Sciences and Engineering](#), [Department of Systems Biology](#), and the [Department of Statistics](#). He is also the Chief Data Scientist for the New York Times. (<http://www.columbia.edu/~chw2/> )

Dr. Kenny Shirley, Researcher at AT&T labs (<http://www2.research.att.com/~kshirley/contact.html>)

Dr. Kiril Tsemekhman, Senior Vice President and Chief Data Officer at Integral Ad Science (<http://integralads.com/about-integral/management-team>)

Dr. Kathy Copic, Program Director for Growth at insight data science (<http://insightdatascience.com/>)

#### Networking and Awards Reception

The networking and awards reception will offer the opportunity for postdocs across Columbia University to network with faculty, their peers, as well as the data science career panelists. The top poster award winners will be announced during the reception. The event will feature a selection of wines, hor d'oeuvres, as well as other beverages.

Date: Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> 2014

Location: Poster Session and Reception: Hammer Health Sciences Building (4<sup>th</sup> floor) River View Lounge, Data Science Career Panel: Hammer Health Sciences Building, Room 401

Time: Poster Session: 3:00-5:00 PM, Data Science Career Panel: 5:00-6:30 PM, Networking and Awards Reception: 6:30-8:30 PM

Event Flyer: [PD research and career symposium](#)

Full event details can be found at: <http://postdocs.columbia.edu/>

- **CANCELLED: 'Careers in Medical/Science Writing' – A talk by Jennifer Chang, PhD**

This event originally scheduled for August 27<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled due to last minute scheduling conflicts with the speaker. A career panel event on medical/science writing will take place this Fall that will feature this speaker and will cover the similar topics.

- **OPA Website, Events Calendar, LinkedIn group, and Facebook page**

Are you interested in hearing about job opportunities? If so, see the LinkedIn blurb below.

OPA wants you to hear about our events through the medium that is the most convenient for you. For many of you this might be through email and the emailed weekly postdoc digest. For others though, perhaps seeing our events advertised on our office's website, our LinkedIn group, or our facebook page might be more appealing.

Did you know that the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA) has a website? Go to <http://postdocs.columbia.edu/> to view all of the resources and information that OPA has to offer you. On the OPA website you should check out our events calendar (<http://vesta.cumc.columbia.edu/postdoc/calendar/index.php> ) for upcoming events.

Are you on LinkedIn? If you are, you should join the Columbia University Postdoc and Postdoc Alumni Group: (<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=3814461&trk=group-name>) . We will be posting to this group page event

descriptions as well as relevant career and job opportunities. If you are not on LinkedIn, you should set up an account, as LinkedIn provides a tremendous platform for networking, career exploration, and job searching.

Do you spend even a few minutes on Facebook a day? If so, then you should join the Columbia University Postdocs and Postdoc Alumni facebook group:

[http://www.facebook.com/#!/home.php?sk=group\\_137677722958203&ap=1](http://www.facebook.com/#!/home.php?sk=group_137677722958203&ap=1) . We will be posting upcoming events on this facebook group page, which will show up in your facebook feed and allow you to receive group invites to our events.

- **Postdoc Council Member Recruitment**

Are you interested in representing your fellow postdocs and gaining leadership experience? If so, you might be interested in joining one of the postdoctoral councils that have been established for the Morningside and Medical campuses. Each postdoctoral council meets once a month (often times with free lunch) with the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs to discuss, plan, and help carry out social and career development events. Postdoctoral council members also represent their postdoc communities and can relay any suggestions/feedback to the councils and the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs. As a token of appreciation for serving on the postdoctoral council, Postdoctoral council members receive an annual membership to the New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS). If you are interested in serving on one of the postdoctoral councils, please send me an email at [rf2531@columbia.edu](mailto:rf2531@columbia.edu) .

## **ASCENT Computer Science and Engineering Fellows Program at Columbia University**

- **ASCENT Fellows program details**

We are excited to announce the launch of [NYC ASCENT](#), a new program for Computer Science and Engineering postdocs. ASCENT is a program aimed at **Advancing Computer Science Careers through Enhanced Networking and Training**. Inspired by New York City's emerging tech markets and advances in the fields of computer science and engineering, Columbia University, Cornell University, the City University of New York, and New York University have formed a consortium to connect the growing community of computing science and engineering postdocs with entrepreneurs, technology professionals, and senior researchers in their field.

Funded by a grant from the [National Science Foundation](#) and the [Computing Research Association](#), this collaboration will provide professional development and increased networking opportunities for its members by implementing several best practice programs during the postdoc years. These will include training in how to obtain funding, how to get published, how to develop leadership skills, how to manage independent projects, and how to apply for jobs. The program will also provide travel awards and robust career services. At the end of his or her postdoc period, Fellows will receive ASCENT Certification, provided they have met the program requirements.

A postdoc is eligible to become, and receive certification as, an ASCENT Fellow if he or she:

1. Is a Computer Science or Computer Engineering postdoc at any campus of Columbia, Cornell, CUNY, or NYU;
2. Submits an ASCENT Fellow Application through the program web site;
3. Creates an Individual Development Plan and reviews/revises it with his/her mentor at least once annually;
4. Attends at least 8 of the 12 events, workshops, or seminars offered by ASCENT each year, including the Employer Fair and Career Symposium;\*
5. Participates in periodic surveys regarding ASCENT programming and their postdoc experience.

Postdocs interested in participating in the ASCENT fellows program should fill out an ASCENT Fellow Application form on the program web site at [www.nycascent.org](http://www.nycascent.org). We believe that this experience will be a benefit both to the postdocs and to their faculty mentors.

While a postdoc's primary faculty host is their most important mentor, we anticipate that other faculty and researchers will also be able to contribute to the postdoc experience. With this in mind, we are creating a mentor pool for the CS&E postdocs, consisting of faculty members from our four participating institutions, as well as individuals from the local Computer Science and Engineering industries.

- **ASCENT Fellows Program Kickoff Event**

We would also like to invite you to attend the NYC ASCENT Program's Kickoff event, which will be held at the Microsoft Technology Center, located at 11 Times Square, on Thursday, September 4 from 5:00-8:00pm. This will be an opportunity for you to meet other faculty members, mentors, and postdocs involved with this program, as well as the program's PIs and Senior Personnel. Please RSVP [here](#) to attend the Kickoff Event.

### **Columbia University Human Research Protection Office Institutional Review Board (IRB)**

Do your research plans involve human subjects research? If so, you should consider attending the IRB training session in August on the Morningside campus (listed below).

Postdocs at the medical campus might consider checking for future IRB training sessions at the medical campus here: <http://www.cumc.columbia.edu/dept/irb/>

#### ***New Faculty/Postdoc/Graduate Student Training***

#### ***IRB 101: Human Subjects Research Protections & How to Submit a Protocol to the CU IRB- Morningside***

Date: Wednesday, August 20, 2014

Time: Noon – 2:00 pm

Location: Hamilton 703

Register at: <https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/register.php?eventID=72413>

### **Columbia University Center for Digital Research and Scholarship**

- **Research Data Management (RDM) and Stewardship Community Meeting**

Do you work with data used or generated in scholarship or research?

Recognizing that everyone who does faces many of the same circumstances in dealing with these data, we thought an informal group could productively work together to find solutions for common challenges in research data management (RDM) and stewardship. To encourage this type of interest across Columbia University, CDRS is inviting those across the university & its affiliates who work with, or are interested in issues of, RDM to participate in building a community of interest and support.

The email list associated with this group is [CU-RDM@lists.columbia.edu](mailto:CU-RDM@lists.columbia.edu). Anyone is welcome to join this list by going to <https://lists.columbia.edu/mailman/listinfo/cu-rdm>

Our first meeting is on August 21 at 3pm in Butler Library, Rm 523. Please RSVP here <http://bit.ly/RDMMeetup>. We look forward to seeing you there!

**New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS)**

- **What Every International Student and Postdoc Should Know About US Employment**

Monday, September 22, 2014 | 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Also Available as Webinar

Interested in hearing how H-1B sponsorship happens from the inside? Dan Beaudry, former head of campus recruiting at Monster.com, shares the potent job search system used by many international students and postdocs to find U.S. employment. H-1B's are won in ways you likely don't expect. What you'll discover in this presentation may surprise you:

- Learn how to secure H-1B sponsorship at companies that have a policy against sponsoring H-1B visas.
- Learn why 80 percent of open jobs are never advertised - and how to find them before anyone else.
- Learn why human resources is often an obstacle instead of a conduit to finding a U.S. job-and how to bypass it.
- Learn why submitting résumés online is not an effective use of your time-and how you can better invest that time.

For more information please visit [www.nyas.org/H1B2014](http://www.nyas.org/H1B2014)

- **Grantsmanship for Graduate Students and Postdocs**

Thursday, October 9, 2014 | 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Also available as Webinar

The ability to write research grants is now more important than ever. Therefore, graduate students and postdocs should be practicing grant writing skills early in their careers by applying for fellowships. Moreover, concise and persuasive writing skills are not only vital for a career in academia, but are essential for all career opportunities.

For more information please visit: [Grantsmanship for Graduate Students and Postdocs \(Also available as a Webinar\)](#)

- **From Scientist to CSO: Experiencing the Scientific Method as your Guide to Career Success**

October 21 - December 13, 2014

Enhance your communication, leadership, and teambuilding skills that all employers value by taking From Scientist to CSO, one of the most popular courses offered at the New York Academy of Sciences.

For more information please visit: [From Scientist to CSO: Experiencing the Scientific Method as your Guide to Career Success](#)

- **Conflict Resolution Skills: In and Out of the Lab**

Sunday, October 26, 2014 | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

In this weekend workshop you will learn critical skills and tools to cultivate more fulfilling and productive working relationships.

For more information please visit: [Conflict Resolution Skills: In and Out of the Lab](#)

- **Risky Business – A Pharmaceutical Industry Strategy Workshop**

Saturday, November 15, 2014 | 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

This course gives professionals from inside and outside the pharmaceutical industry—including students and postdocs—a much better understanding of how the R&D and business development and licensing processes operate.

For more information please visit: [Risky Business – A Pharmaceutical Industry Strategy Workshop](#)

- **PepsiCo Journey through Science Day**

Monday, December 8, 2014 | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

On December 8, 2014, the New York Academy of Sciences and [PepsiCo](#) will host a special Journey through Science Day at the Academy's headquarters in New York City. Fifty exceptional students and early career scientists (MS, PhD, postdoc) will be selected for this unique opportunity to interact with PepsiCo's R&D leadership, learn about their efforts to develop products rooted in science-based nutrition, and get an exclusive glimpse of how science has shaped their careers. Additionally, each participant will be asked to present a poster on their research to highlight and share their own activities and interests with PepsiCo. There will be an award ceremony for the best posters at the end of the event.

We are looking to invite individuals with experience in the following key areas:

- Life Sciences: Nutrition, Biochemistry, Toxicology, Biology, and Pharmacology
- Engineering: Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Plastics Engineering, Packaging Engineering
- Food Science: Food Science specialties, Agriculture and Analytical Chemistry
- Material Science: Material Science, Polymer Science

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: Deadline Monday, September 16, 2014. For more information please visit [www.nyas.org/PepsiCo](http://www.nyas.org/PepsiCo)

## Social Events:

### Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

- **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: Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 10:00 – 11:00 AM  
Location: Philosophy 301 (Graduate Student Center)

- **Postdoc Mailing Lists**

To help facilitate communication between Postdocs and to only receive communication about the items you are interested in receiving from fellow Postdocs, you can join one of the four mailing lists. Please read about each

group below and follow the steps below to join as many of them as you would like. Once you receive access to the group, you will be able to email other members of the mailing list.

[postdoc\\_social@lists.columbia.edu](mailto:postdoc_social@lists.columbia.edu)

Share, plan and discuss social events going on at Columbia or around the city. Connect with other CU postdocs. Invite other postdocs to attend social activities and events around New York City, or alert the community when something is happening at Columbia that is not hosted by OPA.

[postdoc\\_equipment@lists.columbia.edu](mailto:postdoc_equipment@lists.columbia.edu)

Do you have a piece of equipment that you are not using in your lab? Do you need something, but don't know where to get it, or don't want to spend a lot of money purchasing something? Send an email to this list to see if anyone can help you out. Of course, all exchanges should be legal and allowed by your lab or PI. OPA does not endorse selling/collecting money through these lists.

[postdoc\\_families@lists.columbia.edu](mailto:postdoc_families@lists.columbia.edu)

Get in touch with other postdocs who have children and families. Learn about events and social activities for parents, and kid-friendly events for families. Exchange opinions and recommendations for babysitters, schools, after school activities, etc.

[postdoc\\_housing@lists.columbia.edu](mailto:postdoc_housing@lists.columbia.edu)

Are you moving? Looking for housing? Post here and see if other members of the postdoc community have any information to share!

To Sign Up for the Mailing Lists:

1. Visit the following link(s) corresponding to the list(s) you would like to join.
  - o [https://lists.columbia.edu/mailman/listinfo/postdoc\\_social](https://lists.columbia.edu/mailman/listinfo/postdoc_social)
  - o [https://lists.columbia.edu/mailman/listinfo/postdoc\\_equipment](https://lists.columbia.edu/mailman/listinfo/postdoc_equipment)
  - o [https://lists.columbia.edu/mailman/listinfo/postdoc\\_families](https://lists.columbia.edu/mailman/listinfo/postdoc_families)
  - o [https://lists.columbia.edu/mailman/listinfo/postdoc\\_housing](https://lists.columbia.edu/mailman/listinfo/postdoc_housing)
2. Fill out the form at the website, and submit it
3. Subscription to these lists requires approval, and you will be notified once our office approves your subscription. If you are using a non-columbia email address, please also send an email to [cupostdocs@gmail.com](mailto:cupostdocs@gmail.com) to alert us.

Once you are member, you will receive emails from other members. To send an email to the mailing lists, simply write an email to email address (listed above).

To unsubscribe, visit the same website you used to subscribe to the mailing list. Scroll to the bottom of the page, where you will see an unsubscribe option.

## **Research Seminars:**

### **Office of Graduate Affairs Basic Sciences Weekly Calendar**

No events yet posted this week. Check the calendar links below throughout the week to see if any seminars are added.

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Alternate ways to view the calendar:  
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View the up-to-date Basic Sciences Weekly Calendar within Google Calendar:

1. At the bottom of your calendar list on the left, click the Add down-arrow button and select Add by URL.

2. Enter the Basic Sciences Weekly Calendar address in iCalendar format address in the field provided:  
<http://www.google.com/calendar/ical/gsas.cumc%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics>
3. Click Add.

Or to view the up-to-date Basic Sciences Weekly Calendar in a browser without signing in to Google Calender:

[http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=gsas.cumc%40gmail.com&ctz=America/New\\_York](http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=gsas.cumc%40gmail.com&ctz=America/New_York)

Or view our on-line Calendar in its original format at:

[http://sklad.cumc.columbia.edu/gsas/interior.php?sub=5\\_1](http://sklad.cumc.columbia.edu/gsas/interior.php?sub=5_1)