



November 2008 Newsletter

ORIENTATION

New to Columbia?
Need a refresher on benefits?

When: Tuesday, November 18
9:00 — 10:30 AM

Where: Medical Center
410 HSC

Please RSVP to:
postdocaffairs@columbia.edu

Volume 1, Issue 4, November 2008

NATURE NETWORK HAPPY HOUR

Mingle with fellow New York City Postdocs!

Where: **Slainte Pub**
304 Bowery (Lower East Side)

When: **Thursday, November 13**
7:00 PM

Easily accessible by the: 6, B, D, F, & V

THE EARTH INSTITUTE FELLOWS SYMPOSIUM BUILDING GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH INTERDISCIPLINARY SCHOLARSHIP

Wednesday, November 19, 2008, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Columbia University - Alfred Lerner Hall (Room 555)

Presentations include: Right to the House: Roma in Istanbul, Turkey; Environmental Governance and Metropolitan Land-use Dynamics in Southern Brazil; Go Green Harlem!; Change from Within: Women Altering Cultural Practices to Meet the MDGs in Sauri Village, Kenya; Case Studies of How Religious Doctrine and Other Worldviews Motivate Religious Environmentalists; The Development-Conflict-Peacebuilding Nexus in Africa; Global Warming and the People of the Whales in Arctic Alaska; Index Insurance Contract Design; Direct Aerosol Radiative Forcing from Specific Emissions Sectors; A Game-Theoretic Model of Groundwater Extraction Under Spatial and Economic Asymmetry; Probabilistic Projections of the Total Fertility Rate; Effects of Human and Natural Disturbance on Seedling Regeneration in a Hurricane-impacted Tropical Forest; Digital Soil Map of Sub-Saharan Africa: Implications for Restoration, Climate Change, and Sustainability; Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the Millennium Villages: What is the Role of Ecosystem Restoration in Sustainable Development?



Celebrate Thanksgiving NYC style! Thursday, November 27

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is an over 80 year tradition. See marching bands from across the country, celebrities, amazing floats, and the famous balloons march down Central Park West and Broadway.



The parade starts at 9 AM, but get there early to reserve a good viewing spot.

Another fun and less known tradition is watching the balloons inflate the night before - they are on display from 3 - 10 pm on 77th and 81st streets between Columbus and CPW.

For further information visit:
www.macys.com/campaign/parade/parade.jsp



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Survival Skills Workshops - Remaining Fall Schedule

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences hosts "Survival Skills Workshops" that they kindly open up to all Postdocs. All programs are hosted in the Philosophy building on the Morningside Campus (on Amsterdam Avenue between Kent Hall and St. Paul's Chapel) in Room 301.

For details and pre-registration for all events, visit http://www.columbia.edu/cu/gsas/calendar/ma_phd_events.html.

Navigation and Survival Skills

- November 12 Managing Conflict in Academic and Professional Relationships, 3:00 pm
- November 18 Becoming a Mentor, Not a Tormentor, 3:00 pm

Preparing Future Faculty

- November 19 Academic Job Search From Start to Finish: Part 2 — Phone/Conference/Campus Interviews and the Job Talk, 4:00 pm
- January 28 Academic Job Search From Start to Finish: Part 3 — The Waiting and Negotiating Part, 4:00 pm
- February 18 Untenured Faculty Life, Tenure Track and Adjunct Faculty Talk about the Job Search, First Year on the Job, and Teaching Expectations, 4:00 pm
- March 11 Welcome to the Professoriate, Pedagogy, Power, Politics, and Pitfalls On Your Way to Tenure, 4:00 pm

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY	CALLING ALL PAST FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS...
<p>The H.L. Holmes Awards give recipients the opportunity to conduct post-doctoral studies under outstanding research persons at world famous graduate schools or research institutes. Research must be undertaken in the fields of chemistry, physics, biology or mathematics as they relate to medical and biological processes.</p> <p>Each Award will cover a one or two-year period, depending on available funding and the research proposal. An Award can have a monetary value of up to \$100,000 CDN per year. The Award shall support all costs directly related to approved research projects, except travel expenses.</p> <p>For award and application information, visit: http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/aboutUs/holmes_e.html</p> <p>Deadline: 31 January 2009</p>	<p>If you were awarded an external fellowship award (e.g., NSF, Ford, Javits, Fulbright, Wenner-Gren, etc.) in the past three years, would you send me a copy of your successful fellowship application for the purpose of sharing it with Columbia GSAS students who aspire to your success?</p> <p>These will NOT be posted on the web and NO copies will be distributed.</p> <p>These will remain on file in GSAS (who have been kind enough to open all their events to postdocs this year). You may remove all identifying information, including any personal demographic information that you submitted. (It's just the essay or narrative that they want.)</p> <p>Thank you for considering this request. You may e-mail your proposals to me (postdocaffairs@columbia.edu) or bring a copy to 109 Low. Thank you very much for sharing.</p>

Coming soon...We will be launching the redesigned OPA website in the coming weeks. The site includes improved content and the OPA Postdoc Discussion Board which will facilitate communication among postdocs between campuses.

Questions? Comments? E-mail postdocaffairs@columbia.edu.



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New York Alliance Upcoming Events

What Career Path do I Want to Pursue? - December 2, 2008

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

The Hoffman Auditorium, Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

444 E. 68th Street, New York, NY

www.nyas.org/careerpath

Having a written career plan lets you define the career you want rather than having others define it for you. It also provides an opportunity to avoid pitfalls that are common in career decision choices. We are pleased to have Laura Hill, founder and president of Careers in Motion LLC, present this seminar on understanding and developing a career plan. Please note: this event will take place at Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. **Sponsored by: Science Alliance**

Communicating Science to the Public: Effective Strategies and Potential Pitfalls - December 4, 2008

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

The NYAS conference Center

250 Greenwich Street, 40th Floor, 7 World Trade Center, NYC

www.nyas.org/communicating

Dr. Matthew Nisbet, professor in the School of Communication at American University, will discuss how science communication is inextricably linked to media and politics. Based on decades of research, Dr. Nisbet will detail effective strategies and potential pitfalls encountered when communicating science to various media and political outlets and how those outlets, in turn, can color the public's perception of the scientific message. **Sponsored by: Science Alliance**

Idea to IPO: The Technology Adventure Course

January 2009 – April 2009 (13 Week Course)

www.nyas.org/IPOcourse

Course Director: David Anthony, Partner, 21 Ventures LLC

This course is designed for those in science and technology who want to know how to take the right idea from the bench to the marketplace. The class will meet one day per week over a 13-week period. There is a registration fee, and the course is open to both current NYAS members as well as nonmembers. Due to the popularity of this event, early registration is encouraged. Please register at www.nyas.org/IPOcourse. **Sponsored by: Science Alliance**

Spring 2009 - Course Syllabus

Module 1: Intellectual Property

1/20/09: Intellectual Property and protection of ideas (part1)

1/27/09: Intellectual Property and protection of ideas (part2)

Module 2: Enterprise Potential

2/3/09: Technology Transfer and the licensing of Intellectual Property

2/10/09: Scientific Due Diligence

2/17/09: Market Due Diligence

Module 3: Enterprise Organization

2/24/09: Employee Incentives and Non-competes

3/3/09: Corporate Structure: taxes and governance

Module 4: Enterprise Finance

3/10/09: Structuring the Business Plan

3/17/09: The Venture Capital Fund

3/24/09: Term Sheets and Valuation

Module 5: Technology Marketing

3/31/09: New Product Introduction

4/7/09: Initial Public Offerings

Module 6: Enterprise Exit

4/14/09: Scientist as CEO