Bio Advising Newsletter – 1/31/2017

OVERVIEW (See below for details)

ADVISING
1. Pre-Enrollment Advising Appointments
2. S/NC Grade Option Change – deadline Feb 1 (TOMORROW)

BIO DEPARTMENT
3. E&E Seminar: Origins and adaptations of polyploidy in strawberries – Feb 1
4. Bio Sci Department Poster Session – Feb 10
5. Letter of Recommendation Workshop – Feb 16

CHECK IT OUT
6. Panther Leadership Summit – Feb 4 (registration required)
7. ACC Meeting of Minds Research Conf Application – deadline Feb 10
8. Tri-Beta Club Free Movie Screening – Feb 15
9. Spring Career Fair Prep Days – Feb 6-14
10. Spring Career Fair (STEM) – Feb 15-17
11. OUR Undergrad Mentor Application – deadline Feb 24
12. Never a Spectator Event – deadline Feb 24

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES
13. Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve: Summer Intern – deadline Feb 15
14. Univ. of Wisconsin: SIGNALS Summer Research – deadline Feb 15
15. Pitt Biology: Mentor/Mentee Summer Fellowship – deadline Feb 17
16. Rutgers: SURP in Molec and Dev Neurobiology – deadline Feb 17
17. Des Moines Univ: Health P.A.S.S. – deadline Mar 1
18. REU: Pymatuning Lab of Ecology – deadline Mar 3

$$$ SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS
19. UHC Scholarships Program – deadline Feb 3
20. Udall Undergrad Scholarship – deadline Feb 15
21. Brackenridge Summer Research Fellowship – deadline Feb 27
22. OUR Summer Undergrad Research Awards – deadline Mar 3

CLUBS
Biology Club
Birding and Ornithology Club
Dental Science Club
Ecology Club
Genetic Counseling Club
Pitt Medlife
POMS
1. Pre-Enrollment Advising Appointments

Sign up for an appointment* NOW to have your hold lifted for Summer and Fall classes!

*New declares must attend a Group Advising Meeting before scheduling an appointment.

- Summer enrollment begins Feb 13 (Feb 10 for Veteran & Priority Enrollment Students)
- Fall enrollment begins Mar 27 (Mar 24 for Veteran & Priority Enrollment Students)

All four advisors have appointment sheets in A258 Langley Hall. Once you sign up for an appointment, write it down or put it in your calendar. BRING YOUR ADVISING FOLDER WITH AN UPDATED PLAN TO YOUR MEETING.

Remember we are also taking walk-ins for quick questions. Stop by if we can help you with something.

2. S/NC Grade Option Change – deadline Feb 1 (TOMORROW)

To change a course to the S/NC grade option, you need to fill out a form in 140 Thackeray Hall and turn it in prior to the noted deadline.

"Certain courses are offered on the S/NC (Satisfactory/No-Credit) grade option. This option was designed to encourage students to explore new and potentially difficult subjects without fear of the risks of failure. Under this option, a student who does satisfactory work (a grade of C or better) in a course receives the grade of S. If the student’s work is not satisfactory (a grade of C- or lower), the grade of NC (No Credit) is given. Courses for which an S is received are counted toward graduation, but are not computed in the GPA. Courses in which an NC is received are counted toward neither graduation nor the GPA."

3. E&E Seminar – Feb 1, 12-12:50pm, A219B Langley

Dr. Na Wei, a Postdoctoral associate in Dr. Tia-Lynn Ashman’s lab will be giving this week's E&E noon seminar. Dr. Na Wei’s talk is titled "Evolutionary origins and ecological adaptations of polyploidy in wild strawberries".

4. Bio Sci Department Poster Session – Feb 10, 4-5:30pm, A219B Langley

Interested in learning about the research your peers are conducting in labs all across campus? Come check out the Department of Biological Sciences Poster Session!

5. Letter of Recommendation Workshop – Feb 16, 4-5:30pm, A219B Langley

Sponsored Biological Sciences Advisors and HHMI

This workshop will cover:
- How do faculty WRITE letters?
  - Get to read some REAL letters.
  - Plan for WHO would be best for you to ask.
  - Plan for HOW to get the strongest letter possible.
  - Learn how to ASK for letters.
Review this guide for recommendation letters: [http://www.biology.pitt.edu/node/3484](http://www.biology.pitt.edu/node/3484)

6. **Panther Leadership Summit – Feb 4 (registration required)**

Don’t miss out on this weekend’s Panther Leadership Summit—there’s still time to register! This is a great opportunity for students to develop leadership skills, expand perspectives, & celebrate diversity.

Sat, Feb 4: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-panther-leadership-summit-registration-29788239426](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-panther-leadership-summit-registration-29788239426).

7. **ACC Meeting of Minds Research Conference Application – deadline Feb 10**

The 12th Annual Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Meeting of the Minds will be held at Duke University from March 31-April 2, 2017. This is an outstanding undergraduate research conference that brings together the best undergraduate researchers from all member ACC schools.

Pitt is looking for six outstanding undergraduate researchers to attend this conference and represent the University.

The Request for Undergraduate Participants is online at: [http://www.provost.pitt.edu/pacup/Pitt_ACC_MOM_2017_announcement.pdf](http://www.provost.pitt.edu/pacup/Pitt_ACC_MOM_2017_announcement.pdf)

For more information about the Meeting of the Minds Conference at Duke can be found at [https://sites.duke.edu/accmom2017/](https://sites.duke.edu/accmom2017/)

Applications from students or their faculty mentors can be sent to Professor Meriney at meriney@pitt.edu by February 10, 2017. Notification of acceptance will be made by February 17, 2015.

8. **Tri-Beta Club Free Movie Screening – Feb 15, 7:30-9pm, A224 Langley**

Tri-Beta will be hosting a screening of a documentary called *Pink & Blue: Colors of Hereditary Cancer*.

It is an incredible 90-minute story about both women and men who have inherited genes, specifically BRCA-1 and BRCA-2, that put them at high risk for certain cancers such as breast and ovarian cancer. It also highlights the importance of how genetic testing can save individual lives and entire families. You can view the trailer [here](http://www.biology.pitt.edu/node/3484).

This event is open to non-Tri-Beta members of all majors.

Questions? Contact Tri-Beta President Monica Sauer at mls202@pitt.edu

9. **Spring Career Fair Prep Days – Feb 6-14**

Prepare for the career fair all week long with resume reviews, elevator pitch practice, and more.

For more info: [https://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/cdpa/](https://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/cdpa/)

10. **Spring Career Fair (STEM) – Feb 15-16, 11am-3pm, WPU**

February 15 and 16: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

February 17: Business, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Explore internship and full- and part-time employment opportunities!
11. OUR Undergrad Mentor Application – deadline Feb 24

The Undergraduate Mentor program is a peer-to-peer mentoring program where motivated undergraduates share their research and scholarly endeavors with the general student body, faculty members, and First Experiences in Research students.

More info & application: http://www.asundergrad.pitt.edu/our/ums

12. Never A Spectator Event – deadline Feb 24

On Thursday, March 16, 2017, The Elsie Hillman Civic Forum will host their second annual campus-wide student program titled "Never a Spectator". Students will join regional visionaries for an intimate evening and dinner reception devoted to sharing a vision for public service, inspiring action, and developing the pipeline of leadership needed to foster sustainable growth and regional transformation as Pittsburgh continues to evolve as on one of America’s premier cities. The goal of this special event is to connect students with Pittsburgh leaders who saw a need in their community and developed an organization to meet that need.

More info & application: http://elsiehillmanforum.pitt.edu/student-programs/never-spectator-campus-event

13. Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve: Summer Intern – deadline Feb 15

Preserve Internship Overview
Start date: May or June, 2017
Timeframe: 12 wks; 40 hrs/wk, includes one weekend day
Hourly wage: $10.00

Interns work closely with Preserve staff and receive in-depth training in native plant propagation, trail maintenance and public education. Field trips to other botanical gardens, native plant nurseries and natural areas are offered to round out the interns' experience. Interns also attend educational programs at the Preserve and complete an individual project.

More info: http://www.bhwp.org/education/Summer-Internship-Program.htm

14. Univ. of Wisconsin: SIGNALS Summer Research – deadline Feb 15

The diverse research projects that SIGNALS participants undertake—which may involve any scale from molecules to ecosystems—will each explore a research question related to understanding the many forms of information or signals in biological systems, how information moves within and across biological scales, and/or how signals from the environment can impact cellular processes and thus affect organismal and population activity.

More info: https://wiscience.wisc.edu/IBS-SRP

15. Pitt: Mentor/Mentee Summer Fellowship – deadline Feb 17

http://www.biology.pitt.edu/undergraduate/awards-and-fellowships/mentormentee

This 11-WEEK program for University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh campus) undergraduates interested in research runs May - August. The program includes:

A 2-week Group Project. Teams tackle a research project together. Junior and Senior undergraduates paired with Freshmen and Sophomores will master a set of research skills and learn about research and
facilities across the department.

**A 9-week research rotation in a Faculty Laboratory.** All students will work in different labs throughout the department for the remainder of the summer. Students will share their research with each other in a weekly student seminar series. Students will hear from faculty about their lab experiences in another seminar series.

**WHO SHOULD APPLY?**
- Freshmen and Sophomores NEW to research OR having spent less than 1 semester working in a lab in the Department of Biological Sciences.
- Sophomores and Juniors already in Department of Biological Sciences labs with interest in mentoring students new to the department.

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**16. Rutgers: SURP in Molec and Dev Neurobiology – deadline Feb 17**

Rutgers University is pleased to invite applications for the 2017 Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) in Molecular and Developmental Neurobiology which is funded, in part, by a grant from the National Institutes of Health. The goals of the program are to:
- Increase student knowledge and appreciation of basic Neuroscience research by providing a closely mentored, hands-on graduate level research experience.
- Increase student knowledge and interest in pursuing careers in research through career development and educational activities.

More info: [http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/departments_institutes/neuroscience/grad_pgm/summer_prog/](http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/departments_institutes/neuroscience/grad_pgm/summer_prog/)

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**17. Des Moines Univ: Health P.A.S.S. – deadline Mar 1**

Des Moines University’s Health Professions Advanced Summer Scholars program - Health P.A.S.S. - is a great way for promising college students to prepare for the process of applying to graduate programs in the health sciences.

Get a head start in exploring careers in medicine, health care and science at a top-quality university that prioritizes student success. At Health P.A.S.S., you’ll find out what it’s like to be a physical therapy, physician assistant or medical student.

More info: [https://www.dmu.edu/healthpass/](https://www.dmu.edu/healthpass/)

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**18. REU: Pymatuning Lab of Ecology – deadline Mar 3**

The Richards-Zawacki lab at the University of Pittsburgh invites undergraduate applicants for a 10-week summer research experience at the Pymatuning Lab of Ecology in northwestern Pennsylvania ([http://www.biology.pitt.edu/facilities/pymatuning](http://www.biology.pitt.edu/facilities/pymatuning)).

This position is part of the National Science Foundation's Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program. Ongoing work in the Richards-Zawacki lab aims to clarify the relationship between climate and the dynamics of chytridiomycosis, a fungal disease that threatens amphibian populations on several continents. Room and board at the Pymatuning Lab of Ecology will be provided, along with transportation and a stipend of $500/week.

To apply, please send a one page personal statement (about your scientific interests and how this REU will support your professional goals), your resume or cv, unofficial transcripts, and the names of two professional references (including title, address, phone number and email address) to Dr. Cori Richards-Zawacki ([cori.zawacki@pitt.edu](mailto:cori.zawacki@pitt.edu)). Applications are due March 3, 2017.

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19. UHC Scholarship Program – deadline Feb 3

UHC Scholarship Program provides $2,000 in tuition support to juniors, seniors, or fifth-year students with a 3.5 GPA, involvement with the UHC, and no previous record of merit scholarships from Pitt’s OAFA.

More info: http://www.honorscollege.pitt.edu/uhc-scholarships

20. Udall Undergrad Scholarship – deadline Feb 15

Udall Undergraduate Scholarship awards $7,000 to sophomores and juniors from any discipline who demonstrate a commitment to environmental issues through a combination of coursework, research, internships, jobs, or extracurricular activities. Native American or Alaskan native students are also eligible for fields related to tribal health care or tribal policy. Pitt can nominate up to eight candidates for this award. U.S. citizens, nationals, and permanent residents are eligible to apply.

Have questions? Reach out to the University Honors College

21. Brackenridge Summer Research Fellowship – deadline Feb 27

The Summer Brackenridge Fellowship Program is a University Honors College Program open to all full-time undergraduate students on the Oakland campus. Applicants submit a 2-3 page proposal describing the objective(s), importance, scope, and methodology of their project, which may be analytic or creative. Proposals in the Humanities and Social Science are especially encouraged.

Brackenridge Fellows receive a stipend of $3,500 for the summer (mid-May through July) to assure that they can devote themselves full-time to their projects and the associated responsibilities without having to support themselves by means of a summer job. Fellows may not take a summer course or hold a summer job. Approximately 40 to 45 awards will be made.

More info: http://www.honorscollege.pitt.edu/summer-brackenridge-fellowships
Have questions? Reach out to the University Honors College

22. OUR Summer Undergrad Research Award – deadline Mar 3

The Office of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity (OUR) will offer 20 Summer Undergraduate Research Awards, each carrying a stipend of $3,500.

The Summer Undergraduate Research Awards (SURA) provide a $3,500 stipend to conduct independent research over the course of the summer. SURA recipients also enroll in a 12-week summer SURA course to learn how to communicate their research findings to a general audience.

More info & apply: http://www.asundergrad.pitt.edu/our/our-semester-awards

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Birding and Ornithology Club
www.facebook.com/groups/302359673107538/
pittbirdingclub@gmail.com

Biology Club
www.facebook.com/groups/upittbiologyclub
upittbiologyclub@gmail.com

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Dental Science Club
www.facebook.com/groups/pittdentalscienceclub
pittdentclub@gmail.com

Ecology Club – Alternate Tuesdays, 8:45pm, 540 WPU
ecologyclubpitt@gmail.com
List of officers: https://goo.gl/lcFCWw

Genetic Counseling Club
https://www.facebook.com/groups/geneticcounselingclub/
pittgeneticcounselingclub@gmail.com

Pitt Medlife
www.facebook.com/groups/285270411670195
pittmedlife@gmail.com

POMS
http://www.poms.us
pomspitt@gmail.com
https://list.pitt.edu/mailman/listinfo/poms

Pre-PA Association – Alternate Wednesdays, 9pm, 527 WPU
pittppaa@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/groups/523230964458833/

Pre-Vet Club – Alternate Thursdays, 8pm, Langley Lobby
pittprevet@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/groups/441907539257843/
List of officers: https://goo.gl/SXFNqh

TRI-BETA – Alternate Wednesdays, 8pm, A221 Langley
2/8, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5
www.facebook.com/groups/tribetapitt
tribeta.universityofpittsburgh@gmail.com
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Until next week,

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