**Bio Advising Newsletter – November 24, 2020**

**OVERVIEW (See below for details)**

**ADVISING**

**1.**     Advising Appointments

**2.**     Advising Office Hours – Thanksgiving Week

**3.**     UTA, Research, and Independent Study Enrollment for Spring

**4.**     Departmental Honors

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**5.**     Neuropharmacology Course – Open to Upper-Level Undergrads

**6.**     Personal Caregiver – Immediate Need

**7.**     Pitt Health Sciences Library – Video Captioning Assistant

**8.**     Community Learning Hub Tutoring Volunteers

**9.**     UM-SMART Summer Undergraduate Research Program – University of Michigan

**10.**  NSF NRT Research Training Program – Neurophotonics - Boston University

**11.**  WAVE Fellows Research Program – Underrepresented STEM Students

**INFO SESSIONS/WORKSHOPS**

**12.**  A Day for the Next Generation of Pharmacists – NSU College of Pharmacy – Dec 14

**13.**  Biology Career Seminar Series – Building a Career – Dec 3 at 2:30

**14.**  Biomedical Sciences Doctoral Portal (BPSD) - Open House – Dec 1

**CHECK IT OUT**

**15.**  Bio Advising on Social Media

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**1.**     **Advising Appointments**

Are you struggling to find classes that fit your spring schedule?

Do you need to adjust your spring schedule and have questions about how it will affect your progress in the major?

Do you still have an Advising hold?

***We are available for questions and appointments during winter break!!***

Please schedule an appointment using the Navigate Student app, or access the Navigate Student [website](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpitt.guide.eab.com%2Fapp%2F%23!%2Fauthentication%2Fremote%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212443552%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=TWmgew3eLa8kp1jlrcKIpYd4vd8wwSAvP6IcTkofKSA%3D&reserved=0).

***NEWLY DECLARED STUDENTS - once you have completed your Orientation on Canvas, you can schedule your advising appointment. Please be sure to email your documents to your advisor!***

After you schedule an appointment, your advisor will send you a Zoom meeting invite.  The email may also include a request for the following:

* An up to date copy of your [Progress Tracker](https://www.biology.pitt.edu/undergraduate/forms)
* An up to date copy of your [Semester Planner](https://www.biology.pitt.edu/undergraduate/forms) (don’t stress if you aren’t sure of your plan yet!)
* An idea of the questions you have for your advisor.

***\*\* Please submit these documents prior to your appointment. \*\****

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**2.**     **Thanksgiving Office Hours – Thanksgiving Week**

The advising office will not be holding appointments or responding to emails from November 26 through November 30.

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**3.**     **UTA, Research, and Independent Study Enrollment for Spring**

Enrolling for UTA, research or independent study credit for Spring 2021?  Follow these simple instructions…

1. Download a fillable form on our [website](https://www.biology.pitt.edu/undergraduate/forms).
2. Complete the form, along with all signatures.
3. Take a picture or screen shot of the completed and signed form and save it with your name (example: Lastname\_BIOSC1690 form).
4. Submit completed and **signed** forms  to this [quick survey](https://pitt.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3xTm5JfyGEhDz4p) **by 4:00pm on Friday, February 5, 2021!**

**\*\*\*If you are doing multiple experiences (for example, UTA and research), you must submit separate surveys for each.**

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**4.**     **Departmental Honors (Research-Based) Application – deadline Nov 30**

Are you a current sophomore or junior who is actively doing research and are interested in eventually writing a thesis and earning departmental honors? This program may be for you!

More info & application: <https://www.biology.pitt.edu/undergraduate/advising-and-support/honors>

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**5.**     **Neuropharmacology Course – Open to Upper-Level Undergrads**

MSMPHL 3375 or MSNBIO 2614, Tu/Th 1:30 – 3:20, Zoom or BST3, contact mjp44@pitt.edu

This graduate-level course is offered each Spring term. The course is appropriate for upper-level undergraduates who have completed 4 semesters of chemistry, 2 semesters of biology, and other relevant upper division course work (e.g., Cell Biology, Physiology or Biochemistry).

This is a 3-credit course that examines the molecular mechanisms of drug action for different drug classes that act within the nervous system.  The course will cover basic principles of neuropharmacology and then proceed in a topical manner focused on numerous fascinating neurological diseases and their contemporary treatments.

This course can be used as a BIOSC elective for the major.

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**6.**     **Personal Caregiver – Immediate Need**

Personal care giving services are required immediately for a person with a disability recovering from spinal cord surgery.  Approximately two hours both morning (7 or 7:30 am) and evening (after 8 pm), every day.  Observatory Hill in Pittsburgh’s Northside (accessible by public transportation).  Hourly rate is negotiable.  Contact Amy Evans at amevans@pitt.edu, or call 412-383-6644 during regular business hours.

Duties include attaching, or removal and disposal of condom catheter and bag, assistance with bathing (from basin), dressing, grooming, and assistance with breakfast and with morning and evening medications.

Knowledge of operation of a lifting device such as a HOYER lift or a sliding board preferred, as it will be necessary to transfer patient between power wheelchair and bed or portable commode, and assist with urinal. Training may be available.

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**7.**     **Pitt Health Sciences Library – Video Captioning Assistant**

The Health Sciences Library System (HSLS) at the University of Pittsburgh offers a wide array of information services, educational opportunities, and resources in print and electronic format to faculty, students, and researchers in the schools of the health sciences (Medicine, Dental Medicine, Pharmacy, Nursing, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, and Public Health).

We are currently seeking an undergraduate student with a background in biology to help us caption some of our instructional videos. The job is 100% remote with flexible hours.  Experience in video captioning/editing not necessary. The [job posting](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcfopitt.taleo.net%2Fcareersection%2Fpitt_student_int%2Fjobdetail.ftl%3Fjob%3D20005701%26tz%3DGMT-05%253A00%26tzname%3DAmerica%252FNew_York&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212453557%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=5y%2Fo%2Bn2Y9u6G8nDc%2FCuGU3CNayqG9Ia5utwTiyqjzeg%3D&reserved=0) is on Pitt’s Talent Center.

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**8.**     **Community Learning Hub Tutoring Volunteers**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, school closures, and virtual learning, Pittsburgh Out-of-School Time partners and centers have set up Learning Hubs for children to attend school and receive education assistance if they need extra assistance or their parents cannot be home with them.

These Learning Hubs currently need tutors and mentors to assist in student virtual learning.  In this opportunity you will provide in-person, virtual, or both.  Hours will be flexible, but we are asking for a commitment through at least the end of the semester with the option of continuing into next semester.  Hours per week will vary based on need of the Learning Hubs and your availability.

[Sign up for this volunteer opportunity here](https://volunteer.pitt.edu/opportunity/a0C3p00000Rmq2SEAR) or email Thomas Bryant at thb@pitt.edu.

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**9.**     **UM-SMART Summer Undergraduate Research Program – University of Michigan**

UM-SMART is a 10-week summer undergraduate research program sponsored by the University of Michigan Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP, which is an MD/PhD program) on the medical campus of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan.  UM-SMART is designed for undergraduate students who have an interest in obtaining a combined MD/PhD degree leading to a career in academic medicine as a physician-scientist performing basic research relevant to human health and disease. As a UM-SMART summer research fellow, students work full-time in a basic research laboratory under the mentorship of a research faculty member.

The goal of the UM-SMART program is to help students decide if a career as a physician-scientist is right for them, and to enhance competitiveness when applying to MD/PhD programs.  The UM-SMART has helped 85 undergraduate participants learn about MD/PhD training since 2008.  After graduation, 78% of past participants entered MD/PhD, PhD, or MD programs.

Applications will be accepted from November 16, 2020 through February 1, 2021.  Tentative dates for the program are May 24 – Aug 1, 2021.

Please visit the [website](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmedicine.umich.edu%2Fmedschool%2Feducation%2Fmd-phd-program%2Fum-smart-undergrad-summer-program&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212453557%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=eeBdAywEEpyB3%2F3vPWRZiZEOL%2B5OT1s%2BeOjtLJtaGTc%3D&reserved=0) or view the [brochure](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fumich.app.box.com%2Fs%2Fcf3t3fzf0fyurihpd1pbicgqxnsgpqtr&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212463545%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=58HnB9qxrx2S8sDIKhRWn6Z7dpzeE%2F4zER%2FMCKbMHQI%3D&reserved=0) for more information.

Use [this link](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fumich-smart.smapply.io%2Fprog%2Fum-smart_summer_undergraduate_research_program_2021%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212463545%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=7V%2F9qHcypC33Ap%2BTj6Mz3DeALTWZh94mdkP0ws6obYA%3D&reserved=0) to apply to the program.

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**10.**  **NSF NRT Research Training Program – Neurophotonics – Boston University**

Boston University is starting the fifth year of our [NSF NRT Research Training Program](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.bu.edu%2Fneurophotonics-nrt%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212473534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=LbzFinPt6X0Mt%2Ft9V8PCQ5TE5f76vwIe2T0A9KmGDRg%3D&reserved=0) on the topical area of Understanding the Brain with a specialization in Neurophotonics.  Neurophotonics is the understanding of how neural activities at the cellular scale drive computation, behavior and psychology.

Current seniors who are applying to graduate school for Fall 2021 should consider this opportunity.  The application deadlines for graduate school departments associated with the NRT can be found on our [application page](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.bu.edu%2Fneurophotonics-nrt%2Fapply-now%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212473534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=pcbB5v5wAccGhyT%2FDqSgk2GoxPReezwUMQBtoDAmslU%3D&reserved=0).  If students are interested in the NRT program, at the start of their personal statement, they should include: “I am interested in being considered as a Candidate for the NSF NRT in Neurophotonics”.  They can also reach out to Helen Fawcett at nrt@bu.edu to ensure that their application is flagged as a potential candidate for enrollment at BU and our NRT program and request to receive a grad school application fee waiver.

The website application can be found [here](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.bu.edu%2Fneurophotonics-nrt%2Fapply-now%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212483536%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=xp9Zw5YdNk1x%2BEa8KU%2BIwwd2l17lYa5bYqDq5CcnK6o%3D&reserved=0).

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**11.**  **WAVE Fellows Research Program – Underrepresented STEM Students**

The WAVE Fellows program provides support for undergraduate students, who are underrepresented in STEM and intent on pursuing a Ph.D., to conduct a 10-week summer research project under the mentorship of Caltech faculty.

Research opportunities in biology, neuroscience, chemistry, chemical engineering, engineering and applied science, geology, environmental science, sustainability, astronomy, physics, nanotechnology, quantum sciences, humanities, social science, and more!

Eligible students will be current sophomores, juniors, or non-graduating seniors and have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.2.

Research-specific [information sessions](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fr20.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D0012k5hsXkBGtqOutbCp3-5ZlQyp-g9COUDiNEahilE_Jt6eLapfjjKaY3vL6ngFxXWT_Lyemjk-IckhLhLWdCJeFW0jwyvbubQquqKsrH4gQbPoRaQ7BhCsX6QFTAozM6lNnsrmd7KDPcBmmcA_dB0E_CtrOhzVI3_2oxDCb9VCbVQ6JNCgwXLOTMUcBqxNIPUo4l7Sw8D97U%3D%26c%3Drk697rAoeMCM6zGW71xWA4rngUzwnUEzImoX16qqYJtkOHRArk2IRw%3D%3D%26ch%3DeJm57B27dE5OOTUako-SpLKCUyzBCAyiqFtWS8tb21R90Ae8Y5DwmA%3D%3D&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212493527%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=HHnNdk2%2FiiXYkQ3n3Mm5qJB00eURM6DBT3ZwlO%2F7lxE%3D&reserved=0)scheduled throughout November.

Applications due Jan 9.

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**12.**  **A Day for the Next Generation of Pharmacists – NSU College of Pharmacy – Dec 14**

Nova Southeastern University College of Pharmacy Palm Beach Campus would like to invite you to participate in our first virtual innovative program, “A Day for the Next Generation of Pharmacists.”

*A Day for the Next Generation of Pharmacists,* scheduled for December 14, 2020, is aimed at bringing knowledge and understanding of the evolving profession of pharmacy to those individuals seeking to gain insight as they pursue their interests into becoming a pharmacist. This virtual program will provide participants the opportunity to enhance their knowledge of the pharmacy profession through a day of mini-lectures in core pharmacy pillars, such as pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, mock counseling sessions involving common disease states, a Q&A session with current pharmacy students and much more!

To apply for this program, please follow the provided link [www.pharmacy.nova.edu/nextgenpb](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpharmacy.nova.edu%2Fnextgenpb%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212503519%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=fHs81cXmRP0Se2bzrPguhy2J9TqxpRcXFEYWVJCRR5s%3D&reserved=0)and choose “Click here to apply.” Application deadline is Wednesday, December 9, 2020.

For additional questions, contact pbphss@nova.edu.

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**13.**  **Career Seminar Series – Building a Career - Dec 3 at 2:30**

The next career seminar will be presented by Sonia Hall, President and CEO at BioKansas, a non-profit organization that aims to foster and support the regional bioscience ecosystem.  With her team at BioKansas, she continues her commitment to making careers in science and the paths toward them more equitable.

Sonia’s presentation is titled “Building a career: The value of mistakes, perspective, courage, and exploration”.

Register for the presentation [here](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bioscigso.com%2Fcareer-seminar-series&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212503519%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=YEsBCfQRbzgrzh4CEz54o3arl2jb4%2FKPwzMcMJEJof4%3D&reserved=0).

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**14.**  **Biomedical Sciences Doctoral Portal (BPSD) – Open House – Dec 1**

The [Biomedical Sciences Doctoral Portal](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmedschool.vcu.edu%2Feducation%2Fbsdp%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212513510%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=h29aRPK1lE%2FkCp7JGAptNge7414obhDjgS5FHaDAcTE%3D&reserved=0) (BSDP) at Virginia Commonwealth University is hosting a virtual open house on Tuesday, December 1st from 4:00 – 6:00 PM EST.  The BSDP oversees admissions for and recruits students into six Ph.D. programs within the School of Medicine. During the open house, Dr. Roxann Roberson-Nay, Assistant Dean for Graduate Recruitment and Admissions, will introduce the BSDP; the six Program Directors will provide information about their programs; you will have the opportunity to engage with students from each of the six programs in separate breakout rooms; and there will be plenty of time for questions. Register [here](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fforms%2Fd%2Fe%2F1FAIpQLSe3ys5pkTpqudXxvR2XValmwyi8A7ftYMLOADc8t-BkfUiAAA%2Fviewform&data=04%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C305daa03d83c4c53139d08d890c45538%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637418520212523509%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=kEjq6G1iVRotGl0DRCSulNW0YP%2BM1dZyvoslv2Rh55w%3D&reserved=0).

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**15.**  **Bio Advising on Social Media**

Stay up to date with bio advising news, and other noteworthy campus happenings by following us on social media.

Twitter: @PittBioADV

Facebook:  University of Pittsburgh Biological Sciences Advising

Instagram: pittbioadv

**GOOD LUCK WITH FINALS!!!**

**See you next week!**

**Christine Berliner,**

**Ellen Kelsey,**

**Brenda McDevitt,**

**Jessica Wandelt,**

**Dan Wetzel**

**Lou Yurasits**

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