**Bio Advising Newsletter – October 20, 2020**

**OVERVIEW (See below for details)**

**ADVISING**

1. Advising Appointments – Enrollment Starts Next Monday!
2. UTA, Research, and Independent Study Enrollment for Spring
3. Academic Plan (Major, Minor, Certificate) Declaration Form – Back online
4. **Seniors** - Graduation Application

**BIOLOGY HAPPENINGS**

1. Second Annual Biology Halloween Costume Contest!
2. Biology Peer Advisors – Office Hours
3. Bio Blog: Poyo the Pandemic Pet
4. Career Seminar Series – Deloitte Consulting – Oct 29
5. Pitt Bio Major Hoodies and Fleece – THEY’RE HERE!!!

**OPPORTUNITIES**

1. Volunteer Land Stewards – Helen Katz Natural Area
2. Career Mentoring Program
3. Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP) – Recruiting volunteers for fall and spring
4. Rising Black Scientists Awards – Essay Competition
5. Promega’s DOORS (Diversification of Our Research Scientists) Scholarship – deadline Oct 31

**INFO SESSIONS/WORKSHOPS**

1. Pre-Pharmacy – NSU Preview Day – Oct 27 and Dec 1
2. West PACS Career Fair – Oct 21
3. Wildlands Studies Information Session – Oct 28
4. Pitt Public Health Open House – Oct 30
5. Big Idea Center – Diversity in Innovation Panel, She Creates Panel, and Virtual Big Idea Blast
6. Internship Prep Program

**CHECK IT OUT**

1. GHSA and Doctors Without Borders – Disaster Medicine Lecture – TONIGHT! – Oct 20 at 8 pm
2. First Approaches to Research (ARTSC 0101)
3. Africana Studies Seminar – Oct 23
4. ADSRC Meeting – Nov 16
5. Honors College Scholarships & Awards
6. Study Lab Drop-In Tutoring
7. Bio Advising on Social Media

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1. **Advising Appointments – Schedule Now!**

**Enrollment starts Monday, Oct 26**! Please schedule your Advising Meeting so that you are ready!

While you may prefer a certain advisor, you are not assigned to a specific advisor and can book with any of the 6 advisors (we are equal in function) for the purpose of having your Spring enrollment hold lifted.

***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!***

During the month of October, we are offering Pre-Enrollment Appointments only:

* **Pre-Enrollment Appointment –** This is a 30-minute appointment designed for planning and discussion of Spring and Summer 2021 scheduling, and for lifting advising holds. These appointments are reserved for majors only.

Schedule using the Navigate Student app or access the Navigate Student [website](https://pitt.guide.eab.com/app/#!/authentication/remote/).

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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1. **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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1. **Academic Plan (Major, Minor, Certificate) Declaration Form – Back Online**

Students wishing to change/add/drop majors, minors or certificates can do so using [this online form](https://pitt.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0SySSwDynTnvCZL). Please note that the deadline to declare a mjor in the Dietrich School for the Spring 2021 term will be Monday, January 25.

You can also access the form on [this page](https://www.asundergrad.pitt.edu/student-toolkit/forms).

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1. **Seniors – Graduation Application**

Seniors who plan to finish in April 2021 must apply for graduation. After you’ve enrolled in spring classes, go to the [Student Records website](https://www.asundergrad.pitt.edu/student-toolkit/graduation) to complete your graduation application.

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1. **Second Annual Biology Halloween Costume Contest!**

Join us in celebrating Halloween and Biology by dressing up as your favorite biology-related structure/organism/process! First prize wins a free Pitt Biology t-shirt and/or an amazon gift card (TBD ASAP). Everyone who participates, wins the respect and admiration of the Bio Advising Office. And it is just plain fun.

To enter: Email a picture of you in your biology-themed costume by 4:30pm on 10/31 to Jessica ([wandelt@pitt.edu](mailto:wandelt@pitt.edu)).

Voting: all entries will be posted on the Pitt Bio Advising Facebook and Instagram accounts by 5pm on 11/1. The costume with the most likes by Friday 11/6 at 8am will win!

Other rules: Contest open to Pitt students, faculty, and staff who enjoy dressing up and biology. One entry per person. If emailing a picture, entrant must be recognizable and alone in picture. Please contact Jessica with any questions.

Be sure to follow our Social Media to see pics!

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1. **Biology Peer Advisors – Office Hours**

Our Peer Advisors office hours are in full swing! These students are an **invaluable** **resource** for helping you navigate scheduling, bio classes, remote learning, gen eds, extracurriculars, take-out food, Netflix series, etc. They are here to share their experiences in and out of the classroom. Definitely check in with them!

**Fall Schedule:**

Monday 11:00 – 12:00 Kayla & Peter [https://pitt.zoom.us/j/93436310447](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpitt.zoom.us%2Fj%2F93436310447&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C85e276b3294e4513dc1008d84e131e5b%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637345191303044300&sdata=lr2blObAVJXZt7eGkWHJePt0nphlAfFl7tCePnymlfc%3D&reserved=0)

Monday 2:00 – 3:00 Jacob & Luke [https://pitt.zoom.us/j/95151233172](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpitt.zoom.us%2Fj%2F95151233172&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7Cb36ceccb60964d07b22f08d84de66303%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637344999179643106&sdata=R2xGZzB%2BAr3ALw961d%2FxjGVKy4QfMZ77XFIMYHnjeI4%3D&reserved=0)

Tuesday 2:45 – 3:45 Sarah & Sarah [https://pitt.zoom.us/j/92732583725](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpitt.zoom.us%2Fj%2F92732583725&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C777b874fcf5442bb01df08d84dea63ec%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637345016381653626&sdata=6ijR3dA%2Fu8NUpdu73%2BaUCyjG8UcCFJVzw12%2BhdtuL6I%3D&reserved=0)

Thursday 11:00 – 12:00 Madison & Nicole [https://pitt.zoom.us/j/94822145512](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpitt.zoom.us%2Fj%2F94822145512&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C5bdc2d6509b74731544f08d84ddb4f9d%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C1%7C637344951612737199&sdata=y3I9h42l1LTbMmU10DjPjCS2YDD8YttixmuCFlSwaA4%3D&reserved=0)

<https://www.biology.pitt.edu/undergraduate/peer_advising>

In the meantime, you can read about these students on our blog: [http://bit.ly/2BS5zg6](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2F2BS5zg6&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7Cfa95295199dc49fd885908d8437fcaf0%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637333563440163660&sdata=Vuv29tN9%2F25CzCSQxOIIAEnpD6nS9%2Fe40tuab%2BO8tYI%3D&reserved=0)

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1. **Bio Blog: Meet Poyo**

This week in the PittBioBlog senior Comp Bio major Hope shares he pandemic pet, Poyo. Be prepared for cute pet pics!!

<https://pittbioblog.weebly.com/>

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1. **Career Seminar Series – Deloitte Consulting – Oct 29 at 10:30 am**

Christina Murata, Ph.D., an expert in national security and chemical and biological defense, is a Managing Director with Deloitte Consulting where she focuses on helping clients tackle their most challenging problems. She specializes in applying strategy and analytics, technology innovations, and workforce management in the execution of large-scale, complex programs. Her current clients are in the Department of Homeland Security and the Pentagon. Register [here](https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwsdeyhpz4uGtdC1n21WP8wA_0vamsi9PoI)!

We are also offering the opportunity for a smaller group to grab virtual coffee with the speaker right after the seminar. If you are interested in talking more with Christina, please register for the ‘coffee’ session [here](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fforms%2Fd%2Fe%2F1FAIpQLSckFX_m7EKQFnQ8VxxhJDSncauYdZZ4t6es9X-PT0sjD0M4eQ%2Fviewform&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7Cafa5eac6588c483a45b408d866156457%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637371589357950833&sdata=nHp4sslPJfhnYjvdmCusbWULGhpvkZ0JrmVDai%2FuPxc%3D&reserved=0).

We have several exciting speakers lined up for the next few months. We have recently added Dr. Carly Strasser, who works as the Director of Academic Alliances and Data Strategy at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. You can learn more about our upcoming seminars here: [https://www.bioscigso.com/career-seminar-series](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bioscigso.com%2Fcareer-seminar-series&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7Cc5cd44bce7b648a8af1408d855c01b08%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637353630983160649&sdata=afj3HquHt81dMj8IFSEsIe7zAMYkFpuTR75Sa8NrSNE%3D&reserved=0).

We hope to see you at Christina’s seminar!

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1. **Pitt Bio Major Hoodies and Fleece – THEY’RE HERE!!!**

Chilly temperatures have arrived! It’s a great time to update your fall/winter wardrobe and treat yourself to warm and stylish Pitt Bio gear. [ORDER HERE](https://pogo.undergroundshirts.com/collections/pitt-biological-sciences)!!! Make sure to scroll to the end to find your major, style, and color.

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1. **Volunteer Land Stewards – Helen Katz Natural Area**

If you’re looking for a fulfilling volunteer project that helps the environment, join us October 24 at Helen Katz Natural Area, in Crawford County (near Meadville).  Projects include maintenance of trees that were planted in 2013 (removing or re-staking tubes, removing netting, etc.), and cleaning up debris left from a swinging bridge that was taken down a few years ago.

For those who can join us, let’s plan to meet at around 9 am in the parking lot off Rogers Ferry Road, and work until around 2.  Please be prepared to work in tall vegetation (wear gloves, boots, long pants), and bring water, a lunch, and a mask.  We’ll plan to maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet, and 12 feet if possible.

Here is a [GoogleMap link](https://www.google.com/maps/dir/41.6722284,-80.2160739/@41.6687293,-80.2264041,15z/data=!4m2!4m1!3e0) for directions, and there is more information about the natural area on our [website](https://waterlandlife.org/land-conservation/explore-our-properties/helen-b-katz-natural-area/).

Please let me know if you can make it, and if you have any questions. Andy Zadnik [azadnik@paconserve.org](mailto:azadnik@paconserve.org)

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1. **Career Mentoring Program**

Join a career mentoring program for undergraduate students. The University of Pittsburgh’s Career Center is excited to facilitate the [Pitt Link Mentoring Program](http://url3836.pitt.edu/ls/click?upn=CQMaMUSXExFNmHXiBhx0foUdmVIul2RnZeAKY-2FNNdOrbcJgPExNRjUmlHHgKgfB0NswHW4HjNZMOXrqROWQWm2Ad2Ycr8OIMo4BtH6WxbzpJ20lp-2ByQbNPE-2FP1VsWLyP4w-2_6URAHB41VNCYiCEe-2Bdh3tgMVFwYQJV1p5VsamB7lOpTiBtNZe0WTRvFDEDcONT0en-2BrhFgOAj7Kqep8ZQzNqvlM0GMOZWqJOxDHufpWQObxFGhacC5kxDnPiyKnsOT-2B2WGmZzS6yLdiZ1YDo7z-2F0WO-2B29H1PdN1q8jYzGq9CdfT0-2F0tx-2FhdDQSDjYD3J16IFZ8Itj1YL3y2wcxe3OiQlBIlgZTDMdJa0KbJ-2BvVHkGEkmRzfiqmsiZ25zzu6hOex9MlJ7MwUlF50LFMmKOJF9U-2Fw-2B90F55i-2B-2BjDpa6tS9k6w-3D) on [Pitt Commons!](http://url3836.pitt.edu/ls/click?upn=CQMaMUSXExFNmHXiBhx0foUdmVIul2RnZeAKY-2FNNdOo-3D42Jl_6URAHB41VNCYiCEe-2Bdh3tgMVFwYQJV1p5VsamB7lOpTiBtNZe0WTRvFDEDcONT0en-2BrhFgOAj7Kqep8ZQzNqvlM0GMOZWqJOxDHufpWQObxFGhacC5kxDnPiyKnsOT-2B2hW8O6yJPDWluWyzDjjTL-2FZauFw7T-2FudmUJ1VHYvK8Y4bMPoAWBlukU6XAiq6Md-2Bt-2BiUePWq29G3ztseJ-2BnGUJwqKph6n7musbwBBvUhLpIWvzmjInfpcm6NG5M-2B5G9CByaMVmh-2FO-2F-2BnStW2u407zNA-2BpuO8eZ-2B-2Bjt0dUGV1DdWU-3D)

Pitt Link is a mentoring program designed to **support Pitt undergraduate students in their major and career planning through 1:1 mentoring with alumni**. Alumni mentors will help students by sharing career, academic, and personal advice, as well as Pitt expertise.

To join Pitt Link, click the "Join Pitt Link" button and sign in with your Pitt email address. Sign up today and you will be matched with a mentor in October 2020. Spots will fill up fast, so be sure to sign up ASAP!

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1. **Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP) – Recruiting Spring and Fall Volunteers**

The Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP) at Allegheny Health Network is recruiting volunteers for fall 2020 and spring 2021. They are looking for dedicated individuals who are interested in a unique volunteer experience. HELP volunteers execute targeted protocols to help inpatient adults 70+ who are at risk for delirium. This program is offered at Allegheny General and West Penn Hospitals.

Due to Covid-19, enhanced safety measures have been implemented and volunteers will make phone calls to patients from the HELP office, and interact with program and nursing staff only.

All interested students please contact Autumn Corcoran at [AutumnMoss.Corcoran@ahn.org](mailto:AutumnMoss.Corcoran@ahn.org) or Kaitlyn Lorey at [Kaitlyn.Lorey@ahn.org](mailto:Kaitlyn.Lorey@ahn.org).

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1. **Rising Black Scientists Awards – Essay Competition**

Recognizing that success in science is driven not only by a combination of talent and motivation but also access to a strong support network and opportunities, Cell Press and Cell Signaling Technology are excited to announce the Rising Black Scientists Awards. Tell us about what inspires your science, experiences that sparked your journey in the life sciences, and/or how you want to contribute to a more inclusive scientific community. Essays should be original works of no more than 750 words. Each essay will be evaluated by a panel of Cell Press editors and academic advisors composed of leading Black voices in the life science community.

Application Window will open soon. [For more information, click here](https://www.cell.com/diversity/awards?utm_campaign=Black%20Scientist%20Award&utm_content=141315501&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&hss_channel=tw-18477428).

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1. **Promega’s Doors (Diversification of Our Research Scientists) Scholarship – deadline Oct 31**

The goal of the D.O.O.R.S Scholarship is to recognize and empower underrepresented minority students by offering a $5,000 award that can be used towards resources to support tuition and fees required for enrollment or attendance at an educational institution.

This includes fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for courses at an educational institution. In addition to that, the D.O.O.R.S. awardees will have access to scientific, career-path, and technical writing mentorships.

Applications are open to undergraduate underrepresented minority students pursuing a biotechnology-related major with the hopes of continuing in that career. Winners will agree to partner with Promega to share information on their research and collaborate on projects such as scientific posters, white papers, webinars, blog posts or other opportunities.

[**Applications are due October 31**](https://www.promega.com/Global%20Data/Promega%20Worldwide/North%20America/Promega%20US/Branch%20Content/Local%20Pages/programs/DOORS-Program/)**.**  Application includes 2 short essays (one about career, one about research project). Applicants must also provide a recommendation from a life sciences instructor speaking to their eligibility for the program.

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1. **Pre-Pharmacy – NSU Preview Day – Oct 27 and Dec 1**

Nova Southeastern University College of Pharmacy (NSU COP) Palm Beach Campus would like to invite pre-pharmacy students to NSU Preview Day!

Students who attend will get an in-depth look into Nova Southeastern University's (NSU) Doctor of Pharmacy program, and will learn how our state-of-the­ art campus and exceptional faculty will prepare them for advancement in their career as a pharmacist. During our informational session, we will answer student questions about admissions and how to get started.

The preview days will take place on:

**Tuesday, October 27 at 12:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, December 1 at 5:30 p.m.**

[RSVP](https://nova.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJItf-6pqTwvE9RHEAGjWDgajmFZ9X9WAaC-) for the event. Any additional questions can be directed to [pbphss@nova.edu](mailto:pbphss@nova.edu).

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1. **West PACS Career Fair – Oct 21**

Western Pennsylvania Career Services Association (WestPACS) is a dedicated team of Career Services professionals that connects college students and alumni with employers and graduate schools through bi-annual career fairs in March and October. The next career fair will be held Oct 21 from 11 am to 4 pm. [Register here](https://westpacs.org/college-students-and-alumni/) for more information, and to reserve a spot with employers.

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1. **Wildlands Studies Information Session – Oct 28 at 5 pm**

[Wildlands Studies](https://www.wildlandsstudies.com/) offers exciting and challenging opportunities. Our field studies programs put you in the field. The courses are taught at an upper division university level as an introduction to environmental studies and sciences. Join a Wildlands Studies Information Session to learn more.

[Zoom Link](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5940296230?pwd=c3MzZm9DdC9wd05UVTlyYTAreExtdz09#success) – Meeting ID: 594 029 6230 – Passcode: 2j1G16

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1. **Pitt Public Health Open House – Oct 30**

Attend thepublic health *virtual*Open House on **Friday, October 30** to...

* Get an overview of Pitt Public Health departments and degree programs,
* Meet faculty, your future mentors, and advisors,
* Get to know student organizations, research centers, and
* Ask questions to the admissions, financial aid, and career services teams.

Learn more on our [website](https://publichealth.pitt.edu/open-house).

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1. **Big Idea Center - Diversity in Innovation, She Creates, and Virtual Big Idea Blast**

Critical thinking and problem solving are in the heart of every scientist, and the Big Idea Center’s programming enhances those essential life skills.

The Big Idea Center hosts so many unique and exciting events for anyone who has ever thought about entrepreneurship, or who loves to innovate! You need to check out their upcoming events!

Diversity in Innovation – Oct 20 at 5 pm - Join us as a panel of Black founders and CEOs shed light on the racial divide within the startup and entrepreneurial community as well as how they’ve been able to forge their own path as a minority entrepreneur. [Register](https://go.innovation.pitt.edu/diversity_panel)

She Creates – October 29 at 5 pm - She Creates as will showcase women who hold leadership roles both within the Pittsburgh entrepreneurial community and beyond and discuss the difficulties of being a woman entrepreneur. [Register](https://go.innovation.pitt.edu/shecreates)

Virtual Big Idea Blast – Oct 30 and 31 - In this 24-hour, virtual weekend workshop, students will have a chance to work on their ideas and win unique prizes including a fast-pass to the final round of the Randall Family Big Idea Competition! Our event will begin on Friday with a group meetup and informational session followed by our first round of presentations. On Saturday, finalists will have a chance to schedule coaching sessions with our staff of entrepreneurs in residence. The day will conclude with final presentations and a live q-and-a with our guest judges. [Register](https://go.innovation.pitt.edu/blast)

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1. **Internship Prep Program**

Pitt Career Center is a combination of workshops and individual appointments designed to offer individualized support of each student’s internship or experiential learning search. The service is available to all undergraduate students.

Workshops include Resumes, Networking, Searching & Applying and Interviews. Find out more about the program [here](https://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/cdpa/internships/internship-guarantee/), and review the workshop offerings [here](https://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/cdpa/internships/workshops-and-special-events/)

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1. **GHSA Doctors Without Borders – Disaster Medicine Lecture – TONIGHT! – Oct 20 at 8 pm**

Join GHSA (Global Health Student Association) and the Doctors Without Borders Student Chapter at Pitt **tomorrow, 10/20, at 8pm**for an insightful and fascinating lecture on Disaster Medicine from Dr. Keith Conover, an Emergency Department attending physician and recipient of the Lifetime Achievement award from the Mountain Rescue Association.

Zoom link: <https://pitt.zoom.us/j/97944164365>

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1. **First Approaches to Research (ARTS0101)**

First Approaches to Research (ARTSC 0101) will be offered this spring to first- and second-year students who are interested in learning how to connect to research and creative projects across disciplines, interests, and methodologies. Students will be introduced to the tools needed to launch meaningful undergraduate research careers. Learn more about the class [here](https://www.asundergrad.pitt.edu/research/getting-started).

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1. **Africana Studies Seminar – Oct 23 – 2:00 to 2:30**

Silencing Their Stories. The Politics of Memory and Race in the Public Memorialization of a State Reform School.

This presentation explores the silencing of Black experiences in the public memorialization of the Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys (1900-2011), a state reform school in Marianna, FL. Abuse and deaths occurred on Dozier’s campus, and the stories of Black inmates were often silenced by multiple stakeholders.

[Register here](https://pitt.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bxgtLhZygJQZO61).

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1. **ADSRC Meeting – Nov 16**

The ADSRC is a student-centered group that strives to not only provide research opportunities but create a collective space for students to discuss their research experiences and collaborate.

There are frequently scholars and Pittsburgh Alzheimer’s Disease Center faculty that present at the meetings. Most recently, Dr Karl Herrup discussed the diversity dilemma in research. Students discussed links between a lack of diversity in labs and the lack of underrepresented minorities in clinical trials.

At future meeting, they hope to discuss research during COVID, and how to choose a research lab.

If you are interested in joining this community of researchers, [complete this form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSelVRq6ubyQckaFRC2zSXKPVXTbmKPV5sX6KhObH26xTRIJ2w/viewform).

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1. **Honors College Scholarships & Awards**

The Honors College has a number of scholarships/awards available for current students, which can be found on this webpage: <https://www.honorscollege.pitt.edu/awards>

And as always, the fall, spring, and summer research fellowships are available to students. Details about the research fellowships and national scholarships are on this webpage: <https://www.honorscollege.pitt.edu/research-scholarships>

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1. **Study Lab Drop-In Tutoring**

Don’t fall behind! Study Lab is offering all of their tutoring and coaching services virtually, beginning Monday, Aug 31. You can make both [coaching and tutoring appointments](https://www.asundergrad.pitt.edu/schedule-tutoring-online-navigate-student) through the Navigate Student App.

For more information on Study Lab services, click [here](https://www.asundergrad.pitt.edu/study-lab/study-lab-remote-distance-learning-services).

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1. **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

**See you next week!**

**Christine Berliner,**

**Ellen Kelsey,**

**Brenda McDevitt,**

**Jessica Wandelt,**

**Dan Wetzel**

**Lou Yurasits**

[**bioadv@pitt.edu**](mailto:bioadv@pitt.edu)

**Advisors, Biological Sciences**

**A258 Langley Hall**

**University of Pittsburgh**