

Subject: [BioAdv] Newsletter 12/4/2018
Date: Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 2:38:37 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: BioAdvising on behalf of Bio Dept Majors' Announcements <bioadvising@list.pitt.edu>
To: Bio Dept Majors' Announcements <bioadvising@list.pitt.edu>
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

Bio Advising Newsletter – 12/4/2018

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*** **DETAILS** *** **DETAILS** ***

1. Advising Meetings & Quick Questions

The Bio Advisors are here to help, and we have lots of time now! Feel free to come back with questions or ideas or

just to chat.

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2. Walk-In Resume/CV Feedback with Ellen

Ellen will be holding walk-in hours in for resume/CV feedback on Thursdays and Fridays. Bring a copy of your resume/CV if you want to review it with her.

Where: A257 Langley

When: Thursdays 2-3pm, Fridays 12-1pm

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3. Biological Sciences Seniors Apparel (It's Your Turn!) – deadline Dec 21

Selling fast! Make sure you order one!

Interested in Biological Sciences apparel? You've seen other majors in our department wearing apparel designating their specific major. Surely, we cannot leave out the largest major in our department!

Seniors Kristen Richards (krr66@pitt.edu) and Michaela Schreyer (mms197@pitt.edu) have designed full-zip jackets with the Pitt insignia and the words "Biological Sciences" embroidered underneath for purchase. There are various colors and cuts available to choose from. The cost of the jackets is \$55 paid with credit or debit online. Any questions should be directed to either Kristen or Michaela.

They're great for last-minute gift ideas (ask your parents/families for the best holiday gift)!

All orders are due by December 21, and the jackets will be ready for pick up on January 9, 2019. (Additional dates and times TBA). If you are graduating in December and will not be on campus in January, there is a shipping option (not free shipping though)!

Order yours now! (If there is a note up at the top about Pitt Dental, please disregard. The jackets will be Biological Sciences jackets).

- For free campus pickup orders: <http://bit.ly/2QT9kVE>
- For shipping (additional fees apply) orders: <http://bit.ly/2OTEytW>

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4. Spring Course Offering: BIOSC 2540 Grad Seminar Plant-Animal Interactions

The graduate level seminar will cover evolutionary ecology of plant-animal interactions. Discussion and presentation based seminar, focused on comprehending, defending, and critiquing cutting-edge topics, theories, and patterns in the ecology & evolution of plant-animal interactions. Graduate students will lead most discussions and presentations. Choosing frontier topics in plant-animal interactions related to students' current research is encouraged. Examples of the many possible topics that may be covered in this course include tactics of plant-herbivore interactions, coevolution, plant carnivory, tritrophic interactions, pollination specialization, and more.

This will be a 2-credit course and will require instructor permission. Days/times to be determined with the instructor.

If you have questions or are interested, please contact Dr. Avery Russell at alr204@pitt.edu.

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5. Bio Advising Snack Break – Next Week!

Coming next week — snack break! Stop by the Advising Office in A258 Langley for FREE snacks during finals week (Dec 10 - 14). **FOR BIO MAJORS ONLY.**

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6. Peer Advisors Regular Office Hours

Peer Advisors will be holding their last walk-in hours this week in Langley A230!

- Thursday 1-2 with Lisa & Michaela

- Friday 2-3 with Isabella & Owen

No Peer Advising during Finals Week. See Christine, Dan, Ellen, Jessica, or Kevin in A258 Langley if you have questions.

7. Bio Blog: Genomics Course

This week, Isabella introduces us to genomics <https://pittbioblog.weebly.com/blog/an-introduction-to-genomics>

8. Chong Lab Bioinformatics Research Opportunity

The Chong Lab (Chemistry Department, University of Pittsburgh) is looking for an undergraduate to help with any of the following:

1. Applications of computer simulations to characterize the protein folding mechanisms of protein mimics with unnatural backbones.
2. Computational design of engineered protein-based sensors in collaboration with an experimental biophysics lab.
3. Methods development and/or coding efforts involving their open-source WESTPA (Weighted Ensemble Simulation Toolkit with Parallelization and Analysis) software for efficient computer simulations of rare events (e.g. protein folding, chemical reactions).

Essential Skills: Proficiency in Unix and Python & Ability to work in a team.

Interested? Email Prof. Lillian Chong at ltchong@pitt.edu with your resume, one reference, and unofficial/official transcript.

9. Urban Lab Genetics Research Opportunity

The lab of Zsolt Urban in the Department of Human Genetics at the Graduate School of Public Health is looking for an undergraduate researcher to help maintain zebrafish lines (clean tanks and move babies through the system) as well as perform some of their own experiments, including tail clipping, DNA extraction, PCR, and mutant identification. This would greatly improve your resume by providing scientifically meaningful research experience, an increased knowledge of how to structure research design, and the ability to perform experiments independently.

The research project is characterizing how the homozygous mutations in the FBLN5 gene leads to the phenotype of cutis laxa (CL), a rare disease of extracellular matrix (ECM) dysfunction that is characterized by redundant and inelastic skin, causing an early-aged appearance. The lab has several patient samples that they are working to characterize which will help give us insight into the mechanisms by which this mutation leads to the disease, which is currently unknown. They have recently developed a *fbln5*^{-/-} zebrafish line which shows decreased survival (preliminary results), and are looking to characterize more in-depth to assess overall phenotype, organ involvement, and survival over time. An additional goal is to target critical time points with small molecules of involved pathways in an attempt to rescue phenotypic outcome.

If interested, email Erika Dreikorn at END20@pitt.edu.

10. Free MCAT & DAT Practice

Check out Kaplan's MCAT & DAT free practice hubs - Add some free practice to your study plans, including daily questions, quizzes, free events, and more.

MCAT: <http://bit.ly/2FWttcv>

DAT: <http://bit.ly/2UdqJdR>

11. Genetic Counseling Club Meeting – Dec 4, 7:30-8:30pm, Clapp 310

Final meeting of the term. Andrea Durst, the assistant director of Pitt's Genetic Counseling Program will be giving information and further insight into the admissions process and specifics of Pitt's program, including the dual degree option.

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12. De-Stress B4 the Tests Events – Dec 4-12

This week before finals is packed with free stress relieving activities for Pitt students! Check out everything going on this week from coloring, to stress ball making, to meditation!

Check here for a list of all the events going on: <http://fal.cn/SkGB>

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13. Barry Goldwater Scholarship – deadline Dec 7

The Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation was established by Congress in 1986 to serve as a living memorial to honor the lifetime work of Senator Barry Goldwater, who served his country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman, including 30 years in the U.S. Senate. By providing scholarships to college sophomores and juniors who intend to pursue research careers in the natural sciences, mathematics and engineering, the Goldwater Foundation is helping ensure that the U.S. is producing the number of highly-qualified professionals the Nation needs in these critical fields.

The Goldwater Scholarship provides a prestigious \$7500/year scholarship for undergraduates pursuing STEM research careers.

This scholarship requires Pitt endorsement.

More info & apply: <http://bit.ly/2TveUPY>

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14. Caring.Com Student-Caregiver Scholarship – deadline Dec 31

The Student-Caregiver Scholarship provides financial assistance to students who are caring for an adult relative while enrolled in college.

Two scholarships of \$1,500 are awarded each year to student-caregivers to help cover costs of tuition and books. Applicants must be full-time college students at an accredited two-or-four-year college or university in the United States

More info & apply: <http://bit.ly/2zG4zbs>

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15. PA Space Grant Research Award – deadline Jan 11

The University of Pittsburgh Department of Physics and Astronomy has received funding from the Pennsylvania Space Grant Consortium to support undergraduate research. Several undergraduate scholarships of \$1500 each will be awarded in the spring semester (2019). Students who receive these scholarships will be expected to work with a faculty research mentor for around 10 hours per week over the 15 week semester. These students will also be required to present the results of their research in a public forum, such as the Physics and Astronomy Undergraduate Seminar or the Undergraduate Research Fair.

The goal of the NASA Space Grant program is to encourage students to enter science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. Because the funding comes from NASA, any STEM topic will be considered but preference will be given to research that is directly related to astronomy or space physics. Another goal of the program is to encourage students with little or no prior experience to become involved in research work. Therefore, students who have received one or more of these scholarships in the recent past are welcome to apply again, but preference will be given to candidates who have not previously received one of these awards. Qualified women and minority candidates are strongly urged to apply. **Please note that only U.S. Citizens are eligible to receive one of these awards.**

The spring semester scholarships will be awarded in early January, so now is the time to get started. Here are the requirements for the application:

1. A one or two page research proposal written by you and a faculty research mentor (be sure to include your name, department and email address).
2. A letter of recommendation from the same faculty research mentor.
3. An academic transcript (official or unofficial).

All application materials should be sent to:

Dr. Russell Clark
Department of Physics and Astronomy
100 Allen Hall
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

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16. Clarkson Scholars Program – deadline Jan 14

Each year, the Clarkston Scholars Program provides one sophomore attending a four-year college or university undergraduate program in Pennsylvania, majoring in a life sciences related field of study, a \$10,000 scholarship award (\$5,000 per year for junior and senior year). In addition, the Clarkston Scholar will receive exposure to the life sciences industry through mentoring with Clarkston Consulting and participation in [Life Sciences Pennsylvania \(LSPA\) events](#) over the course of the two-year scholarship award period.

More info & apply: <https://clarkstonconsulting.com/clarkston-scholars-program/>

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17. Trefil Science Scholarship (Polish Descent) – deadline Jan 15

The Drs. James and Wanda Trefil Science Scholarship of \$5,000 is awarded to a qualified undergraduate student who is majoring in the Natural Sciences: physics, chemistry, biology, astronomy, earth science, etc. One \$5,000 scholarship is available for full-time studies in the United States. Funding is for academic year **September 2019 - May 2020**. The selection of a scholarship winner is made on a competitive basis by the Kosciuszko Foundation.

More info & apply: <https://www.thekf.org/kf/scholarships/tuition/science/>

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18. Udall Scholarship – deadline Feb 8

The Udall Foundation awards scholarships to college sophomores and juniors for leadership, public service, and commitment to issues related to Native American nations or to the environment.

In 2019, the Udall Foundation anticipates awarding 50 scholarships of up to \$7,000 each.

The Udall scholarship honors the legacies of Morris Udall and Stewart Udall, whose careers had a significant impact on Native American self-governance, health care, and the stewardship of public lands and natural resources.

This scholarship requires Pitt endorsement.

More info & apply: <http://bit.ly/2ToVaNE>

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19. Pharmaceuticals Student Internships

Are you interested in pharmaceuticals/industry for a career path? Check out ISPE's list of companies that offer student internship programs.

More info: <https://ispe.org/membership/students/internship-program#internships>



20. RIT's List of Opportunities

Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) has an expansive list of summer research opportunities. These are not updated for 2019, but you can go to individual programs and see if the individual programs have been updated. Deadlines are soon approaching and you will want to start looking now!

More info: <http://bit.ly/2F3gghl>



21. Allegheny Health Research Intern – deadline Jan 18

The Allegheny Health Network's (AHN) Medicine Institute (MI) Research Program, based in Pittsburgh, PA is offering its annual Summer Research Internship Program. The program typically admits 6-8 students per summer for an eight-week research internship conducted under the mentorship of an MI faculty member. This program runs from early June to late July and includes a mentored research project, numerous opportunities for clinical shadowing, a didactic lecture series focused on specific disease areas, and career development workshops.

More info & apply: <https://apply.interfolio.com/58358>



22. Cooper Medical Premed Urban Leaders – deadline Jan 28

The 2019 **Premedical Urban Leaders Summer Enrichment** (PULSE) Program, at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, is an academic enrichment program for college undergraduate students interested in healthcare professions. The PULSE program provides academic, clinical, research and service learning opportunities with a focus on urban health needs.

The PULSE program is free to accepted students. Applicants will be accepted based on academic standing, professor recommendations and commitment to a career in the health professions. **Students from groups underrepresented in medicine and/or financially and educationally disadvantaged backgrounds are encouraged to apply.** College credit is not offered for PULSE, however students will gain educational enrichment opportunities and experiences that could prove invaluable for their future careers.

Program highlights include coursework in basic sciences; discussions about health, economic and educational disparities affecting urban communities; and a capstone poster symposium in which students present observations on what they learned.

More info & apply: <http://cmsru.rowan.edu/diversity/undergrad/>



23. UCLA Public Health Scholars Training Program – deadline Jan 31

The UCLA Public Health Scholars Training Program provides undergraduate students the opportunity to explore the field of public health through hands-on training, structured workshops, group excursions, and leadership and professional development. Located in Los Angeles, the program offers scholars the opportunity to train at UCLA, to explore public health in one of the most diverse counties in the US, and to experience the city's vibrant culture. We work with community-based organizations, health systems, and government agencies to offer field placement opportunities for scholars that focus on health equity.

Scholars are placed at these partnering organizations throughout Los Angeles where they are exposed to the spectrum of public health practice and provided with professional mentors. To supplement field work, scholars attend workshops, develop leadership and professional skills, and receive mentoring from graduate students and faculty. Scholars become a part of a motivated community invested in creating healthy futures for all.

More info & apply: <https://ph.ucla.edu/prospective-students/ucla-public-health-scholars-training-program>



24. UT Southwestern SURF – deadline Feb 9

The Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program at UT Southwestern's Graduate School of

Biomedical Sciences is an intensive summer research training experience designed for college students who are preparing for Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. careers in biomedical research. Fellows gain experience in modern research techniques and plan and execute an experimental strategy to answer a scientific question. SURF introduces students to the kinds of projects encountered during postgraduate research training and fosters an understanding of the planning, discipline, and teamwork involved in the pursuit of answers to current questions in the biological sciences.

More info & apply: <https://www.utsouthwestern.edu/education/graduate-school/research-opportunities/surf/>

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25. UT Southwestern SURISKD – deadline Feb 9

The Summer Undergraduate Research Institution for the Study of Kidney Disease (SURISKD) Program at UT Southwestern's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is an intensive summer research training experience for college students who are preparing for Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. careers in biomedical research with a special emphasis on kidney-related research. Participants spend 10 weeks (beginning in early June and ending mid-August) pursuing individual research projects that range from embryonic development and physiology to kidney cancer and imaging in the laboratories of Graduate School faculty members.

More info & apply: <https://www.utsouthwestern.edu/education/graduate-school/research-opportunities/suriskd/>

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26. MSU Plant Genomics REU – deadline Feb 11

The Plant Genomics @ MSU REU Program provides high quality research and training experiences for undergraduates interested in biology, biochemistry, biotechnology, chemistry, bioinformatics, and computational sciences. During the 10-week program participants are embedded within a [research group](#) at Michigan State University and undertake a mentored research project with the overall aim of providing an experience akin to that undertaken by a first year graduate student. In addition to a 10-week research project, students participate in a range of professional development activities that includes workshops and seminars designed to enhance their scientific and professional skill sets as well as provide information on graduate school and careers within STEM disciplines.

More info & apply: <https://plantgenomics.msu.edu/>

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27. Duquesne Biology CIRCLE – deadline Feb 15

Solving modern scientific problems typically involves multiple approaches and techniques, often called "team science." With the **Biology CIRCLE Program**, undergraduate students will have the opportunity to work on exciting research projects in teams that include mentors from two different research laboratories. In this way, students will investigate a basic research question from two different perspectives.

More info & apply: <https://duq.edu/academics/schools/natural-and-environmental-sciences/undergraduate-research/biology-circle-program>

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Until next week,

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Ellen Kelsey
Jessica Wandelt
Dan Wetzel
Kevin Wu

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