**Bio Advising Newsletter – September 22, 2020**

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**CHECK IT OUT**

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

Please schedule your Advising Meeting now! There are still many open appointment days and times to choose from. This may not be the case once our new declares are permitted to schedule. Get in while you can!

***NEWLY DECLARED STUDENTS, please do not sign up for an enrollment appointment. You cannot meet with an advisor until after you complete the Biology Advising Orientation on Canvas, which will be available by the end of September.***

There are several types of appointments available during the month of September:

* **General Advising Appointment** – This is a 30-minute appointment designed for in-depth discussions of academic planning, career goals, extracurriculars, and more complex issues. Non-majors and prospective students are welcome to make these appointments through the end of September.
* **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.
* **Senior Special** – This is a 15-minute appointment reserved for seniors who will graduate in April 2021, who need only a quick review of their plan and their advising hold removed.

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

Spring enrollment begins October 23. You should be able to see the Spring term class schedule Oct 5.

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. **Withdrawing from a Course – Oct 20**

After the add/drop period has ended, you may withdraw from a course by completing a Monitored Withdrawal Request form. Students must process the Monitored Withdrawal Request form by the deadline. A W grade will be assigned for the course. A W grade does not impact a student’s GPA. Click [here](https://www.asundergrad.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/Monitored%20Withdrawal%20Fillable.pdf) for the form.

Withdrawing from a course does not adjust a student’s tuition or fee obligations. However, withdrawing from a course may jeopardize satisfactory academic progress, financial aid, and athletic eligibility.

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1. **Final Exam Conflict – Oct 20**

Have you checked your [Fall final exam schedule](https://www.registrar.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/2211%20Final%20Examination%20Schedules%20Information-3.0.pdf) yet? If not, maybe you should!

If you have three or more final exams in one day, you may request an alternate final exam time. Please see the [Final Exam Conflict Accommodation Procedure](https://www.registrar.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/final_procedure.pdf).

If you are not able to work out an alternate time with your instructor, submit the [Final Exam Conflict Accommodation Form](https://www.registrar.pitt.edu/assets/pdf/Final_Exam_Conflict_Accommodation_Form.pdf) by the monitored withdrawal date October 20, 2020.

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1. **Zoom Security Upgrade – Sept 27**

To enhance security and privacy, Zoom will require that all meetings have either the Passcode or Waiting Room feature enabled beginning Sept. 27.

Your advisor will let you know if you need additional information when you receive the Zoom link for your appointment.

If your meeting is scheduled using the Waiting Room feature, you will not be able to join before the advisor, so please be patient if you arrive first!

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1. **Meet Our New Advisor – Lou Yurasits**

“Hello, Bio Students! My name is Lou Yurasits, and I am happy to be joining the Bio Advising team!  I am coming directly from the Advising Center in Thackeray Hall, where I have spent many years as a foundational academic advisor. But I have had some deep ties, past and present, to the Bio Department. After graduating from East Stroudsburg University of PA with a bachelor’s degree in Biology, I started here at Pitt as an Ecology and Evolution graduate student, about the same time Dr. Roberts did! I also met my wife, Linda, who was a Pitt Bio major (and who now works for Pitt’s College in High School program), at Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology (PLE!). Later, I worked as an assistant to the Director of PLE. And more recently, while working in the Advising Center, I have been teaching a Spring section of BIOSC 0370 (Ecology) for the Bio Department. My academic interests have been in entomology, behavioral ecology, aquatic ecology and evolution. In my free time, I like learning languages, designing (more than following) exercise regimes for myself, bicycling, and collecting typewriters and other vintage mechanical and electronic devices. I am looking forward to meeting you and helping you plan for and reach your academic and career goals!

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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. **Biology Representation at the Career Center**

Ashley Hennen will now be assisting majors within the Department of Biology. She can assist you with your résumé, finding a job/internship, preparing for interviews, building your network, and more! Click [here](https://pitt.joinhandshake.com/login) to schedule a phone, Zoom, or email appointment via Handshake. You can email Ashley directly at amh348@pitt.edu.

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1. **Bio Blog: Virtual Study Lab**

This week on the PittBioBlog, senior BIOSC major and Academic Coach Extraordinaire, Luke Scherz shares Flex@Pitt updates to the free tutoring and other academic resources available through Study Lab.

<https://pittbioblog.weebly.com/blog/study-lab-gone-virtual-one-stop-shop-for-academic-success>

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1. **Career Seminar Series – Biomanufacturing – Nov 12**

Mark your calendar for the next installment in the Career Seminar Series, featuring Smita Shankar. Smita is the Vice President of Research and Development for Impossible Foods. Have you heard about the Impossible Burger? Join us to learn about Smita’s journey to sustainable food production using biotechnology.

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 Smita’s seminar!

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1. **Pitt Bio Hoodies and Fleece – Coming Soon!**

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. Ordering information will be available next week. You don’t want to miss it!

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1. **Undergraduate Research Position**

Position available (starting in January) for a highly motivated undergraduate student interested in working in a lab that is developing gene therapies for inherited retinal diseases. This translational project combines molecular/cell bio, computational bio, and some surgical techniques. This position would also involve assistance with regular lab maintenance. The ideal candidate will have an interest in bench work and/or eye development or disease, 10 hours of weekly availability in the spring, and continued availability through summer 2021.

Interested candidates should send their updated resume and a very short statement of interest (why you are interested in the project) to Ali Larimer-Picciani (Picciani.Alessandra@medstudent.pitt.edu)

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1. **Research Opportunity - Alzheimer’s Disease Student Research Coalition - ADSRC**

The ADSRC, or Alzheimer's Disease Student Research Coalition is a student organization that strives to create a community of student researchers who are engaged or are looking to engage in research endeavors at the Pittsburgh Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC).

Our goals are to create a community space where students can freely discuss research experiences and ask questions of their peers and other researchers. Moreover, we strive to connect students to various research labs in Alzheimer's related fields.

We plan to hold 2 meetings a month. One meeting will focus on student-driven discussions about research techniques or experiences; the other meeting will usually consist of one or two presentations from ADRC faculty. There will typically be a Q & A after the research presentations where students discuss various Alzheimer's related research questions. We highly urge students looking for research experience to apply and prioritize their application.

The next meeting will be held on Nov 16 from 4-5 pm.

https://pitt.zoom.us/j/95130838388

Meeting ID: 951 3083 8388

Password: 412

We are currently creating a website. Until that is complete, please reach us [here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSelVRq6ubyQckaFRC2zSXKPVXTbmKPV5sX6KhObH26xTRIJ2w/viewform).

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1. **Grad School Recruitment Opportunities**

A group of biomedical science and engineering focused graduate programs have created a consolidated website and calendar of events to help you on your virtual graduate program search for fall 2020.

The [BioGAP Recruitment Calendar Website](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.com%2Fv3%2F__https%3A%2F%2Fsites.google.com%2Fsite%2Fnagapbiogap%2Fvirtual-recruitment-events-calendar__%3B!!KwNVnqRv!Wa1UcbqYBfpa5xoSMl78oW4MFUiPc6v0SIGoIF1lNmNQiJdd499z2V1A1_1U9OU%24&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C108869876eab433e90e208d84ac97efe%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637341576561892567&sdata=6O%2FmtFwaFlqnAJi5ayF3oStQG8hYbKW9e1d5QBpa8Uk%3D&reserved=0" \o "Original URL: https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://sites.google.com/site/nagapbiogap/virtual-recruitment-events-calendar__;!!KwNVnqRv!Wa1UcbqYBfpa5xoSMl78oW4MFUiPc6v0SIGoIF1lNmNQiJdd499z2V1A1_1U9OU$  Click to follow link.) contains more details about three types of events:

1. Admission workshop panels jointly held by representatives from more than twenty institutions. Six presentations will cover topics including the application process, funding, interviews, REUs, and more.  Register at [https://forms.gle/bqK1FfQ6pNsyj7G46](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.com%2Fv3%2F__https%3A%2F%2Fforms.gle%2FbqK1FfQ6pNsyj7G46__%3B!!KwNVnqRv!Wa1UcbqYBfpa5xoSMl78oW4MFUiPc6v0SIGoIF1lNmNQiJdd499z2V1AFqksdLM%24&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C108869876eab433e90e208d84ac97efe%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637341576561902562&sdata=cGiJvO4IGVUpygpkF7yBRWg%2FIdMLfFMmY2Mv%2Fm33SlU%3D&reserved=0).
2. Large professional recruitment fairs that are either open to the public or available to event registrants.  Register at [http://careereco.com/join/biomed](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.com%2Fv3%2F__http%3A%2F%2Fcareereco.com%2Fjoin%2Fbiomed__%3B!!KwNVnqRv!Wa1UcbqYBfpa5xoSMl78oW4MFUiPc6v0SIGoIF1lNmNQiJdd499z2V1AgfnIP7I%24&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C108869876eab433e90e208d84ac97efe%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637341576561902562&sdata=9%2Ffnn2rUix13HMwwHU2qbZrWa9rZ6d0eVfjDy%2BGDTMY%3D&reserved=0).
3. Virtual Information Sessions held by individual institutions.  See the BioGAP calendar for further details.

This new resource is provided at no cost. We hope that the website and accompanying calendar help streamline the graduate school exploration process and provide a little bit of clarity in a year when so much has been unclear.  Again, the website is [https://sites.google.com/site/nagapbiogap/virtual-recruitment-events-calendar](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.com%2Fv3%2F__https%3A%2F%2Fsites.google.com%2Fsite%2Fnagapbiogap%2Fvirtual-recruitment-events-calendar__%3B!!KwNVnqRv!Wa1UcbqYBfpa5xoSMl78oW4MFUiPc6v0SIGoIF1lNmNQiJdd499z2V1A1_1U9OU%24&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C108869876eab433e90e208d84ac97efe%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637341576561912555&sdata=eSERzSumyaQZYweB0%2Blk5qWBzZNmcqHUNWJwb%2FCOntU%3D&reserved=0).

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1. **Graduate Position – UNCW Vertebrate Neuroecology**

The Schweikert Lab at the University of North Carolina Wilmington is recruiting a graduate student to join the 'Evolutionary Neuroecology' group in the Department of Biology and Marine Biology (BMB) in the Fall of 2021.

The available position is for the Master’s program, with possible advancement to PhD. The lab primarily studies the neuroecology of marine vertebrate vision, centering on topics that include the sensory basis of dynamic skin color change, deep-sea bioluminescence, and the visual ecology of gamefish and whales. Project selection is flexible, as the student will be encouraged to develop an independent research idea that aligns with lab interests.

Students can learn more about the lab research program here: [https://schweikertlab.com](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fschweikertlab.com%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C617ccbe226204f6f934808d85bc9a8ad%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637360268955176945&sdata=B793GhrV0jGMGhv7FHcls01mP6nG6I8CNPwLqIqBLSY%3D&reserved=0#_blank)

Research in the Schweikert Lab is integrative, and students with interest in developing molecular, histological, and computational skills are encouraged to apply.

The early application deadline is Feb 15th 2021, with the application period extending to June 30th 2021. Details are on the website.

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1. **PhD Opportunities at Florida International University**

Are you interested in studying the physiology, ecology, and evolution of awesome animals? Do you like exciting fieldwork in amazing places? If so, consider joining the Cox Laboratory of Integrative Evolutionary Physiology at Florida International University in Miami, Florida.

There are currently opportunities for 2-3 PhD students in the Cox laboratory at Florida International University. These positions will be supported by a combination of research and teaching assistantships.  Florida International University has a great PhD program in Biology, with excellent support for field research.

Please visit the [Cox Laboratory website](https://www.coxevolab.org/#_blank) for all of the details and contact information.

Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue through October 16th.

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1. **PhD Positions and Assistantships - Evolutionary and Microbial Ecology - Louisiana State University**

[The Tan Lab](https://jiaqitan.wixsite.com/mysite) at the Department of Biological Sciences of Louisiana State University is seeking two PhD students to join us in the spring or fall of 2021. We use an integrative approach, including laboratory experiments, field observation, and data analysis, to explore a wide range of topics in ecology, including causes and consequences of biodiversity, community assembly, eco-evolutionary dynamics, species diversification, and plant-microbe interactions. We are specifically looking for candidates who are interested in one of the following topics.

* Adaptive radiation.
* Plant-microbe interactions.

Interested students can send inquiries with CV, unofficial transcripts, and a brief statement of research experience and interests to [Dr. Jiaqi Tan](http://jtan7@lsu.edu). Applications from students of diverse backgrounds are welcome and encouraged.

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1. **Graduate Position – Aquatic/Fisheries Ecology – Ohio State University**

[Dr. Stuart Ludsin](https://u.osu.edu/ludsinlab/) has openings available for up to three M.S. and Ph.D. students to conduct basic and applied research in aquatic ecology. Research topics include:

* The ecology of Lake Erie yellow perch
* The ecology of blue catfish and channel catfish in Ohio reservoirs
* The impact of cyanobacteria blooms and hypoxia on Lake Erie's food webs

Students would help design their projects, with each project potentially allowing for the opportunity to do fieldwork (e.g., telemetry), modeling, and experiments.

Details of the positions available in the Ludsin Lab can be found [here](https://ael.osu.edu/opportunities).

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1. **PhD Postion - Plant/Insect Ecology – Michigan State University**

The [Wetzel Lab](https://wetzellab.com/) at Michigan State University is accepting applications from prospective PhD students.

We study the ecology of plants, insect herbivores, and predators. A major goal of our work is understanding how environmental variability and biological diversity affect species interactions. We’re fascinated by variability--from how organisms cope with extreme variability to how changing levels of variability affect the natural world. We do this using field research, lab and greenhouse experiments, statistics, math modeling, synthesis, meta-analysis, plant chemistry, ecophysiology, and global collaboration. Click [here](https://williamcwetzel.files.wordpress.com/2020/09/wetzel-lab-phd-student-position-2020.pdf) for all of the details. Applicants who email by Oct 16 will be given preference.

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1. **Graduate Student Position – Evolutionary Ecology – University of Louisville**

Dr. Alycia CR Lackey is currently recruiting 1-2 PhD students to join her lab starting Fall 2021.

The lab combines evolution, ecology, and behavior to study how populations and communities respond to environmental change. We are particularly interested in how population responses and their consequences for community interactions vary across time and space. We use lab and field experiments, field collections, and population genomics. Work in the lab currently focuses on two study systems: Rhagoletis flies and Ambystomatid salamanders. More details are available at: [alyciarlackey.weebly.com](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Falyciarlackey.weebly.com%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C617ccbe226204f6f934808d85bc9a8ad%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637360268955226915&sdata=7Vc5Auiujr5NLbvXIFFVv%2Ba6AATWpfSQHuMVmD0BBPE%3D&reserved=0)

Click [here](http://louisville.edu/biology/graduate) for details on the application process. [Email](http://alycia.lackey@louisville.edu) before applying. Please note that the GRE is not required. Applications for fall 2021 are due by Jan. 15, 2020 to be considered for financial support. Financial support includes teaching assistantships, university fellowships, and diversity fellowships, all of which provide a stipend, tuition waiver, and health insurance.

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1. **Global Health Case Competition – Sept 25 and Oct 30**

The Global Studies Center and the Center for Global Health is holding a Global Health Case Competition in October for Pitt students, both undergraduate and graduate. It is the first time such an event is taking place at the University of Pittsburgh.

The competition simulates professional practice in developing strategies to address a hypothetical global health scenario. Interdisciplinary teams of graduate and undergraduate students will develop presentations that address the scenario in a holistic way.

Each team will present their strategy for 15 minutes to a panel of three experts and the top team will receive support to represent Pitt at the [**2021 Emory University's International Case Competition**](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fglobalhealth.emory.edu%2Fstudents%2Fcase-competitions%2Findex.html&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7Cdcb50991b46d4b39513608d84f47875f%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637346517026464951&sdata=IedOBQWYVHkYtsISLjVg%2Bqpa7sTB%2FnGIUgjtxJLeLKI%3D&reserved=0)**.**

For more information visit <https://www.ucis.pitt.edu/global/node/2085>.

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1. **Peace Corps Volunteer Openings**

If you are inspired by impact that is hands-on, grassroots-driven, and lasting, you may want to learn more about the Peace Corps. From leading health campaigns to boosting local entrepreneurship to teaching digital literacy, we offer a range of opportunities for making a difference. Specific openings for Biology and STEM majors include:

* [Math Education in Africa](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.peacecorps.gov%2Fvolunteer%2Fvolunteer-openings%2Fsecondary-education-math-teacher-6330br%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C2ccac2276bd24032163408d85b2c8320%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637359594019343637&sdata=a%2FXXFEhGA5T3swVOWxS1FNgeUdRufLhCn9o3MuYhDhI%3D&reserved=0)
* [Science Education in Africa](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.peacecorps.gov%2Fvolunteer%2Fvolunteer-openings%2Fsecondary-education-science-teacher-6331br%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C2ccac2276bd24032163408d85b2c8320%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637359594019353636&sdata=bOaqym2LYGJDQAA%2B0EURnpDzd5MxxbwVtb3akaGTmRU%3D&reserved=0)
* Environmental Education in [Central America/Mexico](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.peacecorps.gov%2Fvolunteer%2Fvolunteer-openings%2Fclimate-change-education-and-youth-empowerment-volunteer-6362br%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C2ccac2276bd24032163408d85b2c8320%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637359594019353636&sdata=NzLQHsqt4ebM7VFWDqny31l%2B1%2FoJI6lamylv69hYUQc%3D&reserved=0), [South America](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.peacecorps.gov%2Fvolunteer%2Fvolunteer-openings%2Fcommunity-conservation-promoter-6320br%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C2ccac2276bd24032163408d85b2c8320%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637359594019363624&sdata=pzBbSoiIB1KsBBia%2FAQSKjl4nMOrdG9%2FsWYJ9%2BGD%2FqA%3D&reserved=0), [Africa](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.peacecorps.gov%2Fvolunteer%2Fvolunteer-openings%2Fenvironment-and-food-security-educator-6356br%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C2ccac2276bd24032163408d85b2c8320%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637359594019363624&sdata=daofR1W%2BPGc3%2Bc%2F12YC%2BM5NMuNXCsTlMUwXo1fNKTfA%3D&reserved=0)
* [Agroforestry in Africa](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.peacecorps.gov%2Fvolunteer%2Fvolunteer-openings%2Fagroforestry-volunteer-6559br%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C2ccac2276bd24032163408d85b2c8320%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637359594019373617&sdata=XVFzTTyMqpXxZ00QVG34ciwFnDiw3JZQsiSS07ARqYU%3D&reserved=0)
* Agriculture Extension in [South America](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.peacecorps.gov%2Fvolunteer%2Fvolunteer-openings%2Fagriculture-extension-promoter-6508br%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C2ccac2276bd24032163408d85b2c8320%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637359594019373617&sdata=rWOUEXmpeo7Vqj%2BkqZxRLS7jjv9%2FLFDJ4dXDzxqDctg%3D&reserved=0), [Africa](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.peacecorps.gov%2Fvolunteer%2Fvolunteer-openings%2Fagriculture-and-nutrition-development-worker-6115br%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C2ccac2276bd24032163408d85b2c8320%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637359594019383610&sdata=H6sF1hUUXOQK7iYquOz6JnCe1NlDjURsu%2BHM8sGf4tI%3D&reserved=0), [Central America/Mexico](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.peacecorps.gov%2Fvolunteer%2Fvolunteer-openings%2Fsustainable-agriculture-extension-promoter-6305br%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbmcdevitt%40pitt.edu%7C2ccac2276bd24032163408d85b2c8320%7C9ef9f489e0a04eeb87cc3a526112fd0d%7C1%7C0%7C637359594019383610&sdata=%2Fnm30t0inhFWV6wPxyW2b1Y81Fi7RampYop8krxg6o0%3D&reserved=0)

The following events will help you learn more about Peace Corps programs:

* [Information Session](https://www.peacecorps.gov/events/20_vrs_infosession_pawv_20200922/) - Sept 22 at 5PM
* [Screening of “Girl Rising”](https://www.peacecorps.gov/events/20_vrs_girlrising_pitt_20200923/) - at Pitt Sept 23 at 6:30PM
* [Application Workshop](https://www.peacecorps.gov/events/20_vrs_appworkshop_pawv_20200928/) - Sept 28 at 5PM
* [National Hispanic Heritage Month Panel Event](https://www.peacecorps.gov/events/21_vrs_diversityevent_hispanicheritagemonth_20201007/) – Oct 7 at 3PM

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1. **Pitt Med Student Mentoring Alliance (PMSMA) – Sign up by Oct 4**

The Pitt Med Student Mentoring Alliance has traditionally paired Pitt Med student mentors up with premedical sophomore, junior, and senior students at Pitt through the program every year. We also hope to provide students with other opportunities later on to learn more about the premedical process and what opportunities and sources of support they can take advantage of during their premedical journey.

Interested students - sign up using this [form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf8g3NEcW8qNsAbDixHfQeohLXO7w1eCbOxoA_s3IRHdfLCoQ/viewform) by Sunday, October 4.

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1. **PIC Health Careers**

If you are pre-med/pre-health, make sure that you schedule an appointment with Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers (PICHC) who will be able to assist you with the testing and application processes. Refer to their [website](https://www.prehealth.pitt.edu/about-us) for more information, and schedule your appointment through the Navigate app.

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1. **Pitt Premedical Organization for Minority Students (POMS)**

POMS pairs upperclass premed students with underclassmen who are looking for additional guidance with their premed journey. If you are interested in participating as a mentor or mentee for the program, please sign up [here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfDIg7cn09P3OHP54uQnC6HIncb2iAu8PiHtpNQtso7H2YXRA/viewform).

**=====================**

1. **Virtual Career + Internship Fair - Sept 25**

Virtually meet with representatives from local, regional, and national nonprofits, corporations, and government agencies. Explore internship and full- and part-time employment opportunities. [Registration](https://calendar.pitt.edu/event/virtual_career_internship_fair_-_liberal_arts_sciences_and_business#.X1aGamdKhTZ) is required.

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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. **First Experiences and First Approaches in Research Info Sessions – Sept 21 through Sept 25**

If you’re unsure of how to obtain a position in a research lab, First Experiences in Research and First Approaches in Research can help. FE-R connects undergraduates to formal mentorship from faculty researchers from across the disciplines and schools at the University. FA-R teaches students how to connect to research and creative projects across disciplines, interests, and methodologies. Find out more about these program at their [Info Session](https://calendar.pitt.edu/event/first_approaches_to_research_fa-r_information_session#.X2oJW5NKg8b).

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1. **Big Idea Kickoff – Sept 29**

Are you interested in innovation and entrepreneurship, but are not sure how to get involved? Our Big Idea Kickoff is your chance to meet the Big Idea Center as we “Kickoff” the start of our first entirely virtual semester!

Pick one of our two meeting options and join Big Idea Center staff and entrepreneurs in residence as we tell you a little bit about what the Big Idea Center has to offer Pitt students.

We will be unveiling our events calendar and conducting a live Q&A session where students will be able to have their questions about the Big Idea Center answered in real time. This event is a perfect stepping-stone for students to get involved in the innovation and entrepreneurship activities here at Pitt!

Registration is required in order to receive a unique Zoom meeting link and password.
[Register and learn more here.](https://go.innovation.pitt.edu/bigideakickoff)

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1. **Hispanic Heritage Month – Sept 15 through Oct 15**

Hispanic Heritage Month (HHM) is celebrated annually from Sept 15 – Oct 15 to acknowledge the history, culture, and contributions of Americans whose ancestry can be traced to over 20 countries in Latin America, including Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

Scheduled events include an Artifact Showcase, Latin Dance Workshop, and several discussion groups. Click [here](https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/events/monthly-celebrations/hispanic-heritage-celebration-month) for a complete calendar of events.

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1. **Civic Action Week - Oct 5 through Oct 10**

Discover Your Pathway

With the many changes that have taken place over the last three months, we know that one thing has not changed: the need for volunteers. Because of this need, the Office of Community and Government Relations (CGR) and the Office of PittServes are coming together to host a series of educational and volunteer events.

Traditionally, CGR and PittServes would host Day of Caring and Pitt Make a Difference Day (PMADD), respectively. Due to the greater and broader needs that the pandemic has caused, these offices are coming together to organize an entire week of engagements directed towards non-profit and neighborhood partners and their missions.

There are a number of ways in which volunteers can engage over the week of October 5-10, 2020.

* Remote/Virtual Events: Learn alongside Pitt University Departments and Community Partners.
* DIY Kits: Assemble an item or kit in support of an agency.

To learn about and register for events, click [here](https://pmadd.doc.pitt.edu/).

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1. **Roundtable: COVID-19, Intersectionality, and Mental Health – Oct 5**

In our rapidly changing world, mental health is affected by a variety of factors including race, inequality, and now, COVID-19. Join a roundtable discussion with university staff, faculty, and students to engage in honest conversations on mental health in the context of today.

Content Warning: This event may contain emotionally difficult content dependent on participants’ discussions.

[Register](https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcucu6grTooHdOMvyjuF5XymJRZnl3vl6PT?fbclid=IwAR20gnXCmjMVIyOm5bQLo4KMQtrYEybvkFRCo87-1CoMgGcFMqKgCDGMqTk) in advance for this meeting.

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1. **Study Spaces Around Campus**

Are you looking for a place to study on campus? Click [here](https://www.coronavirus.pitt.edu/student-learning-living/study-spaces) for a list of more than 60 options. Make sure to follow all signs, including posted occupancy limits and in-use and out-of-use stickers, avoid moving any furniture and clean your space before and after use.

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1. **Study Lab**

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. **Stress Free Zone**

Are you feeling stressed or anxious? The Stress Free Zone is a free service to help students learn and practice evidence-based, mind/body stress reduction skills.

The Stress Free Zone is operating remotely this semester, but they are still offering classes! Find their schedule, and register for Mindful Moments, Yoga, and other Workshops [here](https://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/shs/stressfree/classes-and-workshops/). You can also follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

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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

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**See you next week!**

**Christine Berliner,**

**Ellen Kelsey,**

**Brenda McDevitt,**

**Jessica Wandelt,**

**Dan Wetzel**

**Lou Yurasits**

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