

## Biology Advising Newsletter 10/28/2013

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### OVERVIEW ( See below for details )

#### ADVISING

1. Appointments: Spring Enrollment Holds
2. New BIOSC courses Spring 2014
3. Graduating in April 2014? You must APPLY!

#### CAREER

4. Looking for clinical research experience? Considering research or graduate school? - Nov 1
5. Career Presentation: Public Health - Nov 8
6. Career Presentation: Physician Assistant - Nov 15

#### VOLUNTEER RESEARCH POSITIONS

7. Undergraduate Volunteer Opp - Genetic studies in clinical pain populations
8. Undergraduate Volunteer Opp - Clinical Research on detecting fetal diseases

#### CLUB MEETINGS

Ecology Club - Nov 4, 6:30pm  
Biology Club - Oct 29, 8:00pm  
Tri-Beta - Nov 5, 8:00pm  
Optometry Club - every Sunday  
Pitt Outdoors Club - every Tuesday, 9pm  
Pre-Vet Club - Oct 28, 8pm  
Birding & Ornithology Club  
POMS - every Friday, 5:30pm

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\*\*\* DETAILS \*\*\* DETAILS \*\*\* DETAILS \*\*\*  
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#### 1. Appointments: Spring Enrollment Holds

Sign-up sheets are available in the Advising Office for pre-registration meetings (**Enrollment starts Oct 28**). These meetings include removing your "Advising Hold" for Spring Term 2014 self-enrollment; we will talk about your spring schedule, and can discuss your academic and career plans.

Don't delay, even if you have other holds... the Advising Hold can be removed independent of them.

BRING YOUR BLUE ADVISING FOLDER to your appointment!!!

PLEASE! Be mindful when selecting a time, to prevent having to scratch out your name later. A last-minute appointment change deprives other students of that time-slot.

Remember that we also take walk-ins for quick questions. Drop by if we can help you with something!

#### 2. New BIOSC Courses Spring 2014

BIOSC 1906 Research Deconstruction: \*An in depth look into how scientific research is done - where research is done, who does it, how questions are developed, how approaches and techniques are chosen, and how data is analyzed and presented.

BIOSC 0200 Teaching Biological Sciences: \* Explore strategies for effective teaching and learning, and refine your own understanding of biology through efforts to become a better science communicator. Has both seminar and project components.

*\*These DO NOT count as electives towards a BIOSC major.*

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### **3. Graduating in April 2014? You must APPLY!**

GO TO 140 Thackeray to pick up, and return, your Application for Graduation  
DO IT between Oct 28 & Nov 8...it's easy (3 pages) and its FREE.

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### **4. Looking for clinical research experience? Considering research or graduate school? - Nov 1, 3pm, Langley A221**

The Biological Sciences Advising Dept. is sponsoring a presentation by former Pitt student and current Univ. of Utah graduate student, Shelly Sorrell. Shelly works at the Huntsman Cancer Institute as a trainee on the NIH-T32-funded Genetics Training Grant. Shelly will give an informative seminar on graduate school, the Molecular Biology and Biological Chemistry PhD programs, the HHMI-University of Utah Med into Grad Program, The U Summer Undergraduate Research Program, and share some amazing activities Utah has to offer, including skiing, biking, hiking, and rock climbing. Students will be encouraged to ask questions throughout the talk.

Sponsored by the Biological Sciences Academic Advisors.

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### **5. Carrer Presentation: Public Health - Nov 8, 3pm, Langley A221**

Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health staff, post docs, and graduate students will discuss information about the admissions process and conducting graduate research in their various programs. Please attend to ask questions about all the GSPH programs and find out what the pre-requisites, curriculum requirements, and expectations are for students in the public health dept. and the profession.

Sponsored by the Biological Sciences Academic Advisors.

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### **6. Carrer Presentation: Physician Assistant - Nov 15, 3pm, Langley A224**

Emily Murphy, from Pitt's Physician Assistant Program, will discuss details about the PA program, admissions requirements, curriculum information, and answer any questions about preparing for a career in PA school.

Sponsored by the Biological Sciences Academic Advisors.

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### **7. Undergraduate Volunteer Opp - Genetic studies in clinical pain populations**

Research projects include:

(1) assessment of clinical pain and psychosocial traits in post mastectomy patients; (2) quantitative sensory testing (QST) and evaluation of labor-related pain and mood; (3) DNA extraction from human bio specimen and genotyping of pain candidate genes; (4) association analysis of candidate genes with pain phenotypes.

Techniques to learn:

pain phenotyping using validated surveys and interviewing over the phone; QST procedures; data entry, management and analysis; DNA isolation, TaqMan genotyping.

More info: contact Jodi Martin, [sausjl@upmc.edu](mailto:sausjl@upmc.edu)

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### **8. Undergraduate Volunteer Opp - Clinical Research on detecting fetal diseases**

Our lab is involved in developing non-invasive methods for detecting fetal genetic disease in early pregnancy. We are looking at the translational impact of clinical DNA sequencing in the provision of obstetrical care.

Students must be able to interact with prospective study participants (pregnant women) and be able to explain, in general terms, the scientific basis and clinical objectives of our research. Volunteers should be willing to contribute a minimum of 6 hours per week during clinical office hours. Some experience of human genetics/genomics and/or an interest in clinical research is preferred. Interest in developing a long-term association with our research group is preferred. Training will be provided.

More info: contact David G Peters, [dpg6@pitt.edu](mailto:dpg6@pitt.edu),  
[www.mwrif.org/directory/view/30](http://www.mwrif.org/directory/view/30)

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**ECOLOGY CLUB - Alternate Mondays 6:30pm, Langley A221**

11/4, 11/18, 12/2  
[pittecologyclub@gmail.com](mailto:pittecologyclub@gmail.com)

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**BIOLOGY CLUB - Alternate Tuesdays, 8:00pm, Langley A224**

10/29, 11/12, 11/26, 12/10

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**TRI-BETA - Alternate Tuesdays, 8:00pm, Langley A224**

11/5, 11/19, 12/3  
[www.facebook.com/groups/tribetapitt](http://www.facebook.com/groups/tribetapitt)

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**OPTOMETRY CLUB - Sundays, WPU**

[pittoptclub@gmail.com](mailto:pittoptclub@gmail.com)

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**PITT OUTDOORS CLUB - Tuesdays, 9:00pm, WPU porch**

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**PRE-VET CLUB - Alternate Mondays, 8:00pm, Langley A219B**

10/28, 11/11, 11/25, 12/9  
[pittprevet@gmail.com](mailto:pittprevet@gmail.com)

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**BIRDING & ORNITHOLOGY CLUB**

**Special Event: Hawk Watch - Nov 3**

Opportunity to visit Allegheny Front Hawk Watch and see migrating hawks and golden eagles. Meet at 8am in front of Clapp Hall, will return around 2:30pm. Binoculars are provided, and please dress warmly - you'll be on top of a mountain!

RSVP by email.

[PittBirdingClub@gmail.com](mailto:PittBirdingClub@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/302359673107538/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/302359673107538/)

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**POMS - Fridays, 5:30pm, WPU 837**

Premedical Organization for Minority Students  
[www.poms.us](http://www.poms.us)

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**Until next week,**

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