Bio Advising Newsletter – 2/19/2019

OVERVIEW (See below for details)

ADVISING
1. Fall Enrollment Advising Meetings
2. Fall Enrollment Times Viewable in Student Center
3. Monitored Withdrawal – deadline Mar 8
4. Final Exam Conflict Accommodation – deadline Mar 13
5. Walk-In Resume/CV Feedback with Ellen

BIO PEER ADVISING
7. Peer Advisor Add/Drop Office Hours

BIO DEPT
8. Undergrad Research Poster Session – Feb 22
9. Summer REU at Pymatuning – deadline Feb 22
10. PLE Field Assistant Job – deadline Mar 29

SENIORS
11. Hands of Hope Gap Year Internship
12. Donor Milk Program Associate Job

CHECK IT OUT
13. Camacho Lab Research Opportunity
14. McDyer Lab Research Opportunity
15. Tri Beta Club Meeting – Feb 21
17. AMSA Research Recruitment Fair – Mar 29

SCHOLARSHIPS ($$$)
18. Truman Scholarship Info Session – Feb 25
19. Udall Scholarship – deadline Mar 1
20. Frederick Scholarship – deadline Mar 8

HEALTH PROFESSIONS
22. Virtual Med Career Fair – Feb 21
23. Pitt Pre-Health Summit – Feb 23
24. Vet Med Career Fair – Mar 10

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES
25. Camp PALS Volunteer
26. Loyola Univ Baltimore Health Immersion – deadline Feb 25
27. Case Western Heart, Lung and Blood Program – deadline Mar 1
28. Pitt Brackenridge Research Fellowship – deadline Mar 4
29. iGEM Research Competition – deadline Mar 8
1. Fall Enrollment Advising Meetings

Appointments to have your hold lifted for Fall classes are under way! Grab an appointment with an advisor before the March madness! (We are still removing summer holds if you plan on taking summer classes at Pitt).

Appointment sheets for Christine, Dan, Ellen, Jessica, and Kevin are out in A258 Langley.

- Fall enrollment begins March 25

BRING YOUR BLUE ADVISING FOLDER AND UPDATED PLAN TO YOUR MEETING.

2. Fall Enrollment Times Viewable in Student Center

Your Fall Enrollment day and time is now viewable in your Student Center.

More info: https://askcathy.pitt.edu/task/all/view-change-my-enrollment-appointment

3. Monitored Withdrawal – deadline Mar 8

March 8 is the deadline for students to withdraw from an undergraduate course in the Dietrich School without penalty or credit. This will show up as a “W” on your transcript.

Complete the form in 140 Thackeray.

Have questions about withdrawing from a class? Reach out to an advisor.

4. Final Exam Conflict Accommodation – deadline Mar 13

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.

If you are not able to work out an alternate time with your instructor, fill out the Final Exam Conflict Accommodation Form, and return it to G-2 Thackeray Hall by the monitored withdrawal date Wednesday, March 13, 2019.

More info & final exam schedule: https://www.registrar.pitt.edu/assets/pdf/2194_EXAMS.pdf

5. 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 from 9-10am
- Fridays from 12-1pm


This week, Isabella shares her experience as an undergrad researcher working with zebrafish DNA!
Blog link: https://pittbioblog.weebly.com/blog/an-inside-view-of-undergraduate-research

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7. Peer Advisors Regular Office Hours

First day of Fall enrollment is March 25th! Meet with our peer advisors if you have questions or need help planning before your advising appointment.

Peer Advisors will be holding regular office hours:
- Colton & Yogi: Monday 10am-11am (Langley A230)
- Nora & Parker: Monday 2pm-3pm (Langley A230)
- Lisa & Kristen: Tuesday 4pm-5pm (Langley A230)
- Sofie & Julia: Wednesday 9:30am-10:30am (Clapp Lobby)
- Isabella & Owen: Friday 3pm-4pm (Langley A230)

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8. Undergrad Research Poster Session – Feb 22, 4-5:30pm, Langley Lobby

Learn about biology and neuroscience research going around on campus. Meet students currently doing research. Network with faculty!

Add to your Facebook calendar: http://bit.ly/2MmEpj0

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9. Summer REU at Pymatuning – deadline Feb 22

The Richards-Zawacki lab at the University of Pittsburgh invites undergraduate applicants for a 10-week summer research experience at the Pymatuning Lab of Ecology in northwestern Pennsylvania (http://www.biology.pitt.edu/facilities/pymatuning). This position is part of the National Science Foundation’s Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program. Ongoing work in the Richards-Zawacki lab aims to clarify the relationship between climate and the dynamics of chytridiomycosis, a fungal disease that threatens amphibian populations on several continents. The successful applicant will work collaboratively with other members of the Richards-Zawacki lab to survey local amphibians for Batrachochytrium fungi, the pathogens that cause chytridiomycosis, and also design and carry out an independent project related to amphibian ecology. Room and board at the Pymatuning Lab of Ecology will be provided, along with transportation to and from the field station and a stipend of $500/week.

The position is open to undergraduate students who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States or its possessions and are enrolled in a degree program (part-time or full-time) leading to a baccalaureate or associate degree. To be eligible, the applicant must not have completed their degree prior to the start of the REU experience.

To apply, please send a one page personal statement (about your scientific interests and how this REU will support your professional goals), your resume or cv, unofficial transcripts, and the names of two professional references (including title, address, phone number and email address) to Dr. Cori Richards-Zawacki (cori.zawacki@pitt.edu). Applications are due February 22, 2019.

Please direct any questions you may have about the program to Dr. Richards-Zawacki (cori.zawacki@pitt.edu).

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10. PLE Field Assistant Job – deadline Mar 29

Hiring an undergraduate student to work as a field assistant at the Pymatuning Lab of Ecology for approximately 8 weeks over the summer (May - June, start and end dates flexible). Housing and a stipend will be provided, however the student must be able to facilitate their own transportation.

Dr. Kuebbing's lab has a research focus in plant invasion ecology. This assistantship will involve monitoring observational plots and a plant competition experiment, as well as collecting data for an online research project. No previous experience is necessary - just an enjoyment of the outdoors and a good work ethic! This is a great opportunity to gain research experience, with the option of continuing research in the fall.
Email a short cover letter to rar163@pitt.edu by March 29th.

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11. Hands of Hope Gap Year Internship

Hands of Hope is Casa de Esperanza’s internship program which recruits recent college graduates and other highly qualified young adults, from throughout the United States. These interns have a desire to help abused, neglected and HIV positive children through work with our agency.

This program brings together approximately 25 young adults annually to live and work with some of our society’s most vulnerable children. The Residential Program is the backbone of Casa de Esperanza, and at its core are the Hands of Hope Interns. Hands of Hope Interns commit one year to live and work with these vulnerable children in the Residential Program’s agency foster homes. Responsibilities include daily care of the children, household management, and the coordination of medical appointments and therapy sessions. The Hands of Hope Interns also work with caseworkers, psychological staff and community volunteers on a routine basis to ensure that the children in placement receive the highest quality of care.

More info & apply: https://www.casahope.org/application-part-one

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12. Donor Milk Program Associate Job

Please contact bioadv@pitt.edu for the full job flyer.

Mid-Atlantic Mothers’ Milk Bank is a non-profit organization that tests, bottles, and pasteurizes human milk from carefully screened volunteer donors. Donor milk is distributed by hospital order or prescription only and is predominantly used by neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) for medically fragile infants such as those born prematurely or with specific congenital or acquired conditions. Mid-Atlantic Mothers’ Milk Bank is accredited by and strictly follows the guidelines of The Human Milk Banking Association of North America (HMBANA).

Position Summary:
Reporting to the Operations Director and the Executive Director, the Donor Milk Program Associate performs all tasks pertaining to donor milk intake, processing, and order fulfillment. Other operational tasks, such as maintaining milk bank statistics, supporting Donor Screeners and the Executive Director with Donor Milk Program projects, and implementing new Milk Bank initiatives.

Address: 3127 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15201, free parking
Hours: Full Time 8am- 4pm, M-F
Approximate Start Date: May 6, 2019
Pay Range: $18.00 to $21.00/hr

Email resume and cover letter to Denise O’Connor at doconnor@midatlanticmilkbank.org

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13. Camacho Lab Research Opportunity

The Camacho Lab is searching for an undergraduate researcher with expertise in Java, HTML and php to help set up some novel research tools. Dr. Camacho is recognized internationally for developing innovative computational tools for predicting protein-protein and protein-small molecule interactions. He conceived the field of interactive drug discovery by developing open access web servers that now allow researchers to screen millions of compounds in seconds.

The position is ideally for credit. If you are already highly qualified, it may be paid. This work should lead to quick publications, while gaining an insight track on a field of high demand. Starting date as soon as possible. If interested, contact:

Carlos J. Camacho, Ph.D.
ccamacho@pitt.edu
Department of Computational and Systems Biology
University of Pittsburgh
14. McDyer Lab Research Opportunity

The McDyer lab in the division of Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care Medicine (PACCM) at Pitt, in the Starzl Transplant Institute, is looking for undergraduate researchers interested in the field of immunology, molecular, and/or microbiology.

The lab focuses on both a human and a mouse lung transplant model to study the immunobiology of lung tissue rejection. A variety of techniques are used to determine the immunological factors involved in lung rejection, including: RNA sequencing, genomics, ELISA, western blot, immunohistochemistry, flow cytometry, microscopy, and molecular pathology.

More information on the McDyer lab is available here: http://www.stiresearch.health.pitt.edu/node/323
More information on PACCM is available here: https://dom.pitt.edu/paccm/

A strong candidate would have an interest in gaining valuable laboratory skills to expand their knowledge of science outside of the classroom or to prepare for a future career in science or medicine. The position will be for credit and the starting date can be as soon as possible.

If interested, contact: Mark Brown, mjb86@pitt.edu

15. Tri Beta Club Meeting – Feb 21, 7pm, WPU 527

Pitt Tri Beta’s next meeting will be this Thursday evening in the William Pitt Union!

16. Pitt Challenge Hackathon – Mar 1-2, WPU Assembly Room

A hackathon sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy and the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI).

Everyone – pharmacy students, med students engineers, designers, developers and more – welcome to help solve some of the biggest challenges facing healthcare today.

More info & register: https://pittchallenge.com/

17. AMSA Research Recruitment Fair – Mar 29, 4-6pm, O’Hara Student Center

On Friday March 29, Pitt AMSA (American Medical Student Association) will be hosting a research recruitment fair in the O’Hara Student Center! All of the labs in attendance are actively looking to recruit undergraduates to work on their projects.

More info: http://www.pittamsa.org/research.html

18. Truman Scholarship Info Session – Feb 25, 3-5pm, Cathedral 37th Floor

The prestigious Truman Scholarship covers up to $30,000 for 2-3 years of graduate school for young leaders who want to work in public service.

If you have have a strong record of outstanding service, leadership, academic potential, learn more about this opportunity — and Pitt's resources to help you craft a more competitive application. (Pitt officially nominates candidates for this award.)

19. Udall Scholarship – deadline Mar 1

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.


20. Frederick Scholarship – deadline Mar 8

The David C. Frederick Scholarship provides $10,000 in tuition support to three full-time undergraduate students. Students apply as sophomores and the support is for the junior year with the possibility of extension into the senior year. This scholarship was created specifically for high-achieving students (3.50 cumulative GPA or above) who currently work at a part-time or full-time job in order to pay for their education. It is intended to allow students to significantly reduce the number of hours worked during the academic year so that they may devote more time to other academic pursuits, such as additional courses, research opportunities, study abroad, or community engagement.


Pitt's School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences has a virtual open house! Watch webinars and connect with faculty and current students on the variety of health programs offered.

More info: https://pitt.vfairs.com/

22. Virtual Med Career Fair – Feb 21

Register to attend the AAMC Virtual Medical School Fair, February 21, 2019, and connect with representatives from over 65 medical schools, application services, pre-health advisors and more. Attendance is FREE.

View medical schools who will be chatting at the fair.

More info & register: https://aamc.6connex.com/event/medschoolfair/2019/login

23. Pitt Pre-Health Summit – Feb 23, 8:30am-4pm, WPU

The Pitt Coalition of Pre-Health Students is hosting its third annual Pre-Health Summit, an event that emphasizes interprofessionalism and collaboration in all healthcare sectors. Summit is an amazing opportunity for networking, conferencing, and learning more about the interconnected pre-health community, in Pittsburgh.

More info & register: www.tinyurl.com/2019CPHSSummit


Save the date for the AAVMS's Annual Veterinary Medical Career Fair & Information Sessions. This free event is for any undergraduate student with an interest in the veterinary medical profession.


25. Camp PALS Volunteer
PALS Program is a nonprofit organization that provides one-week long summer camp opportunities for teens and young adults with Down syndrome and their peers at 14 college campuses across the country. PALS is currently accepting volunteer applications for Summer 2019 programs.

PALS Programs offers immersive one-week long summer camps for teens and young adults with Down syndrome and their peers. Volunteer counselors are paired one-to-one with a roommate who has Down syndrome for a week of incredible activities and trips. Trips have included a day at the beach, yacht cruises, amusement parks, and more!

More info & apply: https://www.palsprograms.org/applyforsummer

26. Loyola Univ Baltimore Health Immersion – deadline Feb 25

Baltimore Health Immersion is a five-week intensive summer program designed to cultivate capacities and skills integral to students’ development as culturally competent health professionals in the twenty-first century. Students completing the program earn 6 credits.

Integrated coursework, service-learning in a multicultural and socially diverse urban health care setting, and co-curricular activities challenge students to learn, lead, and serve in our diverse and changing world.

More info & apply: https://www.loyola.edu/academics/pre-health/baltimore-health-immersion

27. Case Western Heart, Lung and Blood Program – deadline Mar 1

The Heart, Lung and Blood Summer Research Program is designed to engage 12 diverse undergraduates in state-of-the-art biomedical research in cardiovascular, pulmonary, hematological and sleep disorders research. Students who belong to groups underrepresented in biomedical sciences are eligible to apply.


28. Pitt Brackenridge Research Fellowship – deadline Mar 4

The Brackenridge (BE) fellowships support full-time undergraduate students on the Oakland campus while they devote full-effort to conducting an independent research or creative project under the guidance of a faculty or graduate student mentor. These Fellowships are open to undergraduates from any field.

Brackenridge Fellows receive a stipend of $4,000 for the summer (mid-May through early August) to assure that they can devote themselves full-time to their projects and the associated responsibilities without having to support themselves by means of a summer job. Fellows may not take a summer course or hold a summer job.

More info & apply: https://honors.pitt.edu/BE

29. iGEM Research Competition – deadline Mar 8

The International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) competition is a research competition in which over 300 teams of undergraduate students from around the world further the field of synthetic biology and present their research at the annual Giant Jamboree in Boston. For the iGEM competition, multidisciplinary teams of students have the opportunity to build and test a system of their own design based on biological “parts”. Projects allow students to tackle open societal issues and research questions utilizing principles in synthetic biology. The students develop and implement their own research ideas, but are closely advised by a group of expert faculty mentors. Examples of projects from 2018 can be found here: http://2018.igem.org/Competition/Results

The Pitt iGEM team is looking for creative, motivated students to join the 2019 competition. Students will spend 12 weeks in the summer performing paid, full-time research at Pitt and attend the Giant Jamboree competition from October 31 - November 4, 2019.

Through iGEM, a team of students will be able to:
- Design a research project
- Research their topic
- Carry out wet lab experiments and computational modeling
- Participate in community outreach
- Create/design a Wikipage
- Present research at the Giant Jamboree in Boston

Application link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc9YgMe8zBRWN_l2fTxEwLvisR9PzHMb9IIG7-CJGLr4OQdA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Visit the Pitt iGEM page for more information:
https://www.facebook.com/pittigem/

If you have any questions:
Email Vivian vih15@pitt.edu or message Pitt iGEM on FB

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30. UMass SURP – deadline Mar 15

The University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS) Summer Undergraduate Research Program is a non-credit, ten-week, structured research experience sponsored by UMMS Office of Outreach Programs. The program consists of "hands-on" laboratory research with an investigator serving as a mentor, role model and advisor.

The Summer Undergraduate Research Program is funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH) and UMMS Provost's Office Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE).

More info & apply: https://www.umassmed.edu/gsbs/outreach-programs/summer-undergraduate-research-program/

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Until next week,

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Ellen Kelsey
Jessica Wandelt
Dan Wetzel
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