

Biology Advising Newsletter 8/29/2012

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CLUBS & GET INVOLVED

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****INTERVIEWING TIP OF THE WEEK****

Practice makes almost perfect.

The more interviewing experience you have, the better you're likely to do on an interview. As with anything in life, the more we do something, the better we become at it. Think back on some of your first interviews, and realize how far you've come. This is one of the big advantages of being older and wiser.

(Tips by Carol Stanton, CGS Career Counselor)

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

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 1. Advising Walk-Ins

The advisors are taking walk-ins to serve students with time-sensitive questions, scheduling issues, and permissions. Drop by if we can help you with something!

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 2. PeopleSoft Swap Function

Do you know about the swap function in PeopleSoft? This nifty function prevents you from losing out on the class you are currently enrolled in as you try to nab a seat in another class.

An instruction guide (with pictures!) can be found by:

- a) Log into my.pitt.edu
- b) DON'T log into PeopleSoft! Instead, click on "Learn More" underneath the "PeopleSoft Login" link.
- c) On the right hand side, at the very bottom, select the tutorial: "Swap a Class.pdf"

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 3. Restricted/closed courses: see the department offering them.

To get permission for a class, you must work with the department offering the course. You might start with the professor, but then someone in THAT department must create the Permission

Number.

Bio Advising makes Permissions for BIOSC courses only. We may be able to help you figure out why something else is restricted or who to contact, but we can't make a Permission Number if it's not BIOSC. You can identify the course restrictions yourself by selecting the course section number in a "PeopleSoft Class Search".

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4. UTA, Research & Intern Forms for credits

Are you doing research or TAing for credit this semester? The enrollment forms need to be turned into an advisor by September 7th. But you can turn them in anytime before the deadline as well!

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5. Southern College of Optometry Career Presentation - Sept 5, 5pm, Crawford 241

Sunnie Ewing, Director of Student Recruitment, will provide information on the optometry program's requirements, explain the application process, and describe what makes an applicant competitive. Hosted by the Biological Sciences Advisors.

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6. Global Brigades, Medical and Water - Sept 3, 9pm, CL 232

The world's largest student-run, sustainable development organization wants to empower YOU, an undergrad, to join the movement and get first-hand experience in Medical and Water initiatives in rural Honduras. Semester meetings will focus on education and awareness about the challenges of implementing solutions for holistic development in various countries such as Honduras, Panama, and Ghana.

First Info Session: Monday Sept 3rd, 9 pm, Cathedral 232

www.pitt.edu/~sorc/gmb, www.globalbrigades.org

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7. Pre-Medical Organization for Minority Students (POMS) - Aug 31, 5:30pm, Nordy's Place (WPU)

1st POMS meeting of the year! Come out to Nordy's Place this Friday to learn more about what POMS does, meet your Executive Board and get to know other POMS members. We will have games, FREE pizza and snacks. If you are new and met us at the activities fair or if you remember POMS from last year you know we are full of ENERGY and like to have fun!

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8. Pitt Science 2012 - Undergraduate Poster Abstracts due Sept 14

Submit an abstract to present your research at Science2012, the University of Pittsburgh's 11th annual celebration of science and technology

Science2012-Translation
<http://www.science2012.pitt.edu/posters.html>
Undergraduate Research Poster Reception
5:00 pm, Thursday, October 4th
Connolly Ballroom, Alumni Hall

Research done either on campus with a University of Pittsburgh mentor or off-campus at another institution is appropriate.

About your ABSTRACT:

Submit through the Science2012 Web site by September 14. Abstracts will be reviewed, and presenters notified via e-mail by 21 September if accepted for presentation at the Undergraduate Research Poster Reception. Please e-mail Dr. Lisa Miller (ugr@pitt.edu) for answers to questions about this poster session.

All interested undergraduate students are encouraged to register for Science2012 and attend plenary lectures, spotlight sessions, and special satellite sessions. Visit the Web site for a

complete schedule of events. <http://www.science2012.pitt.edu/>

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9. Browne Leadership Fellows Program – Application due Sept 17

A great opportunity offered through the School of Social Work, open to all majors! Must be freshmen, sophomore or rising juniors. The program is an interdisciplinary fellowship aimed at preparing students to be engaged civic leaders working for economic and social justice. It runs two Terms (Spring & Summer) Students receive 1 credit for the Spring semester and a generous stipend of \$3,000 for the Summer semester (12 weeks).
<http://www.socialwork.pitt.edu/academic-programs/basw/browne-leadership.php>

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10. PSGC Research Scholarship - Application due Sept 7

The Department of Physics and Astronomy has funding from the Pennsylvania Space Grant Consortium for fall semester undergraduate research projects. Preference will be given to research that is directly related to astronomy or space physics, but any STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) topics will be considered. 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. Award is \$1500.

Requirements: work with a faculty mentor for 10 hours/ week for 15 weeks; present findings in a public forum.

Application Materials: A research plan (incl. name, dept, email), letter of recommendation from faculty mentor, and transcript (official or unofficial).

Deadline: May 4

<http://pa.spacegrant.org/>

For application steps and submission of application materials, contact Dr. Russell Clark (ruc2@pitt.edu, 412-624-9204).

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11. Work Study Position in Langley Teaching Labs

Beginning training opportunity for students interested in further research in non-teaching labs and an opportunity to experience new techniques, responsibilities, and faculty interaction. This position will provide student with the necessary skills and confidence to work in a modern molecular biology research lab. This is also a great job even if you do not have those ambitions, but know how to work.

RESPONSIBILITIES: 1) Support lab courses in our program, which include up-to-date content & techniques 2) Maintain lab-ware & glassware, 3) Make solutions, reagents, & growth media, 4) Keep the lab orderly & clean, 5) Maintain databases, equipment 6) carry out experiments

EXPERIENCE PREFERRED: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Engineering, or Math majors - sophomores and higher.

PAY: 7.65/hr and up, if good.

CONTACT: Vern Twombly twombly@pitt.edu

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12. Undergraduate TA Position for Intro Biology Lab (BIOSC 0190)

Looking for an UTA for both cell and molecular biology prep and teaching. The course meets Wednesdays 9-noon. There is prep before and usually clean up after.

Contact: Dr. Nancy Kaufmann <nkaufman@pitt.edu>, or Dr. Beth Roman <romanb@pitt.edu>

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13. Research Positions for Credit

A) Opening for independent study students (10+ hours/week for 2 credits) in fall and spring. Project is studying the structural, chemical and mechanical analyses of bivalve shells exposed

to different levels of carbon dioxide in sea water.

If interested, contact:

Elia Beniash, PhD
Departments of Oral Biology and Bioengineering
University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine
Swanson School of Engineering
McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine
412 648 0108
ebenias@pitt.edu

B) Opening for independent study student (~5 hrs/wk) in the fall semester and possibly continue in the spring. The project is focused on regulation of Zn homeostasis, which is relevant to Alzheimer's disease and stroke. Our goal is to create a mathematical model of changes in cytoplasmic Zn, which we will test using physiological techniques. We know all the components of this model and only need someone to write a few equations.

The student should be comfortable with differential equations and with basics of mathematical modeling. Full credit will be given in a publication.

If interested, contact:

Kirill Kiselyov
Departments of Biological Sciences
412 624 4317
kiselyov@pitt.edu

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Until next week,

Jaime Warren | 412-624-4273, jlw146@pitt.edu
Ellen Kelsey | 412-624-0421, Kelsey@pitt.edu
Christine Berliner | 412-624-4819, christin@pitt.edu
Advisors, Biological Sciences
A 258 Langley Hall
University of Pittsburgh