

Biology Advising Newsletter 9/18/2012

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- 2. Majors and Minors Expo - Help your Advisors!
- 3. Grade Option Deadline Sept 21 - THIS FRIDAY
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- 5. Bioinformatics Major Information Session - Sept 28

CLUBS & GET INVOLVED

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- 17. University of Pittsburgh Fall 2012 Career Fair - Sept 25
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PAID OPPORTUNITIES \$\$\$

- 19. Work Study Lab Assistant
- 20. Biochemistry Tutor Wanted
- 21. Asthma Study

CHECK IT OUT

- 22. Medical History Society Lecture - Sept 18
- 23. Biology-Related Study Abroad Presentation: Organization for Tropical Studies - Oct 15
- 24. ARC Science Writing Workshop - Sept 27 & Oct 4
- 25. \$tart \$mart Salary Negotiation Workshop for Women in STEM - Sept 23
- 26. Bi-Weekly General Info Sessions for National Scholarships
- 27. UHC Lecture: Energy, Water, Climate & CO2 Storage - Sept 21, 2pm, CL 3500

LAST-MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENT

- 28. Steps to prepare for the Health Professions Committee - Sept 19, 5:30pm, Alumni 7th FL Auditorium

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

Use concrete examples.

Be ready to talk about your skills and have examples from past jobs that you can give to illustrate those skills. More mature job candidates usually have a variety of experiences to choose from, so be specific.

(Tips by Carol Stanton, CGS Career Counselor)

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

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 1. Advising & Pre-Registration Meetings

Sign-up sheets are available in the Advising Office for pre-registration meetings (Enrollment starts Oct 29).

These meetings include removing your "Advising Hold" for Spring Term 2012 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.

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!

IF YOU MISS YOUR APPOINTMENT you will need to re-schedule for AFTER October 29th.

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2. Majors and Minors Expo - Volunteers Needed

We are looking for students able to spend 30 to 60 minutes at the Biological Sciences table at the Majors and Minors Expo to promote our majors on October 10 from 11am-3pm in William Pitt Union. If you can help out, contact Jaime Warren jlw146@pitt.edu

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3. Grade Option Deadline Sept 21 - THIS FRIDAY

S/NC Grade option (AKA "pass/fail"): Under this option, a student who does "Satisfactory" work (equivalent of C or better) in a course receives an "S" grade. If the student's work is not satisfactory (equivalent of C- or lower), the grade NC (for No Credit) is given.

Courses with S grades are counted toward the 120 credits needed for a Bachelor degree, but are not computed in the GPA. Courses with NC grades are not counted toward graduation credits because the NC designates that no credit was earned. Only one BIOSC class for your major may be taken S/NC. You may select S/NC for as many of your non-BIOSC courses as you wish, including sciences for the major, general education courses, or free electives. Double-check however, for minor or certificate courses.

To take a class with the S/NC grade option, a student must complete a "Grade Option/Audit Request" form in the A&S Undergraduate Dean's office, 140 Thackeray Hall, by 5:00pm September 21st.

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4. Final Exams, Resolving Schedule Conflicts - deadline October 19

If you have THREE FINALS on the SAME DAY (or 24 hour period), you should work with your professors to see if one can accommodate you.

- Complete an Exam Conflict Accommodation Form, on which The Registrar confirms that you have 3 finals on the same day (link below).
-- Take this form to your professors to see if any one can accommodate you.
-- If no professor will move your exam, then the Registrar will select which exam is to be moved.

*** If you need the Registrar's help, you must have completed the form and contacted all your professors first! ***

Although October 19 may seem close, it's not much time to talk to everyone and determine if you need help from the Registrar.

www.registrar.pitt.edu/final_examination_schedules.html

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5. Bioinformatics Major Information Session - Sept 28, 11am, 5317 Sennott Square

Informational meeting for students interested in, AND all declared Bioinformatics majors. There will be a brief overview of the field of Bioinformatics, some current undergraduate research options, and the degree requirements at Pitt.

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6. Ecology Club - Sep 18, 7:30, Langley A224

All meetings are on Tuesdays at 7:30pm in Langley A224
10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13, 11/27, 12/4

pittecolgyclub@gmail.com

7. Biology Club First Meeting - Sept 18, 8:30pm, Langley A214

All meetings are on Tuesdays at 8:30pm in Langley A214
10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13, 11/27

8. Pitt Dental Club - Oct 2, 9pm, CL

The Pitt Dental Science club aims to provide pre-dental students with a comprehensive look into the field of dentistry through guest speakers, dental labs at the Pitt School of Dental Medicine, mentoring program with dental students, as well as help with volunteering, DAT, and research.

Contact pittdentclub@gmail.com and join the Facebook group at Pitt Dental Science Club for up to date information.

All meetings are on Tuesdays at 9pm in the Cathedral
10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13, 11/27

9. Birding Club Field Trip to Schenley Park - Sep 30, 9:30am

The second birding outing of the year will be to Schenley Park on Sunday, September 30th. Barring rain, we'll meet under the tent at Schenley Plaza at 9:00AM and then head out over the bridge into Schenley Park. This is a good minimal-effort trip which can be pretty fun, especially if you've never been to the park before. Some of the birds seen in the park are gray catbirds, cedar waxwings, common grackles, and lots of robins. Binoculars provided. The whole trip shouldn't last more than two hours.

Questions: pittbirdingclub@gmail.com

10. Tribeta National Biological Honor Society - Sept 25, 8pm, Langley 224

All meetings are on Tuesdays at 8pm in Langley 224.
9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20, 12/4

11. AED General Body Meeting - Sept 20, 8:30pm, CL 232

Alpha Epsilon Delta (Pitt's only pre-health honor society) welcomes you to the first meeting on Thursday, September 20th at 8:30pm in Room 232 of the Cathedral. We only have one general body meeting each semester, so make your best effort to be there.

Questions: aed.pitt.1926@gmail.com

12. Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force Student Ambassadors - now recruiting

The PATF Student Ambassadors of Pitt is a group of Pitt student volunteers for the Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force, located in East Liberty. The burgeoning organization is looking for dedicated and interested Pitt students who would like to actively work to prevent HIV transmission in the Pittsburgh community. Work includes passing out HIV transmission information, safe-sex kits, attending PATF training and events, and more - either on or off Pitt's campus. Members have the opportunity to network with HIV prevention professionals, network with other students interested in Public Health, work to prevent the spread of one of the world's most widespread diseases, and will be a founding member of the student organization.

Contact Topher Hoffmann at csh18@pitt.edu with questions, or to apply for the position.

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13. Career Presentation: New York Chiropractic College - Sept 25, 5pm, Langley A219B

Brian Becker, Sr. Admissions Counselor of New York Chiropractic College, will present an overview of their graduate programs and answer student questions. Programs include: Doctor of Chiropractic Education, Applied Clinical Nutrition, Human Anatomy and Physiology Instruction, Clinical Anatomy, and Diagnostic Imaging.

www.nycc.edu

Hosted by the Biological Sciences Advisors.

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14. Career Presentation: American University of Antigua Medical School - Oct 22, 5pm, Langley A224

Thomas Morrow, Associate Director of Admissions for American University of Antigua (AUA), will give a talk about AUA's Medical School admissions process, program qualifications, and academic opportunities.

www.auamed.org

Hosted by the Biological Sciences Advisors.

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15. Pre-Health Advising with Angela Illig & Andrea Abt

*** All Health Professions Students ***

Take advantage of the new programs for pre-health advising: Wednesday Walk in Hours & Quick Question Sessions. Quick questions are 10 minutes or less. No resume or personal statement reviews in these sessions.

Fall 2012 Wednesday Walk in Hours: noon-1pm CL 3609 / 1pm-2pm CL3606

Quick Questions most Tuesdays 11am-noon, CL Commons Room

Quick Questions most Thursdays 10am-11am, Langley 208

Download the Schedule: www.honorscollege.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/documents/health-professions-advising/quick-questions-schedule.pdf

*** Freshmen and Transfer Students ***

It is mandatory for every freshman and transfer student to attend a series of 4 overview sessions during fall or spring terms before scheduling an individual appointment with the health advisors.

Download the Schedule: www.honorscollege.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/documents/health-professions-advising/freshman-transfer-schedule.pdf

*** 2013 Committee Applicants ***

Juniors and seniors who plan to apply to the Health Professions Committee during the 2013 cycle will need to attend the mandatory resume and personal statement sessions before meeting with a health advisor to review a personal statement or resume.

Download the Schedule: www.honorscollege.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/documents/health-professions-advising/resume-statement-schedule.pdf

*** Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors ***

If you need advice that falls outside of resume/personal statement preparation, schedule an appointment using the UHC Online Appointment Scheduler at www.appointmentquest.com/scheduler/2160041238/login

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16. Free GRE, GMAT, MCAT Tests - Oct 13

The Princeton Review is offering free practice tests for the GRE, GMAT, and MCAT in October.

Free LSAT Practice Test - October 13, 9am-12:30pm, Carnegie Mellon University

Free GRE Practice Test - October 13, 1pm-3:30pm, Carnegie Mellon University

Free MCAT Practice Test - October 13, 9am-12:30pm, Carnegie Mellon University

Reserve a seat: www.princetonreview.com/testfest/

17. University of Pittsburgh Fall 2012 Career Fair - Sept 25, 11am-4pm, Peterson Events Center

The largest career fair of the year will feature over 200 national, regional, and local employers from a diverse range of industries. Employers seek students for full-time, part-time, and internship opportunities. Students are encouraged to dress professionally and bring copies of their resume.

18. Graduate & Law School Fair - Sept 27, 10am - 1pm, William Pitt Union

Over 45 graduate and law schools will be represented to discuss continuing education opportunities at their respective institutions.

19. Work Study Lab Assistant

Tarun Lab in the Infectious Diseases and Microbiology of the Graduate School of Public Health is conducting research on the genomics of malaria parasites. Looking for a motivated and organized student to assist researchers in conducting routine experiments and be responsible for over-all lab maintenance, ordering, and reagent preparation. Must have taken some chemistry or biology classes and have interest in biology research. \$7.65/hour

Contact: Alice Tarun, ast22@pitt.edu

20. Biochemistry Tutor Wanted

Undergraduate looking for someone who has successfully taken biochemistry and feels confident enough to provide assistance in learning. Must be available Tues or Thurs evenings, Friday afternoon, or sometime on Sundays. Willing to pay a very fair price for the tutor, that detail will be worked out upon contact. Email: epw6@pitt.edu

21. Asthma Study

Got ASTHMA? An internationally recognized local asthma expert, Sally Wenzel, MD, is looking for volunteers to participate in various asthma research studies. Compensation and parking is provided. To learn more, call the University of Pittsburgh Asthma Institute Toll Free at 1-866-804-5278 or visit www.asthmainstitute.pitt.edu .

22. C. F. Reynolds Medical History Society Lecture - Sept 18, 6pm, Scaife Lecture Room #5

"Innovation and Limitation: The History of 'Me-Too' Drugs"
Jeremy Greene, M.D., Ph.D. Associate Professor of History of Medicine-Johns Hopkins University

Once again this year the Dean of the University Honors College has agreed to cover annual student dues for a limited number of Honors College students. This also includes the opportunity for free dinners following some of these presentations. If you are interested in accepting the Dean's offer, email Dr. Jonathon Erlen erlen@pitt.edu.

23. Biology-Related Study Abroad Presentation: Organization for Tropical Studies - Oct 15, 5pm, Langley A224

Kala Wolfe, Duke University's Admissions Counselor, will provide information about the hands-

on study abroad programs available through the Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS). She will discuss program requirements, explain the application process, and describe the various Conservation Biology and Global Health opportunities that are available during the fall, spring, and summer semesters in Costa Rica and South Africa. Email Kayla (krw11@duke.edu) for information if unable to attend.

Hosted by the Biological Sciences Advisors.

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24. ARC Science Writing Workshop

Do you want to learn how to translate difficult scientific concepts into stories for the general public? Sponsored by the Academic Resource Center, this free, two-session workshop provides valuable insight on how to write science articles for nonscientific audiences.

Session 1 - Sept 27, 6-8pm, ARC

Review a scientific paper that you have written or one from a scientific journal and discuss what aspects of the research hook the reader as well as which sections need clarification. Learn how to enhance the research by including stories from your work or adding personal narrative. At the end of this session, you will have the tools to write your own article.

Session 2 - Oct 4, 6-8pm, ARC

Using the tools learned from the first session, examine the article you have written to search out the problem areas where you could use creative analogies. Then, explore different ways to turn your articles into stories. Whether these stories tell of discovery, profile innovative scientists, or talk about investigations of an entire field, you will have the basic skills to write about science for the general public.

About The Workshop Instructor

Hali Felt is a visiting lecturer in the Department of English. She recently published her first book *Soundings: The Story of the Remarkable Woman Who Mapped the Ocean Floor*. Previously, she wrote for the *Columbia Journalism Review* and *Pittsburgh Tribune Review*. Felt received her MFA from the University of Iowa.

To register: 412-648-7920.

Questions: Mike Chirdon-Jones <mac260@pitt.edu

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25. Start Smart Salary Negotiation Workshop for Women in STEM - Sept 23, 3pm, Benedum 102

StartSmart is an interactive workshop designed to give college women the confidence and skills they need to negotiate fair compensation. Hosted through the American Association of University Women, the workshop will prepare students for salary negotiation through skill building exercises as well as train students how to research and target salary and benefit expectations for a specific job. This program sponsored by The Swanson School of Engineering (Freshman Program and Pitt EXCEL offices), Career Development, bioengineering graduate students, and members of NSBE, SHPE and SWE.

Register online at <http://tinyurl.com/pittstartsmart>

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26. Bi-Weekly General Info Sessions for National Scholarships

The UHC scholarships office holds general scholarship info sessions twice a week beginning mid-October. ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME at these and the award-specific info sessions. After students attend a general scholarships info session, they can make a one-on-one appointment to discuss their individual interests in scholarships opportunities.

Please see scholarships calendar to register: <http://pre.honorscollege.pitt.edu/about/event-calendar>

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27. UHC Lecture: Energy, Water, Climate & CO2 Storage - Sept 21, 2pm, CL 3500

“The last couple of generations have witnessed a rapid increase in the cost of liquid hydrocarbons, new energy productions methods such as hydrologic fracturing, and an unprecedented decrease in Arctic sea ice. Global hydrocarbon exploration has failed to replace with future production liquid hydrocarbons at the rate they are being used. In this lecture the basic outline of energy production—including hydrologic fracturing, climate, and CO2 storage in enhanced oil recovery activities—will be reviewed and presented.” - Dr. Bill Harbart, Dept of Geology and Planetary Science

Light refreshments will be served. All Are Welcome!

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28. LAST MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Stricker will discuss the steps to prepare for the Health Professions Committee on Wednesday, September 19 at 5:30 pm in Alumni 7th FL Auditorium.

Everyone is welcome.

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Until next week,

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