Opportunities to Explore

A newsletter for graduate students and postdoctoral trainees

HAPPENING NOW

**CareerCamp!**
June 28-July 1, 2016. The Office of Alumni Relations is excited to present a free webinar series designed for anyone new to the job search. Featuring the nation’s top authors and job search experts, CareerCamp offers new graduates tips and strategies to find and succeed at their first job. Alumni, students and other UR community members may participate in one, several or all of the presentations live or may view the recorded webinars at a later date at no cost to them! To learn more about this series, and view the entire library of webinar archives, click the link above. Questions may be forwarded to <annemarie.cucci@rochester.edu>.

**Science Launches the 2016 Dance Your PhD Contest.**
Science magazine has announced its 2016 “Dance Your PhD Contest.” PhD-level students or scientists working on science-related PhDs are invited to explain their work through a dance posted as a YouTube video. Winners will receive cash prizes in each of four categories—physics, chemistry, biology, and social sciences—and more for best overall dance. The deadline for submissions is September 30.

**AAMC Grant Writers Coaching Group**
The Grant Writers Coaching Group for NIH Awards is designed for faculty who are actively working on a K or R NIH grant proposal. Participants will receive direct hands-on assistance with proposal preparation on site as well as continued support through ongoing virtual meetings over a 2-3 month period to strengthen their proposals. This pre-conference workshop is taking place on Thursday, September 15, 2016. The deadline for applications is approaching on June 29, 2016.

THIS WEEK

**PDA: Coffee Hour Social**
Monday June 27, 2016 | 2:00pm-3:00pm Forbes Mezzanine (1-19589) | Join your fellow Postdocs for a little bit of networking to spruce up your Monday.

**URBEST: Individual Development Plan Workshop**
Tuesday June 28 and Wednesday June 29, 2016 | 9:00am-10:30am | Ryan Case Method Room (1-9576) | UR BEST Trainees Please register for the URBEST Individual Development Plan Workshop (you only need to attend Tuesday or Wednesday, not both!). Each session can only accommodate 22 individuals, due to content and faculty mentor assistance. We will invite the first 22 individuals that sign up and place others on a waiting list.

**School of Medicine and Dentistry National Networking Hour**
Wednesday June 29, 2016 | 3:00pm-4:00pm | Join us for a virtual networking opportunity to connect with fellow SMD alumni in your region and across the country from your office, lab, home—wherever you are! Hosted by the office of alumni relations and the center for professional development, this hour-long event consists of a series of brief one-on-one messaging chats that allow you to build your professional network in your current or future locale. Register above: more info here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**PDA Monthly Meeting**
Tuesday July 12, 2016 | 12:30pm-1:30pm | All postdocs are welcome to attend this meeting along with the executive board and committee members of the PDA.

**URBEST Career Story Q&A: Jenny Hadingham**
Monday July 18, 2016 | 12:30pm-1:30pm | Louise Slaughter Conference Room (1-9555) | Dr. Jenny Hadingham PhD, Assistant Director & Lecturer, Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning (CETL) at University of Rochester. Dr. Hadingham will highlight some of her day at UR and will share personal reflections on her career trajectory.

RELEVANT READS

**Gallery of Best Cover Letters**
by David Noble. Writing a cover letter is more than a necessary step in the job search process. It is a chance to make a stellar first impression on hiring managers and stand out from dozens of other candidates vying for the same job. Visit the CPD’s Lending Library catalog to see this and other titles of interest. To borrow a book, stop by our office in G-9556 or email the CPD with your request.

**Show us the Money**
Andy Tay, Grad student at UCLA shares his thoughts on funding and the challenge when research funds run out.

**It Takes a Village**
To find and secure meaningful careers, A.B.D. and Ph.D. job seekers need to reach out and rely on a diverse cast of supporters, writes James M. Van Wyck.

**Wrap up your dissertation with a writing plan**
Advice for breaking your project into manageable tasks from Katie Shives is a PhD candidate in Microbiology at the University of Colorado.

**The Not-So-Splendid Isolation of Doctoral Study**
Rebecca Schuman talks about what to do when the life of the mind subsumes all of the other parts of the body.