BEST @ CORNELL

Events for April 2016

Carlo Nalin | 5 April
Presentation by Dr. Nalin, executive director in therapeutics integrity at Novartis.
Location: 321 Weill Hall. 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Click here for more info.

Preparing to Submit Your Thesis or Dissertation | 6 April
Part of the Navigating Your Future seminar series.
Location: 423 King-Shaw Hall. 12:00 – 1:30 PM. Click here to register.

Mary Ellen Urick | 7 April
Q&A with alumna Dr. Urick, staff scientist at NHGRI. Presentation to follow.
Location: 348 Morrison Hall. 2:00 – 4:00 PM. Click here for more info.

COMM 5665 – SciComm Practicum | 8 (eve.), 9-10 April
New course on developing best practices for communicating scientific research.
Location: TBD. Students should contact Lauren Chambliss (elc55@cornell.edu)

Entrepreneurship@Cornell | 14-15, 16 (bootcamp) April
Full day symposium ft. speakers, demos, and more. A start-up bootcamp will follow.
Location: Statler Hall. 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Click here for info.

BEST – Careers in Science Policy Panel | 20 April
Workshop & panel discussion focusing on careers in government science policy.
Location: 226 Weill Hall. 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Click here for info.

For the complete set of events, make sure to check the BEST Events Section

Inaugural Meeting – Science Communication Group
Dear BESTies, Kristen Brochu and Victor Aguilar are in process of setting up a science communication committee. Our first meeting will take place on April 15th from 11:15 AM to 12:00 PM (341 Caldwell Hall). BEST and non-BEST members are welcome.

On Internships
Internships are typically the preoccupation of sophomores and juniors. But they’re so due to a variety of compelling reasons.
Gaining hands-on experience is seen as the best way to prepare for a complex task (often much better than listening to the most competent professional). Unbeknownst to graduate students, companies and organizations do offer intern/apprenticeships targeted at them, and the BEST Program has arranged for flexible "BESTernships" to work with your rigorous research schedule. Grads, remember that Anne Poduska is our liason to Cornell Career Services. Also, check the BEST website for each track under opportunities (e.g. in industry). And remember, One BEST Opportunity Leads to Another! (see http://best.cornell.edu/index.cfm/news.details?newsID=1856)

[Image of Immune Engineering – An Introduction]

At the end of the nineteenth century, William Coley first recorded lymphocytes fighting against tumors. Now, reengineering the lymphocyte is opening up the door for advances against cancer, HIV, and highly aggressive autoimmune diseases. Companies and universities have combined efforts in DNA sequencing and computational modeling to create a stock of “universal”, manipulable lymphocytes. Last year, one-year-old Layla Richards’ leukaemia was cleared through engineered lymphocytes. While inspiring, much work is needed to optimize them. The commitment to eradicating cancer goes back to President Nixon’s “War on Cancer”. Only time will tell what dramatic role the lymphocyte will play in this war.

The original article appeared on the MIT Technology Review on the March/April 2016 issue (vol. 119, no. 2). Figure taken from McDaniel et al 2016 Nature Protocols

[Image of Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training]

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