BEST @ Cornell
Events for October 2017

SPARK Talks—Deadline to Apply! | 10-2-17
Let’s face it. We could all use a chance to hone our communications skills. Graduate students and postdocs are invited to apply for the chance to share their research through SPARK Talks - a series of five-minute lightning talks hosted by the Cornell University Library. SPARK Talks are an opportunity to present research to a wider audience. Participants will attend a workshop/practice session where they will receive hands-on coaching and feedback on their presentation in preparation for the SPARK Talks main event on Oct. 19.

Postdoc Leadership Certificate Program | 10-10-17 10:45AM
Leadership involves working effectively with other people to shape social reality and achieve organizational goals. It is a critical factor in organizational and career success. Every postdoc, no matter what field of endeavor, will face a variety of difficult leadership challenges. How these challenges are met will have a significant impact on the postdoc’s career and life. This 10-module program is designed to introduce postdocs to some key concepts and skills of leadership in today’s complex environment.

Location: TBD—REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Lecture: Richard Harris | 10-16-17 4:30PM
NPR science correspondent Richard Harris will deliver a lecture of October 16th titled “Rigor Mortis. Returning delight and rigor to science.”

Location: B22 Warren Hall (to be confirmed)

NSF Short Course | 10-20-17 – 11-4-17
Our partners at Cornell’s Center for Regional Economic Advancement, site of the Upstate NY I-Corps Node, are offering a short course at Binghamton University October 20-November 4 to learn about the key steps to take a technology from lab to market. If this sounds interesting to you, please contact Bonnie Sanborn bes96@cornell.edu or info@unicorps.org.

Location: Binghamton University

Announcements | October 2017

ComSciCon-Cornell: Organizational Recruiting
Effective scientists need to be able to disseminate the meaning of their work to a broader audience. Too often, however, graduate students receive little or no training in how to do so. ComSciCon-Cornell seeks to change this, and is looking for a small group of BESTies to help organize their 4th annual science communication workshop serving graduate students and postdocs in the upstate New York area next summer. Please contact cornell@comscicon.org if you are interested in this opportunity.

An article worth reading in *PloS One* on the transferrable skills acquired in PhD training: [http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0185023](http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0185023)

BEST on twitter and LinkedIn

Follow and be followed by @Cornell_BEST. Want to have meaningful conversations with other BESTies? Join the “Cornell BEST Program” group on LinkedIn.

Ethan Sanford, Editor ejs372@cornell.edu

---

**Member Spotlight: Elodie Gazave**

Elodie Gazave, October’s BESTie of the month, is a former postdoctoral scientist in Plant Breeding and Genetics who is currently transitioning into an exciting new role as a communications specialist in Cornell’s very own Institute of Biotechnology, a career opportunity which she credits the BEST program with helping her find. Much of her work has focused on what role evolution plays in shaping the staggering genetic diversity observed in humans, animals and lately plants—work that, she hopes, will help inform efforts to preserve genetic diversity in crops. It was Elodie’s love for research that motivated her decision to undertake postdoctoral research, and while at Cornell she used the resources available in the BEST program to explore exciting new career options. Elodie notes that her career interests gradually shifted, and she began to want to take another role in the research community by shifting toward a science communication job. Having spent some time in academia, Elodie offers the following advice: “Be patient. If you want to change career, don’t throw away all your experience and knowledge. Think of ways to re-invest it. A PhD gives you tons of skills.” We wish Elodie the BEST in her new role.

**Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training**
325 Caldwell Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853
www.BEST.cornell.edu