Hi postdocs,

Another exciting year is starting for the USC Postdoctoral Association! We are starting a monthly newsletter so that you can keep up to date with all our initiatives and join the events. A public calendar has also been created, which you can sync to your own calendar to keep track of our events. As usual we will continue to send out reminders about our events. We wish you a great 2017-2018 year!

Yours truly,

PDA Council

Celebrate NPAW with USC PDA!!!

USC PDA has sponsored National Postdoc Appreciation Week to recognize the significant contributions that postdoctoral scholars make to USC research and discovery. Special events will be held in honor of all...
USC postdocs **September 18-22, 2017!**

**Monday September 18:**
Join us at the California Science Center and see the Endeavour space shuttle.
Location: 700 Exposition Park Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90037 *Meet outside near ticket booths*
Time: 3PM
**RSVP** preferred

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) of USC mixer
Location: Saban Research Institute Courtyard (4641 Sunset Blvd)
Time: 5PM
**RSVP** by emailing mkubala@chla.usc.edu
*For access to the facilities contact Anna Kamitakahara at (240)723-9288*

**Tuesday September 19:**
Catalina day trip! The air is refreshing, the water is clear. Come relax on the sand with the gentle rhythm of the ocean near by.
Location: Southern California Marine Institute at 820 South Seaside Ave., Terminal Island, CA 90731
Time: Ferry departure at 7:30AM, return at 3:30PM
**RSVP**

**Wednesday September 20:**
Understanding Implicit Bias @ UPC
Location and Time: TBD

From basic science discovery at the bench to developing a startup, company, or patent: A panel discussion @ CHLA
Location: Saban Research Institute (4641 Sunset Blvd)
Time: 12PM
**RSVP** by emailing mkubala@chla.usc.edu
*For access to the facilities contact Anna Kamitakahara at (240)723-9288*

Non-academic career paths: A panel discussion and networking event @
Thursday September 21:
Thirsty Thursday! Your drink is on us.
UPC: Traditions on campus (3551 Trousdale Pkwy) @ 4PM
HSC: La Chuperia (1145 N. Mission) @ 4PM

Friday September 22:
Pizza Drop! USC PDA will provide free pizza, wings, and drinks. To find the location of the Pizza Drop, check our social media pages anytime after 10AM on the day of the event.
Location: To be announced for each campus!!
(or until the food is gone)Time: 12-2PM
RSVP

Networking and Social Events: September

Coffee Hour (every 1st Wednesday of the month):
Next date: September, 6th
Locations:
   UPC: Illy's at the Annenberg building @ 2PM
   HSC: Starbucks @ 2PM
   CHLA: Aroma's Cafe in the HBO Cafe @ 9AM

Hike (every 2nd Sunday of the month):
Next date: September, 10th @ 3PM
Location: Griffith Park Observatory.
MeetUp website.

Happy Hour
Next date: September, 21st
Locations: See above schedule for NPAW

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Important information

It is a great idea for every postdoc to attend the new postdoc orientation sessions, organized by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs. The next one is going to take place on September, 6th in VPD 203 on UPC at 1.30 pm. You can find more information about the session and RSVP here.

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Build your CV

Find below opportunities to add lines to your CV

Break the mold and enjoy a time out in and around Los Angeles

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Judge Biomedical Posters at Cedars-Sinai

Cedars-Sinai hosts a yearly biomedical sciences graduate research symposium, which will take place on Friday, October 20. Interested USC postdocs in the biomedical sciences can serve as

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Byte of Science Presents - Darwin, Evolution, and Sexual Dimorphism.

Dr. Nicole Wheatley, a current postdoctoral researcher in David Eisenberg's lab at UCLA, will discuss popular views about the
judges for the poster sessions and help decide who will receive awards. More information can be found at here. If you want to volunteer, contact Rachel.Baum@cshs.org.

differences between the sexes shift through history.

Location: Wurstküche Restaurant Venice (625 Lincoln Boulevard) 
Time: Wed, September 13 from 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM PDT 
RSVP

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**Funding opportunities**

**The 2018 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program of the A.P. Giannini Foundation**

Information session will be hosted on September 12, 2017 at 12-1 PM in NRT G508 - Harlyne Tower. See flyer for more details.

**The 2017 USC Wrigley Institute Hagenah Postdoctoral Fellowship**

Applications are due September 29, 2017. Awards will be made by late October. See flyer for more details.

**Franco-German Fellowship Program on Climate, Energy and Earth System Research Funding of research groups within the framework of the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement (MOPGA-GRI)**

Application deadline for Step 1: October 13, 2017. Additional information can be found here.

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**Postdoc Publications**

doi: 10.1016/j.brat.2017.04.004

Want your research featured here? Send an e-mail with the reference to uscpda@usc.edu!

FEATURED POSTDOCS

Stephanie Shishido
USC Postdoctoral Association Council - President
Stephanie currently focuses on the identification and characterization of circulating tumor cells from the liquid biopsy received from clinical trial cancer patients in the Kuhn/Hicks lab at The Bridge. The high definition single cell analysis (HD-SCA) platform is a toolset to explore different phases of the disease at the single cell level using the "No-Cell-Left-Behind" approach to identify rare cancer cells from the peripheral blood and then characterizes each cell of interest using genomics and proteomics. To learn more, click here.
Anna Kamitakahara
USC Postdoctoral Association Council - CHLA representative

Working as a postdoctoral fellow at Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA), Anna’s research focuses on understanding the development of the nerves that connect the brain and the gut. Her ongoing projects examine how connections to the gastrointestinal tract are compromised following misexpression of the autism risk gene, MET, which may aid in understanding the high prevalence rate of gastrointestinal problems in children with autism spectrum disorder. Additional studies also seek to establish a detailed molecular and anatomical map of the developing parasympathetic nervous system through which we can evaluate functional disorders and pathophysiology of the gastrointestinal tract.

Development of the nerves that connect the brain to the body (neurofilament, red),
and the subset of cells that express the autism risk gene, MET (green).

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**Life as a postdoc: A commentary**

"Your advisor asks you to do something completely ridiculous, like an experiment that will take 4 years and will never work, so you say no. Then your advisor asks you to do something less onerous- say, an experiment that will take 1 year and has a slim chance of working- so you say yes. Under normal circumstances, you would never have agreed to do the 2nd ridiculous thing, but it seems less ridiculous than the first, plus you feel bad about saying no to the first thing."

-anonymous

"I am a 3rd year postdoc and still have mixed feelings. The overall work/life balance is difficult because our work week is not structured and I always feel like I need to be either analyzing data or writing a manuscript. If I feel super stressed, I will work into the night so that I can ease my mind with "well, you did all you could." But, there is fantastic flexibility when 'life' does happen."

-anonymous

*If you would like to submit commentary for future newsletters, please email uscpda@usc.edu!*
The awesome group at the monthly postdoc hike on Aug 13th at Griffith Park! The next hike will be on September, 10th. For more info, go to our MeetUp website.