New year, new luck

Hi postdocs,

Let's hope 2018 brings you a lot of luck and success! Here is what we have for you in January:

- **Social events by USC PDA**

Also, featured in this newsletter:

- Events around Los Angeles and USC
- Job opportunities at Cedars-Sinai
- Funding opportunities
- Featured postdocs: Kate White & Lee Gibbs
- Postdoc commentary
- Photos from our events in December

We hope to see you at one of our events! You can also find information about them in our [public calendar](#).

Yours truly,

PDA Council
Networking and Social Events

Coffee Hour (every 1st Wednesday of the month):
Next date: January, 10th
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: January, 21st @ 4PM
Location: Griffith Park Observatory.
MeetUp website.

Happy Hour
Next date: January, 25th
Locations:
  - UPC: Traditions on campus (3551 Trousdale Pkwy) @ 4PM
  - HSC: Edmondson Faculty Center (1969 Zonal Ave) @ 4PM
  - CHLA: Tiki Ti (4427 Sunset Blvd) @ 5PM

Important information

The first training and travel awardees for 2018 were selected and notified in December. Make sure you check your e-mail to see if you were awarded financial support from the USC Postdoctoral Association and the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs. The next application period is already open. Go here for more information.
Find below opportunities to add lines to your CV

How to Promote Your Research?
Attend this workshop organized by the Career Development Seminar Sessions and learn from Meg Aldrich how to increase the impact of your research. RSVP to Karen Kim by e-mail or phone (323-442-8281).

**Time:** Tuesday, Jan. 30th @ 9.00 am  
**Location:** TBA

Negotiations
Learn how to negotiate your starter package at a new university in this workshop organized by the Department of Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine. More information [here](#).

**Time:** Thursday, January, 18th @ 11.45 am  
**Location:** Eli and Edythe Broad CIRM Center Auditorium, 1st floor conference room

Funding opportunities

The L'Oréal USA, in partnership with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), awards five women postdoctoral scientists annually with grants of $60,000 each for their contributions in Science – posted on Trialect. The details can be perused at: [L'Oréal USA For Women In Science](#).
Please do not contact Trialect for any award related queries.

The **Bridge Art and Science Alliance (BASA)** has opened its call for proposals for art+science projects. Awards up to $5,000. For more information, see [here](#).

**Funding Opportunities for CHLA Faculty and Staff**

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**Job Opportunities**

Cedars-Sinai has a number of open postdoctoral scientist positions, visit their [career page](#) for more information. Here are some of Cedars-Sinai’s urgent job openings:

1. **Neurology** with Dr. Pamdesh Rajput
2. **Regenerative Medicine** at Dr. Helen Goodridge’s lab
3. **Pathology** at Dr. Warren Tourtellotte’s lab

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**Postdoc Publications**

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

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**FEATURED POSTDOCS**
Kate White

Early in life Dr. Kate White was fascinated by understanding how molecules effect the human mind and focused on GPCR structure and function during her graduate work. She is now applying structure and function based approach to understanding human pancreatic β-cells. Diabetes is a worldwide problem affecting hundreds of millions of people with increasing patient numbers every year. The goal of her research is to build a 3D atomic model of a human pancreatic β-cell to gain a more holistic understanding of β-cell function in diabetes. To learn more visit the Stevens laboratory.

Lee Gibbs

Dr. Lee D. Gibbs is a postdoctoral research fellow in the Department of Translational Genomics at Keck School of Medicine. His research focuses on clinical translational validation of important molecular determinants of triple negative breast cancer in patients of African descent, as well as other rare and aggressive cancers that affect minorities and medically underserved populations. He works with a multi-disciplinary team to evaluate genomic alterations acquired during tumor development and understand the functional significance of these events. This research can assist in the identification of diagnostic biomarkers and precision medicine. Additional can be found here.

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 coffee hour at CHLA!
Come and join us for the next coffee hour on January, 10th! See above for locations for your campus.
The hike heroes in December