

Subject: ECS Weekly: Betting on yourself and your science; FASEB CARES award for caregivers; meet the latest cohort of the Peer Review Training Program

Date: Friday, April 14, 2023 at 12:33:22 PM Mountain Daylight Time

From: Genetics Society of America

To: Phillips, Sarah Renee

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 Genetics Society of America

EARLY CAREER SCIENTIST WEEKLY



Compiled for student and
postdoc members of the
Genetics Society of America by
the Early Career Leadership
Program

— April 14, 2023 —



RESOURCES

This week's newsletter focuses on embracing the innovations of women and BIPOC in the sciences, and it was written by Sarah Renee Phillips of the Multimedia Subcommittee.

Bet on You and Double Down

Our years as early career scientists are critical for many reasons, but maybe no reason is more important than who we become and how we operate as research scientists in these years. These factors will largely determine where we end up in the academy or whether we end up there at all. It feels overwhelming much of the time as we navigate multiple constraints on our independence as scholars and community members, dependent on networks and environments largely designed outside our purview and input. In short, it feels more like we are being molded to fit something that already exists, as opposed to being free to bring unique perspectives and experiences to the table.

Navigating these years can be especially difficult for women and BIPOC, two groups of scientists still underrepresented at every level in the academy and who often experience disenfranchisement, especially in early career stages. But a [recent study addressing novelty and innovation in the sciences](#) suggests that women and BIPOC have every reason to trust themselves and their science. On average, we are the creative risk-takers in science, and while our creativity and innovation are not always appropriately valued, they are integral to progress in our respective disciplines. What I hope to drive home to all early career researchers reading this piece is best reflected by the words of a leader and game-changer in another industry, [Oprah Winfrey](#): “When the time comes to bet on yourself, I hope you double down.”

The challenge, then, is to see these formative years in our careers, not as a part to play in succession, but as an opportunity for defining ourselves, our research programs, and our working environments in such a way that we prioritize space for scholarship, creativity, and inclusive community. As young researchers in our field, we have an opportunity—if we have the insight to recognize it and the courage to adopt it—to build tables that welcome differences and honor productive, healthy spaces. In these environments, we can [daydream](#) and [move freely in possibility](#), both of which are necessary for birthing novel and innovative science. A kind of miracle could come from this too: By standing our ground on research ideas and our vision for our working environments and the future of science, we give courage to those walking beside us to do the same and lessen the burden for those who come after us.

GSA [Early Career Leadership Program](#) Resources

Eshna Jash of the Multimedia subcommittee discusses her research interests in gene regulation in *C. elegans*, a future in biotech and pharmaceutical start-ups, and an interest in new media. Read more on [Genes to Genomes](#)!

The [Presidential Membership Initiative](#) was [launched in 2020](#) as a way for the Genetics Society of America to invite talented and creative individuals from diverse backgrounds into our community. We are pleased to introduce the next cohort of Presidential Members. Read more about them and their research on [Genes to Genomes](#).

We are pleased to announce the GSA Poster Award winners from the [64th Annual Drosophila Research Conference](#)! Undergraduate and graduate student members of the GSA were eligible for the awards, and a hard-working team of postdocs volunteered their time as judges. Congratulations to all! Read more about the winners on [Genes to Genomes](#).

Congratulations to ECLP alumni Carla Bautista, Małgorzata Gazda, and current representative Meareg Amare for being awarded the Fall 2022 DeLill Nasser Award for Professional Development in Genetics! Read more about all of the recipients on [Genes to Genomes](#).

Applications for the [DeLill Nasser Award for Professional Development in Genetics](#) are currently open. The award supports geneticists in their graduate or postdoctoral career stages by subsidizing participation in conferences and laboratory courses. The deadline to apply is 11:59 p.m. EDT on **April 19, 2023**.

JOBS

A sampling of jobs currently available for early career scientists.

[Assistant Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Outreach](#) | School of Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign | Urbana, IL, United States

[Postdoctoral Scientist](#) | Cheung Lab, Georgia Institute of Technology | Atlanta, GA, United States

[Research Scientist](#) | Heartland Plant Innovations | Manhattan, KS, United States

[Project Manager](#) | Digital Trials Center, Scripps Research Translational Institute | La Jolla, CA, United States

[Lab Manager](#) | Smith Lab, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry | Rochester, NY, United States

[Research Assistant](#) | The Diabetes Institute, University of Kansas Medical Center | Kansas City, KS, United States

[Research Technician](#) | Brain Cancer Initiative, University of Michigan | Ann Arbor, MI, United States

[Postdoctoral Fellow](#) | Department of Biomolecular Chemistry, University of Wisconsin-Madison | Madison, WI, United States

[Postdoctoral Fellow](#) | Department of Neuroscience and Behavior, Barnard College | New York City, NY, United States

[Postdoctoral Fellow](#) | Cheadle Lab, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory | Cold Spring Harbor, NY, United States

[Postdoctoral Fellow](#) | Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience, Amsterdam UMC | Amsterdam, Netherlands

[Graduate Student/Postdoctoral Fellow](#) | Division of Oncology, Washington University School of Medicine | St. Louis, MO, United States

Is your lab hiring? GSA members qualify for a discounted rate to post job openings and can post student and postdoc positions at no cost on the [GSA Job Board](#)!



BUILD YOUR SKILLS

Upcoming Deadlines

NEW! The postdoc offices at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston Methodist, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, and University of Texas Health

Houston are offering a free, virtual event: Postdoc Houston! The informational session for prospective postdocs will provide more information on the Texas Medical Center and what it's like for postdocs to live and work in Houston. [Register now](#) for the event on **May 18, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. CDT**.

NEW! The pre-print service ASAPbio is currently hiring an Assistant Director. As part of the position, the successful candidate will help to grow the ASAPbio community, drive discussions on pre-print related topics by organizing online and in-person events, and participate in strategic planning and the development of new initiatives. [Learn more about the position](#) and apply now.

NEW! FASEB's CARES Award provides \$5,000 in financial support to alleviate financial burdens associated with caregiving, enabling FASEB society members to continue their scientific training, professional development, and career progression. FASEB will be hosting 60-minute office hours on April 4, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. EDT, on CARES Award application guidance. The deadline to [apply](#) for the award is **April 28, 2023**.

Are you interested in exploring careers in industry and want to present your research at Plant Biology 2023? Corteva strives to support up-and-coming scientists and has created a platform for students to share scientific achievements by speaking at Plant Biology 2023. Selected participants will receive a travel award to Plant Biology 2023. Apply by **April 15** [to be considered!](#)

Apply for the Stanford School of Medicine's [Propel Postdoctoral Scholars Program](#). The Propel Program provides scholars with funding support including salary, full benefits, and supplemental professional development funds; community-building activities and support to foster a sense of belonging at Stanford and in the larger academic community; and career, professional, and personal development opportunities designed to prepare scholars for success as postdocs, on the academic job market, and in faculty positions. Applications are open until **June 1, 2023**.

Registration is now open for the National Postdoc Association National Conference taking place April 21–22, 2023 at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel. Registration for the in-person event also includes free participation in the virtual conference happening May 11–12, 2023. Register **by April 28, 2023** for the event [here](#).

Current professional development and training opportunities

NEW! GENETICS has announced [the latest cohort](#) for the Peer Review Training Program, including ECLP members Hassan Bukhari, Leire Abalde-Atristain, Jessie MacAlpine, and Melissa Drown. Congratulations to the new program members!

NEW! Check out a new [Special Edition issue of *Science Editor*](#) on careers in scientific editing and publishing. The issue includes interviews and articles covering an array of editor roles. The issue also covers important issues related to diversity and equity in scientific editing and publishing and the transition to remote work.

The National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine are seeking nominations on “Equitable and Effective Teaching in Undergraduate STEM Education: A Framework for Institutions, Educators and Disciplines.” [Find more information about this project](#) and nominations!

Sign-up now to join the [Skype a Scientist program](#) for 2023. As a scientist, you can connect with students and the public around the world to share your research and develop your science communication skills.

Looking to strengthen your scientific writing skills? Check out [this essay](#) from Brevity Magazine on developing scientific stories. The author invites scientists to integrate play and creativity into the writing process to help expand beyond the more rigid traditions of scientific writing.

Are you interested in science communication? [Sign up](#) for this virtual workshop from The Open Notebook: The Craft of Science Writing. These 90-minute workshops will include planned presentations, interactive discussions, and opportunity for discussing or workshopping real-life editing challenges and solutions.

The [Academic Career Readiness Assessment](#) rubric is a tool developed by the Office of Career and Professional Development at the University of California, San Francisco with the goal of providing graduate students and postdoctoral scholars with the information they need to explore, plan for and apply to faculty positions at different types of institutions, regardless of their understanding of the intricacies of the US education system and independently of the mentoring they receive.

The Genetics Society of America offers [leadership and professional development opportunities](#) for early career scientist members like you. To discuss your career and professional development, contact us!

Know of a great opportunity for early career scientists? Please let us know! We particularly welcome hearing about opportunities outside of North America. We share news about resources, awards, fellowships, grants, courses, and other opportunities applicable to early career scientists. [Contact us!](#)

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Sent to: sarahrenee.phillips@yale.edu

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Genetics Society of America, 6120 Executive Boulevard, Suite 550, Rockville, Maryland 20852, United States