

Postdoctoral Update

Office of Postdoctoral Affairs



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POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

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Important Information re: Postdoc HR Issues:

Insurance and Benefits: If you have questions about benefits enrollment or eligibility, please contact UF's [Human Resource Services'](#) GA and Post Doc Associate Benefits Office at benefits@ufl.edu or (352) 392-2477.

Employee Issues: If you are experiencing an issue with your supervisor that is not resolved in your department and need assistance or guidance, please contact Ms. Kim Baxley, Director of Employee Relations, in UF's [Human Resource Services](#). Ms. Baxley can be reached at 392-1072 or kczap@ufl.edu.

What's the BiG IdEA? Postdoc Research Symposium



The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs is pleased to announce the third annual Postdoctoral Research Symposium on Wednesday, April 22 at Emerson Alumni Hall. The event will take place from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. A schedule for the Symposium is available online at <http://postdoc.aa.ufl.edu/programs/postdoc-research-symposium/>

Win up to \$200!

The theme for this year's Symposium is "What's the Big Idea?" Postdocs in both oral and poster presentations will be judged on how well they can convey their research to lay audiences. [Communication Skills](#) is one of the six [Core Competencies](#) the [National Postdoctoral Association](#) promotes as critical to postdoc success.

Register [here!](#)

UF Postdocs are invited to compete in either the Oral Presentations competition or Poster Presentations competition. All poster presentations will be judged on the day of the Symposium. Oral Presentations will be on a first come, first serve basis, will follow the "[3MT: Three Minute Thesis](#)" idea, will include a single, static slide in PDF format, and will be judged on the day of the Symposium.

To submit your abstract and be considered for judging, please complete the [abstract submission form](#) (enter your GatorLink username and password when prompted) by *April 15, 2015*.

Submitted by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

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HHMI Faculty Scholars Program

HHMI invests in people, not projects, by identifying talented scientific leaders and supporting them well. We give our scientists the time and freedom to pursue difficult, long-range questions. We encourage creativity, collaboration, and interdisciplinary thinking. In this spirit, we created the Faculty Scholars program.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Simons Foundation have joined forces with HHMI to support the Faculty Scholars program. Through this first-time collaboration, the program partners will augment and secure the pipeline of scientific talent.

The Faculty Scholars program seeks to:

- Provide financial support to faculty at an early career stage
- Select awardees based on their vision and potential for unique contributions
- Offer mentoring and career development

Award

We anticipate making up to 70 five-year awards, with new competitions every two and a half years. The awards will range from \$100,000 to \$400,000 per year

based on several factors, including awardee's current external grant support. Expenses covered by the grant include:

- Partial salary for faculty (up to 3 months and no more than \$70,000)
- Salary for lab personnel
- Equipment
- Supplies
- Travel
- Publications

For additional information including application information, go to:

<http://www.hhmi.org/programs/biomedical-research/faculty-scholars>

Submitted by Kim Pace, Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs

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From Projects to Proposals: An Intensive Beginner's Guide to Graduate Fellowship - Writing in the Humanities

with Dr. Mickey Schafer, University Writing Program

10 April 2015, 12:00-4:00 p.m., Marston Science Library 136

All UF Graduate Students in the Humanities, at masters and doctoral levels, are invited to participate in this intensive, interactive workshop which will be geared for new students learning to turn their research ideas into competitive funding proposals. Workshop participants will use expert, peer, and group feedback to develop detailed outlines for creating a complete fellowship proposal out of their research ideas. Participants will examine what makes proposal writing so hard, break down projects into proposal-friendly components, practice delivering those components in writing and speech, and finish by re-assembling these proposal components into a thorough outline for drafting, revising, and submitting a complete fellowship proposal. Through these experiences, students will have the opportunity to refine their proposal narratives, 'hooks', and broader impacts in collaboration with students from other humanities departments. This is an excellent workshop to attend to prepare for 2015/16 fellowship applications, to learn how to talk about your research with larger and multidisciplinary audiences, and to gain pragmatic proposal-writing skills for your entire career.

- *To participate, please RSVP by April 8 to humanities-center@ufl.edu*

What should you bring?

To get the most out of the workshop, participants should have a specific research project they would like to pitch as a proposal to a funding body (for example, a masters or doctoral level thesis/dissertation project). Participants are welcome to bring their existing drafts of proposals to the workshop, though this is not required. Please bring a pen or pencil. Participants may also wish to bring personal laptops for some activities, though this is not required.

What will you get out of this?

- A thorough proposal outline to use for applying for fellowship research funding in the humanities.

- A customized website that acts like a workbook of activities to assist you in current and later proposal-writing.

Biography:

A self-described lapsed linguist, Dr. Mickey Schafer currently teaches the academic community to write for publication. In her day job, she works with undergrads aspiring to be health professionals and scientists; after hours, she conducts workshops for graduate students, faculty, and clinicians needing to write/publish. Mickey is currently obsessing over the developmental process by which the academically-inclined become expert writers in their disciplines and what can be done to make this process more efficient.

This workshop is made possible by support from the CLAS Dean's Office and UF Office of Research with support from the UF Smathers Libraries.

Submitted by Tim Blanton, Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere

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Start-up Democracy: Innovating Citizenship with the Ancient Athenians

Cynthia Farrar (Yale University)

16 April 2015, 5:30 pm, Pugh Hall Ocora, UF Campus

Entrepreneurship rules: as a way to make a living, and to remake the world. Human striving tends to be interpreted through the prism of disruptive innovation. We call change agents "social entrepreneurs." And yet, we don't innovate our democracy. We take its structure for granted: as a framework fixed by the Founders, or (increasingly) as irrelevant. In a variety of spheres, we are attenuating the significance of the political system. We seek to achieve political as well as economic aims through individual initiative, data gathering and targeting, and technological ingenuity. What will digitally-driven decentralization and fragmentation mean for democratic aspirations? Has the system we take for granted ever made good on the promise of democracy? Will the networked public do better? Perhaps the innovations of the first democracy can help us re-invent our own. The ancient Athenians were civic entrepreneurs. In an unprecedented restructuring that provoked Plato's scorn, they accorded political equality "to equals and unequals alike." We assume that our democracy means equal power; the Athenians knew they had to have a political app for that.

Cynthia Farrar is a scholar and civic entrepreneur who applies her understanding of ancient Athenian democratic theory and practice to the challenge of engaging citizens as full partners in American democracy. From 2001 - 2007, she orchestrated non-partisan conversations among randomly-invited citizens, with local partners and MacNeil-Lehrer Productions. In 2007, Farrar founded [Purple States®](#), a video production company that brings the experiences and perspectives of ordinary people into discussions of the politics, policies, and programs that affect them. Purple States documentary video series have aired on the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA TODAY*. As a Research Scholar at Yale's Institution for Social and Policy Studies, Farrar teaches and writes about the theory and practice of democracy, ancient and modern, with a special focus on deliberative democracy. She holds a B.A. from

Yale and a Ph.D. from Cambridge University.

- This event is free and open to the public.
- For more information, contact humanities-center@ufl.edu.

Submitted by Tim Blanton, Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere

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Authors@UF: P.K. Ramachandran Nair

P.K. Ramachandran Nair, distinguished professor, School of Forest Resources and Conservation, IFAS, will talk about his book *Agroforestry - The Future of Global Land Use* on Thursday, April 2 at 4:30 p.m. in the Marston Science Library conference room 136.

P. K. Ramachandran Nair, the “father of modern agroforestry,” sees great promise in the integration of trees into agricultural systems as a strategy to alleviate global climate change through carbon sequestration. Professor Nair is a prolific author - writing books, articles and serving as editor of the *Advances in Agroforestry* book series and editor-in-chief of the *Agroforestry Systems Journal*. He grew up in India and is recognized worldwide for his expertise in agroforestry. Join Professor Nair in a conversation on global efforts to employ agroforestry to create a sustainable future.

Professor Nair is also the author of *Scientific Writing and Communication in Agriculture and Natural Resources* (2014).

Submitted by Barbara Hood, George A. Smathers Libraries

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Our Community, Our Health

UF HealthStreet Presents: Our Community, Our Health - April 9

Join community members from across the country for a conversation with health researchers. The April 9 forum will feature 20 minute presentations by experts on the topics of Type 1 diabetes, high blood pressure and health literacy. Each presentation will be followed by 10 minutes for questions and answers. This session will be live streamed in Jacksonville, FL. Our Community, Our Health is open to the public.

Thursday, April 9, 2015

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Edward Waters College at the Center for the Prevention of Health Disparities

1658 Kings Rd. Jacksonville, FL 32209

Details and RSVP: <http://bit.ly/1CV0oGo>

Submitted by Kendra Hammond, Clinical and Translational Science Institute

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Reminder: University of Florida Postdocs on Facebook and

LinkedIn

Join this [Facebook group](#) for University of Florida postdocs as well as the LinkedIn group: http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Gainesville-Postdocs-4479251?trk=myg_ugrp_ovr%20

Submitted by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

Reminder: FREE Affiliate NPA Membership

If you did not receive your invitation to join the National Postdoctoral Association or if your invitation has expired and you need to be sent a refreshed invitation, please [contact Cheryl Gater](#) to receive an invitation.

[More information.](#)

Submitted by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

Reminder: Postdoc Info Listserv

Want to receive e-mail prompts prior to postdoc events like the [Postdoc Development Workshops](#) and other postdoc events?

A listserv has been created for postdocs to receive reminders for upcoming postdoc events. Please e-mail Cheryl Gater (cgater@aa.ufl.edu) and tell me you wish to subscribe to the "postdoc info listserv."

Submitted by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

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