

# Postdoctoral Update

## Office of Postdoctoral Affairs



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POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

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## Postdoc Professional Development Workshop - May 9th

### *Networking for Scientists*

PRESENTER: Thierry Dubroca, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Associate, National High Magnetic Field Laboratory

LOCATION: Reitz Union (Room to be determined)

Networking is one of the skills listed in the NPA Core Competencies, under the communication section. Clearly, this topic is of great importance to the postdoc

community!

This workshop will cover what networking is, i.e. create new interactions among people in one's professional field of work, whether it is to introduce people to each other's or it directly benefits oneself. The main reasons for networking are to initiate collaborations (generate new innovative ideas), seek feedback about one's research (technical skills development), seek feedback about one's career (mentoring), or for job hunting. In addition to gaining an understanding of what and why networking is important, attendees will learn about tools available to practice networking. For example, the use of specific social media sites such as LinkedIn and research gate will be discussed. The majority of this workshop will be in the form of exercises, where attendees will be asked to interact with one another and develop/practice their networking skills!

Please register to attend at [https://ufl.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_bHMqzmWfmfeuglf](https://ufl.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_bHMqzmWfmfeuglf)

*Submitted by Joe McQuail, Postdoc Development Workshop Chair*

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## Postdocs in Science: A Comparison between China and the United States

My colleagues and I recently surveyed the postdoc community, the amount of federal R&D funds, and the annual number of publications in both the U.S. and China (BioScience, 65:1088-95, 2015). Postdocs play a crucial role in the research productivity of any country. A lack of jobs leaves postdocs without a future in academia in the United States. Meanwhile, other challenges threaten the postdoc community abroad. The United States and China are the world's two largest economies and are ranked first and second in scientific research, as quantified by the number of annual publications. However, these two countries have contrasting postdoc standards and different amounts of funds allocated for research and development (R&D). We compare the number of postdocs, R&D fund allocation, and the number of annual publications of these two countries and conclude that the United States has comparably higher postdoc standards, but limited growth in R&D funds during the last decade is making it increasingly hard for postdocs to find permanent jobs. Conversely, R&D funds have increased nearly tenfold in China, but postdoc standards remain low. There is an urgent need to change the general environment of postdoctoral research; although many of these changes must be instituted by universities and government organizations, some changes must come from the postdocs themselves. We have therefore provided relevant suggestions for postdocs, academic institutions, and their governments in our paper. We believe that acting on these recommendations will help to raise the standards of the global postdoc community. I have provided the references of this study at the bottom. Please feel free to share your comments with us.

Ahmed MZ (2016) [The Postdoc Crisis](#). The Scientist 30(2) 23-24 (Online first on Jan 4, 2016)

Ahmed MZ, Plotkin D, Qiu BL, Kawahara AY (2015) [Postdocs in Science: A Comparison between China and the United States](#). BioScience 65 (11): 1088-1095

*Submitted By [Muhammad Z Ahmed \(zaheerento@ufl.edu\)](#)*

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## Postdoc of the Month

The Journal of Postdoctoral Research would like to encourage your continued self- and peer-nominations for our Postdoc of the Month award. Winners will be recognized in that month's issue, as well as being invited to submit a "Spotlight" article for publication, and being entered into consideration for "Postdoc of the

Year." We've already had two winners from UF and we hope that you are our third! For more information about the award or the journal as a whole, please see the call for nominations at [tinyurl.com/postdocaward](http://tinyurl.com/postdocaward) or email the editor-in-chief, Stephan C. Jahn (a UF postdoc), at [editor-in-chief@postdocjournal.com](mailto:editor-in-chief@postdocjournal.com)

*Submitted by Stephan Jahn, Medicinal Chemistry*

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## Postdoctoral Associate Position Available

We are looking for a postdoctoral associate. This post-doctoral associate will design and perform experiments pertaining to two different projects: (1) chemical proteomics-based analysis of enzymes in chicken and (2) study of function of human extracellular vesicles in bacterial infections. Previous experience with protein methods or molecular biology is expected. If this person has any bioinformatics or programming skills, it would be an additional bonus. We anticipate that s(he) will have an active interest in developing research project, for example by proposing novel avenues of the project, alternative approaches, and reading relevant literature. After initial training, s(he) will work independently with minimal supervision, and proactively propose and test novel ideas that are relevant to the project. Moreover, this post-doctoral associate will be also responsible for some aspects of the lab maintenance pertaining to biosafety protocols and student training. Please contact Dr. Mariola Edelmann to apply for this position: [medelmann@ufl.edu](mailto:medelmann@ufl.edu).

*Submitted by Mariola Edelmann, Microbiology and Cell Science*

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## Sign Up! UF Biology at the Beach Student and Postdoc Symposium

The graduate students and post-docs of the Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience would like to invite you to our [Fourth Annual Biology at the Beach Research Symposium](#). OPEN TO ALL SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES!! This event will take place all day Saturday, May 7th at the Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience (located in Saint Augustine)!!

Enjoy a Saturday filled with casual research discussion and presentations, friendly competition, tours of the sea turtle hospital, sunshine, sunset kayak eco-tours (optional), the beach, and BBQ!

Students and post-doctoral fellows are invited from many different departments and Florida universities, so anticipate learning from, and explaining your research to a diverse audience united by scientific curiosity and the beach. So far we have attendees from 20 departments and 4 universities registered! We also encourage undergraduates pursuing degrees in the sciences, and/ or involved in research to come explore their post-graduate options! This is a great opportunity for them to get an abstract for their CVs so please let your students know as well!

Breakfast and registration open at 9:30 am and talks begin at 10:00 sharp, allowing time for a commute to the Whitney. If you are interested and would like to join us, please fill out the registration survey by April 29th: [https://ufl.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_6zdP6HYX7L1QzBL](https://ufl.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6zdP6HYX7L1QzBL)

Attendance to the symposium is limited, so please don't wait too long to register!

All attendees are given the option to present research in one of three formats, providing the opportunity to practice poster and oral presentation skills (see registration survey for details). There is also the opportunity to compete in an optional vote-based competition for best poster and best talk with prizes! Also,

indicate whether you are able to drive/carpool, as we will attempt to arrange carpools to economize transportation.

Registration fees are to be collected at sign-in (\$20; please, cash or check only), and will cover three meals, drinks served throughout the day and fun symposium giveaways!

Please register using the link and join us for a fun, casual day at the beach where we can discuss diverse research topics, engage in outdoor activities, and get to know more peers from outside of our individual fields!

Attendees:

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at [BiologyAtTheBeach@whitney.ufl.edu](mailto:BiologyAtTheBeach@whitney.ufl.edu)

We hope to see you there!

[https://ufl.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_6zdP6HYX7L1Qzbl](https://ufl.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6zdP6HYX7L1Qzbl)

Check out photos from last year's conference at <http://www.whitney.ufl.edu/academic/biology-at-the-beach/>

*Submitted by Emily Dabe, Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience*

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## UF College of Veterinary Medicine Recruiting Dogs

The UF College of Veterinary Medicine's dermatology research group are recruiting dogs for a number of clinical studies. In particular we are recruiting:

- Dogs with allergic skin disease (canine atopic dermatitis) which do not have concurrent skin infections (all breeds, but particularly Golden Retrievers and Australian Shepherd dogs).
- Healthy Golden Retrievers and Australian Shepherd dogs.

Please see the College's Veterinary Research page for more details of the studies currently recruiting: <http://research.vetmed.ufl.edu/clinical-trials/small-animal/>

*Submitted by Nicky Craig, College of Veterinary Medicine*

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## UF MiCaRT Center Seminar, April 28: Global Health Research Opportunities in Africa

You are invited to join us for the UF MiCaRT Center Seminar on Global Health Research Opportunities in Africa taking place on Thursday, April 28, 2016 from 4:00-6:00pm in HPNP Room G114. View our flyer for more information: <https://cancercenter-research.sites.medinfo.ufl.edu/files/2015/10/MiCaRT-Center-GlobalHealthResearchSeminarApril-28.pdf>

To register for the Seminar, copy and paste the link below to go to the registration site: <https://goo.gl/OCzb6>

To join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone, click on the following link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/306531501>. You can also dial in using your phone: (224) 501-3412 | Access Code: 306-531-501.

RSVP at <https://goo.gl/OCzb6> if you plan to attend. We look forward to your participation.

*Submitted by Jenn Nguyen, College of Pharmacy*

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## MiCaRT Center Workshop: Cultural Competency

The MiCaRT Center is offering a cultural competency workshop on April 28<sup>th</sup>. It will be limited to the first 20 respondents and designed for staff, researchers, faculty, admin, and healthcare providers. For more information, visit:

<http://micart.cancer.ufl.edu/2016/04/04/culturalcompworkshop/>

*Submitted by Jenn Nguyen, College of Pharmacy*

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## Postdoc Funding Opportunities

On the [Resources](#) page of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs website, we have created a Funding Opportunities page which lists all the different types of funding available to postdocs.

*Submitted by Office of Postdoctoral Affairs*

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## Postdoc HR Issues:

**Insurance and Benefits:** If you have questions about benefits enrollment or eligibility, please contact UF's [Human Resource Services'](#) Benefits Office at [benefits@ufl.edu](mailto: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](mailto:kczap@ufl.edu).

*Submitted by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs*

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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](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Gainesville-Postdocs-4479251?trk=myg_ugrp_ovr%20)

*Submitted by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs*

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## Reminder: FREE Affiliate NPA Membership

If you would like to receive an 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*

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## 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](mailto: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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