May 13, 2022
Volume 3, Issue 8

COVID-19

May Edition

HUB AT HOPKINS

COVID-19 RESOURCE CENTER

HUM COVID-19 INTERVENTION PARTNERS

MARYLAND DEPT OF HEALTH

CLICK HERE to read about Booster Shots: Hopkins encourages 3rd doses of COVID vaccines for all adults. Make an appointment for a booster through MyChart.

Universal masking: 34 Medicine has reinstated universal masking as of May 2, regardless of vaccination status. If you experience COVID-19 symptoms, call the Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Call Center at 443-287-8500 for evaluation and guidance.

Thesis Defense Alert!
Rao Lab BCMB student Allatha Mekile will be defending her thesis in the Mountcastle Auditorium, May 16 at 1 pm! She will present her research on the link between endosomal Na+/H+ exchanger NHE6 and insulin stimulated glucose uptake in adipocytes.

Announcements
Stay tuned for updates on department events like Mandatory Fun Day and Happy Hours possibly returning soon (especially now it's warm enough to have events outside!)

Farewells
We wish Monish Makena good luck as he moves on to his new position at the NIH!

Calendar
March is:
Asian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month
Mental Health Awareness Month
National Stroke Awareness Month
ALS Awareness Month
Arthritis Awareness Month

For API Heritage Month event, on May 24, join Soon-Ye Bae, Ph.D., professor of medical oncology at Thomas Jefferson University, will speak on challenges of health disparities among Asian Americans. Register to join here.

Most recent department Diversity Journal Club tackles gender bias in teacher evaluations and ratings

From your newsletter Editors:
The papers discussed during the most recent Diversity Journal Club event, held on Friday, April 29, included “What’s in a Name: Exposing Gender Bias in Student Ratings of Teaching” and “Mitigating gender bias in student evaluations of teaching.” Some of the discussion I (Erica) was a part of centered around the shift in ratings when the evaluators were given a statement warning them to avoid bias and how certain marginalized groups often experience a negative bias in their evaluations. Was there an overcorrection for bias with the statement during evaluation? An interesting third set of data could be providing a warning statement about bias but not describing the bias experience of specific marginalized groups. The women’s ratings went up with the group given this statement, understandably, but why did the ratings for the men decrease? When we’re evaluating any kind of application, grant submission, or piece of work, is blinding any identifying information, despite the effort that may take, a possible worthwhile remedy? – not just for gender but for any bias, including status and position. These are all interesting points of discussion we were able to have among the attendees (mostly women, of course, but thank you to the men who did attend.)

A message from the organizers:
Dear all,
We have now had n=4 Departmental Journal Clubs on Diversity/Equity/Inclusion-related topics, and we would value your feedback. Please take this anonymous survey and tell us what you think.

Please note: even if you did not attend, we would appreciate you answering the first couple questions on the survey: “Also, all of these questions are optional – you can skip any question! Thank you to Dr. Rao and Dr. Pluznick for organizing these very important journal club events! Please see below for the link to the survey about Diversity Journal Club!

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Thanks,
Joan and Rajini
Awards and Accomplishments

Nanami Senoo of the Claypool lab and Monish Makena of the Rao lab in celebrated their postdoc Young Investigator’s Day awards April 14 in the Mountcastle auditorium. They showed their posters at a session and reception immediately following the program in Greenhouse Cafe.

Mackenzie Kui and Jiaojiao Xu received Renal Research Recognition Awards at the Experimental Biology meeting held April 2-5.

SAVE THE DATE: Rao Lab BCMB student Allatah Mekile will be defending her thesis on May 16 at 1 pm in the Mountcastle Auditorium! She will present her research on the link between endosomal Na+/H+ exchanger NHE6 and insulin stimulated glucose uptake in adipocytes.

Equal Access in Science and Medicine (EASM), led in part by Erica Avery, is being recognized with a joint Student Disability Services/Disability Health Research Center 2021 Accessibility & Inclusion Student Group Award. We are hoping to have a virtual award ceremony on June 1, 2022 at 1 pm.