Postdoc Corner

Young women in physics explore faculty careers in inaugural MIT workshop

By Elizabeth A. Thomson for MIT News

Twenty-four of the world’s leading female physicists gathered at MIT recently for a two-day workshop aimed at increasing the number of women who pursue faculty positions in physics. In the United States, only 16 percent of physics faculty are women, according to a fall 2015 analysis by the American Institute of Physics. At MIT, about 15 percent of the faculty in the Department of Physics are women. "One of the main goals of the inaugural Rising Stars in Physics Workshop is to change those statistics," says Professor Peter Fisher, head of the MIT Department of Physics. "The idea was to bring together the next generation of women physics leaders for two days of scientific discussions, panels, and informal discussions aimed at navigating the early stages of an academic career." Participants were selected from 82 applicants. All were within a year of graduating with a PhD or obtained a PhD no earlier than 2011.

Click here to read the full article.

Addressing Biomedical Science's PhD Problem

by Catherine Offord for The Scientist

PhD degrees aren't what they used to be. In 1973, more than half of doctoral degree graduates in biological sciences landed a tenure-track position within six years. Three decades later, that fraction had dropped to 15 percent. Demand has not kept pace with supply, says Bruce
1. Change of Address
2016 W-2 tax forms are expected to be mailed on 1/30. Any address changes need to be submitted prior to 1/20. Check that your information is correct on InsideND.

2. Tax filing
Beware - even if you didn’t receive a pay check from Notre Dame or other sources in regards to your appointment, you still may be expected to submit a document to IRS.

3. Notre Dame/Saint Mary's College Tax Assistance Program (TAP)
This service is free for those who made an annualized income of $45,000 or below during the 2016 tax period. For international visitors, appointments will be offered Mondays through Thursdays from 2/20 through 4/13. For US citizens, no appointments are necessary. Visit https://tap.nd.edu/ for more information.

Career Services
How To Transition From Academia Into Business
By by Isaiah Hankel, Ph.D. for Cheeky Scientist
I sent resumes to over 200 companies during my last year of graduate school and heard back from exactly zero of them. It was embarrassing. And confusing. I guess I just assumed that big corporations would fall all over themselves trying to hire me once I had a PhD. Not so much.

Getting my PhD turned out to the beginning of a whole new challenge: getting a job. This is something I didn’t have any training for. I’d never taken any classes in economics, finance, management, marketing, or organizational behavior. I’d never had a business lunch or made any real business connection whatsoever.

And, to make matters worse, none of my mentors or thesis committee members knew anyone in business. I was on my own.

Click here to read the full article by Hankel.

Can We Really Measure Implicit Bias? Maybe Not
By Tom Bartlett for The Chronicle of Higher Education
I harbor a moderate preference for white faces. You probably do, too: About 70 percent of people who take the race version of the Implicit Association Test show the same tendency—that is, they prefer faces with typically European-American features over those with African-American features. Since it first went online in 1998, millions have visited Harvard’s Project Implicit website, and the results have been cited in thousands of peer-reviewed papers. No other measure has been as influential in the conversation about unconscious bias. That influence extends well beyond the academy. The findings come up often in discussions of police shootings of black men, and the concept of implicit bias circulated widely after Hillary Clinton mentioned it during the presidential campaign. The test provides scientific grounding for the idea that unacknowledged prejudice often lurks just below society’s surface. “When we relax our active efforts to be egalitarian, our implicit biases can lead to discriminatory behavior,” according to the Project Implicit website, “so it is critical to be mindful of this possibility if we want to avoid prejudice and discrimination.”

Click here to read the full article by Bartlett.

Events and Workshops

Foundations of Teaching

This four-part series will introduce and develop the fundamental skills of effective teaching, including communicating expectations, facilitating a class, grading, and teaching critical thinking skills. This will give first-time and early TAs a solid foundation for successful teaching in graduate school and beyond.

Date: Thursdays; January 19, 26, February 2 & 9
Time: 9:30 to 10:45 am

For more information and registration, click here.

Fireside Chat on Leadership and Innovation
The Office of the Provost and the Graduate School will present an evening with entrepreneur and business leader Celeste Volz Ford and Four Star Air Force General Ellen Pawlikowski.

The talk will revolve around reflections on each individual’s path to their current role, early influences and decision making at critical personal and career junctures, reflections on mentors and partners along the way, aspirations and advice for audience members as they navigate their way.

January 26, 2017
Program: 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.
Reception: 5:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Hesburgh, Joyce, Carmichael Rooms in the Morris Inn

Please register here. All postdocs are welcome to attend.

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World on Tap

All postdocs are invited to The World on Tap, a social at Rohr’s held every first Wednesday of the month. Free appetizers will be served, and the first 50 attendees will receive a free drink ticket valued up to $6. Please bring a valid photo ID to this event.

- Date: February 1, 2017
- Time: 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
- Location: Rohr’s at the Morris Inn (map)

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The Harper Cancer Research Institute’s 6th Annual Research Day

Monday, April 10, 2017

- 7:30am - 9:00am Registration - The Morris Inn, Pre-function Area
- 9:00am - 1:00pm Poster Session - The Morris Inn, Ballroom
- 1:00pm - 3:00pm Trainee presentations - The Morris Inn, Formal Dining Rooms
- 3:00pm - 4:00pm Faculty presentations - The Morris Inn, Ballroom
- 4:00pm - 5:00pm Career Panel- The Morris Inn, Ballroom
- 5:00pm - 6:00pm Keynote: by Dr. Otis Brawley, Chief Medical

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Discover interesting career paths as an alternative to the faculty track
Join a large community of post-academics to consult about your situation and the versatility of your PhD, MA, or postdoctoral appointment
Read job listings appropriate for postdocs
Network with successful post-academic PhDs nationwide

For more information about Versatile PhD and how to use it, click here.

Spotlight Jobs of the Week

Engineering

- Product Sustainability Director
- Water/Wastewater Project Engineer

Humanities

- Postdoctoral Fellowship in Intelligence Studies
- Development Director, Theatre and Education

Business

- Assistant/Associate Professor and Director of Composition - Miami University in Oxford Ohio
- 2017 Professional Development Program - Officer of the American Cancer Society
- 6:10pm - 8pm Reception

Funding Opportunities

2017-2018 Whitaker International Fellows and Scholars Program
Whitaker International program, an enriching opportunity for recent U.S. graduates in the field of biomedical engineering or bioengineering to receive a grant to fund research projects or study programs abroad.
Deadline: January 24, 2017
Click here to learn about Whitaker International Program
Click here to apply for the 2017-18 Whitaker International Fellows and Scholars Program

L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Fellowship Program

The L’Oréal USA For Women in Science fellowship program awards five women postdoctoral scientists annually with grants of $60,000 each for their contributions in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields and commitment to serving as role models for younger generations. The program is the U.S. component of the L’Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science International Fellowships program. Celebrating its thirteenth year in the U.S., the For Women in Science program has awarded 65 postdoctoral women scientists over $3 million in grants.

Applications are open and due by February 3, 2017.
The application and more information about the L’Oréal USA For Women in Science program can be found here.

Research Day T-Shirt Design Contest
Science

- Postdoctoral position in Single particle plasmonics/single molecule detection
- Postdoctoral positions in Virology/Neuroscience

Social Science

- Chicano/Latino Education - Assistant Professor
- Program Director, Delaware Network for Excellence in Autism

Positive Productivity Points

Research: Cracking a Joke at Work Can Make You Seem More Competent

By Alison Wood Brooks for Harvard Business Review

GPS for Mind, Body & Soul

The 10 Most Exciting Healthy Books to Read in 2017

By Emily Laurence for Well+Good

Deadline: February 13, 2017

The Harper Cancer Research Institute wants your designs for their annual Research Day t-shirt. They're getting an early start this year so you can harness your creativity over break. The winning designer will receive a $200 VISA gift card and bragging rights. Multiple entries from one person are welcome. For the full list of contest rules, please email Angela Cavalieri at Cavalieri.2@nd.edu.

2016-17 Indiana CTSI Postdoc Challenge

Grant funding to use CTSI-Designated Core Facilities

Postdoctoral research associates from the University of Notre Dame are encouraged to submit applications that clearly articulate their translational strategy (ie: from lab bench to bed side) and how this strategy can be advanced through the use of technologies offered by a core facility (www.indianactsi.org/servicecores). Applicants must make contact with and request a Letter of Support from the Core Facility Manager(s) to confirm that the proposed project can be accomplished in their core facility. Awardees will be expected to develop and manage a project budget that aligns with the translational strategy. A six-month and a final progress report will be required over the 1-year project period. If you are interested in participating, you must discuss your proposal with your advisor prior to beginning the application process to ensure your participation will be approved.

Application: A link to the application can be found here. A letter of support from the applicant's advisor is necessary for participation in this challenge. Applications are due by Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 5:00pm EDT. Awardees will be announced in April 2017. Questions can be directed to Wendy Field at wfield@purdue.edu.

Fellowships in Energy Research for Postdocs

ND Energy offers competitive fellowships for undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral research associates to conduct energy-related research at Notre Dame. These fellowships support new advancements in energy technologies, while broadening the educational experiences for students and postdocs receiving these awards. If you are interested in energy-related research and would like to apply for a postdoc fellowship, please click on the appropriate link below. For Postdocs, the applications will be accepted year round.

Click here for the ND Energy Postdoctoral Fellowship Program application guidelines.
Information is also available via the [Funding Opportunities Webpage](#) with an ND Net ID and Password required. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Barbara Villarosa (574-631-4776).

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### Professional Development

#### Graduate School Professional Development Programs

All postdocs may take professional development programs from the Graduate School.

For more information on programming or to register, please click [here](#).

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### Workshops from the Writing Center

#### Use Writing to Teach Critical Thinking

Want to transform your students into active learners, engage them in solving disciplinary problems, and foster their critical thinking? Research shows that one of the best ways to achieve these goals is to integrate writing assignments into your classes. The University Writing Center is pleased to offer consultations with instructors who want help designing and integrating writing assignments. We welcome instructors from every discipline, especially STEM subjects. Email writing@nd.edu with the subject "Teaching Consultation" to set up a meeting!

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### Workshops from the Kaneb Center

Are you interested in learning more about discipline-specific teaching and learning in the university setting? The university offers workshops on university teaching and learning in various fields through the Kaneb Center! Consider enrolling in one of the workshops.

For workshop descriptions, click [here](#).

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### Workshops from the NCFDD

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**Social Media**

ND Postdoc Facebook Group

@NDPostdocs
The National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity is an independent professional development, training and mentoring community of over 71,000 graduate students, postdocs, and faculty members. The NCFDD is 100% dedicated to supporting academics in making successful transitions throughout their careers. They offer on-campus workshops, professional development training, and intensive mentoring programs.

The University of Notre Dame is an institutional member of the NCFDD. Through Notre Dame’s membership, ND Postdocs may claim an Institutional Sub-account Membership at no cost and enjoy all the benefits of a NCFDD Individual Membership. Register here to join NCFDD.

For a list of the Fall 2017 webinars, click here.

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Hesburgh Libraries Workshops

The Hesburgh Libraries and Center for Digital Scholarship workshops are offered to all ND Postdocs.

Hesburgh Libraries Workshops

- Register: http://library.nd.edu/about/workshops.shtml
- Click here for this week’s list of workshops.

Most of the CDS workshops take place in the CDS Classroom (Room 129), Hesburgh Library 1st Floor Northeast.

Multimedia and Library Technologies

- Tuesday, January 31st
- Hesburgh Library
- 5PM - 6PM

Who Said That? Citation Management

- Tuesday, February 21st
- 228 Coleman Morse - Learning Resource Center
- 5PM - 6PM

Finding and Using Images

- Tuesday, March 21st
- 228 Coleman Morse - Learning Resource Center
- 5PM - 6PM

CDS Workshop Information and Registration: library.nd.edu/cds/workshops

Library Workshop Calendar: nd.libcal.com/calendar/allworkshops

Questions? cds@nd.edu

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English for Academic Purposes Workshops

The Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures’ English for Academic Purposes program offers workshops that are open to all ND Postdocs.

More information: https://cslc.nd.edu/programs/eap/workshops/
PhD Humor

“Our mistake. We introduced a politician’s genes in that one!”

Courtesy of Vadlo.com