Academic Insights Seminar Series

Insights to help you launch a career in academic medicine.



9/19/18 Faculty Panel: A Successful Postdoctoral Experience

Marites Melancon, PhD, Assistant Professor Interventional Radiology Steven Millward, PhD, Assistant Professor Cancer Systems Imaging

Hui Zhao, PhD, Assistant Professor Health Services Research

For this series we invite faculty members and others in academia to share remarks, advice, insights and strategies that can help postdocs maximize their postdoctoral experience.

10/22/18 AISS Special Session: Everyone's favorite mistakes

Jean-luc Doumont, Principal, Principale

Although as scientists, you can be models of rigor in your area of expertise, scientists and other rational minds often appear to abandon all logic in other aspects of their lives. As a result, they draw wrong conclusions and take suboptimal decisions that work against the interest of all involved. By unmasking typical incorrect reasonings at home and at work, this lecture will sharpen your critical thinking in every aspect of your life.

10/26/18 AISS Special Sessions: Pre-NatureJobs Career Expo Sessions

Lauren Celano, Founder and CEO, Propel Careers

NOTE LOCATION: AT & T Auditorium B2.4750 Note Times

1) How to Evaluate, Build and Highlight Transferable and Career Relevant Skills

1:30p - 2p

2) Becoming a Leader: Cultivating Leadership Skills for Career Success3) Overview of Career Opportunities in the Life Sciences Sector

2:30p - 3p

11a - Noon

11/14/18 What do you need to know about statistics?

Hui Zhao, PhD, Assistant Professor Health Services Research

In this session, which will be the first addressing statistics and experiment analysis, Dr. Zhao will share remarks, advice, and provide insights and strategies that can help them optimize their experiment analysis and statistical methods.

12/12/18 Bioinformatics & computational biology in research and collaborations

John Weinstein, PhD, Chair and Prof., Bioinformatics & Computational Biology

In this session Dr. Weinstein will share remarks, advice, and provide insights and strategies that can help them learn about bioinformatics resources and identify opportunities within their own projects to seek collaborations with data scientists

1/16/19 A Note to My Younger Self

Keri Schadler, PhD, Assistant Professor, Pediatrics – Research

Rajat Bhattacharya, PhD, Assistant Professor, Surgical Oncology - Research

Peiying Yang, PhD. Associate Professor, Integrative Medicine Research

Khalid Mohamodali, PhD. Assistant Professor, Experimental Thorapoutic

Khalid Mohamedali, PhD, Assistant Professor, Experimental Therapeutics

Three research faculty members share personal and career insights they would share with their younger selves to maximize their postdoc experience and make their personal and professional lives even more satisfying and productive.

2/06/19 AISS Special: Our journey from the bench to business

Maurice Y.F. Shen, PhD, Head of Academic Relations, BenchSci

NOTE LOCATION: Mendelsohn Faculty Center 1st Floor – FC1.2002

Dr. Shen will his story about how the BenchSci team went from a bunch of grad students meeting in a cafeteria to running a venture-funded company, and will provide some tips and advice for those interested in exploring entrepreneurship as an alternative career for PhDs.

3rd Wednesdays | Pickens 3rd Floor | FCT3.5001 | 2:00 – 3:30pm

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2/20/19 Leadership Workshop

Mauro Ferrari, PhD, President & CEO, Houston Methodist Research Institute

Ernest Cockrell Jr. Presidential Distinguished Chair

Drawing from experience, Dr. Ferrari will provide executive insights into developing our individual pathways to serving others. He will discuss 1) how we find our greatness; 2) refusing to die; 3) identifying the source of energy and 4) the final secret.

3/6/19 Emotional Intelligence and Leadership Training during your postdoc.

Courtney Holladay, Executive Director, Leadership Institute

In this session postdocs will gain awareness into how emotional intelligence can increase your effectiveness in the workplace. After the seminar, postdocs will be able to identify key practices that can build your skills in this area for long term impact.

4/17/19 Surviving in Science

Isaiah J. Fidler, DVM, PhD, Professor, Cancer Biology

Dr. Fidler discusses challenges he faced when starting his independent scientist position

in academia.

5/15/19 The Fusion of Research and Education

Shivas Amin, PhD, Associate Professor, University of St. Thomas

In this session, Dr. Amin shares words of wisdom about entering the world of teaching from a postdoctoral fellowship. He will provide perspective on how to grow as an educator and share tips for turning part-time experience or vising professorships into tenure track positions.

6/19/19 What are Chalk Talks and How to Prepare for One?

Stephanie Watowich, PhD, Professor, Dept. of Immunology,

Co-Director of the Center for Inflammation and Cancer at MDACC

Chalk talks are part of the interview process for a faculty position in which the future research plan is presented. In this session, Dr. Watowich will explain what a chalk talk is, how to prepare for one, and how to master it.

7/17/19 "How to Prepare and Submit a Research Article for Publication"

Members of the Department of Scientific Publication share insights regarding writing your manuscript succinctly and coherently and for managing multiple authors.

Saturday, July 20 Inaugural Academic Research Career Symposium

8/07/19 Academic Insights Special Sessions on Entrepreneurship

Life Science Innovation in Houston: Gaining Skills and Experiences to Complement

Your Scientific Expertise

Robert Williams, Director, Enventure and PhD Candidate, UTHealth

8/21/19 Recruitment Process Overview

Norma Salinas, Sr. Recruiter Human Resources – Talent Recruitment

Including an overview of the MD Anderson recruitment process, the speaker shares what happens after job applications are submitted, interview to-do and don't-do and the differences between interviewing with a hiring manager and interviewing with HR.