Plans are underway for commencement and convocation!!
It’s that time of year that we all look forward to - Springtime and Commencement!! If you have graduated in the last academic year or expect to defend your thesis by June 1, 2009, you are considered a 2009 graduate and will be part of the ceremonies.

Please contact Fran Mittleman (mittlefr@umdnj.edu) if you have not received the information or you have any questions.

On Monday, March 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m., the annual University-wide tuition meeting for students will be held by videoconference connecting Newark, New Brunswick, Piscataway, Scotch Plains, Stratford and Camden. Below are the locations of the meeting:

Newark: Oral Health Pavilion at NJDS, B961 Lecture Hall
New Brunswick: Clinical Academic Building (CAB), Room 3403
Piscataway: Research Tower, R-123, Dean's Conference Room
Scotch Plains: UMDNJ-SHRP Building, Room 506
Stratford: Academic Center (AC), Room 276
Camden: Education and Research Building (ERB), Room 246B

Need to Sharpen Your Professional Development Skills? ASM Has an Institute to Meet Your Needs!

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

2009 ASM Presentation Institute for Graduate Students
Application Deadline: 15 March 2009

Two day workshop held prior to the ASM General Meeting. Skills training in abstract preparation and scientific presentations. Institute is open to masters level graduate students and early doctoral graduate students. Institute will be held May 16-17, 2009 at the Sheraton Hotel in Philadelphia, PA.
2009 ASM Kadner Institute in Preparation for Careers in Microbiology Application Deadline: May 15, 2009

Five day intensive skills training in grant writing, presentations, teaching and mentoring, career planning and ethics. Institute is open to senior level graduate students and postdoctoral scientists in the first two years of their postdoctoral position. Institute will be held July 18-22, 2009 at the University of Colorado, Boulder, CO.

Visit [www.asmgap.org](http://www.asmgap.org) for more information and application details.

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**NIH's transition to electronic submission**

It was announced this week that the NIH's transition to electronic submission of applications for Individual National Research Service Awards (Fs), originally scheduled to occur April 8, 2009, has been postponed due to Grants.gov-related delays. Until a new transition date is confirmed, these applications should continue to be submitted on paper forms. Plans to require electronic submission of applications via Grants.gov using the SF424 (R&R) forms for Individual Research Career Development Award Programs ("K"s) – with the exception of K12s - have not changed. For more information, please see:


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**The Annual Retreat on Cancer Research in New Jersey, May 27, 2009 at UMDNJ-RWJMS**

See email for details

[www.njcancerretreat.org](http://www.njcancerretreat.org)

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A message from your Student Wellness Program: 732-235-5933
Increasing Awareness about Alcohol Abuse

Now that winter break seems like a distant memory and you have settled back into the routine of engaging in school related tasks, there is a good chance you may be feeling overwhelmed by the continuous demands of being a student. As such it’s plausible the rigorous schedules that are carried by students might also leave one vulnerable to using alcohol as a way of coping with stress.

If you have concerns about your own or someone else’s alcohol use, please do not hesitate to contact the SWP for assistance at 732-235-5933 to schedule an appointment (day or evening).

UMDNJ-University Behavioral HealthCare
220 Old New Brunswick Road, Suite #104
Piscataway, NJ 08854