



# Rutgers Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

## October/November Monthly Announcements

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Dear students,

[GSBS at RWJMS Senior Associate Dean Announcement](#)

Dr. Millonig Appointed Senior Associate Dean for the Rutgers Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (GSBS at RWJMS)

I am delighted to announce the appointment of James H Millonig, PhD, associate professor of neuroscience and cell biology to Senior Associate Dean for the GSBS at RWJMS, effective October 15, 2013. Dr. Millonig joined the faculty of RWJMS in 1999 as a resident member of the Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine. In 2010, he accepted the position of Assistant Dean of Medical Scientist Training and Director of the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School - Princeton University MD/PhD program, positions that he will maintain with his new appointment. In his new role as Senior Associate Dean, he will assume responsibility for the biomedical PhD and Masters programs at GSBS at RWJMS and work closely with the GSBS Dean and the GSBS Newark divisions as well as with the Rutgers Graduate School New Brunswick and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at RWJMS.

Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy, Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology & Pediatrics at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, has served as Senior Associate Dean of GSBS at RWJMS since October 2007. During her tenure, Dr. Kinzy has made influential contributions to the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and we owe her a great deal of gratitude for her many contributions to our school. I know you all join me as we wish Dr. Kinzy much success in her new role as Associate Vice President for Research Administration at Rutgers, a role to which she will bring the same degree of commitment and energy that she has brought to GSBS over the years.

Dr. Millonig's research, teaching, and leadership skills will be invaluable as he takes on his new responsibilities. His internationally recognized research investigates the molecular and cell biological basis of autism. He has made significant contributions to understanding the role of the transcription factor ENGRAILED 2 in autism susceptibility. He is a standing member of the National Institutes of Health study section for developmental brain disorders and received a 2012 Thomas Edison Patent award for his research. He and his collaborators were recently awarded a NJ Autism Center of Excellence grant to generate and characterize stem cells from individuals with autism.

Dr. Millonig earned his doctorate degree at Princeton University, where he was a student with Shirley M Tilghman PhD, a National Academy of Sciences member and the immediate past president of Princeton University. He completed his postdoctoral training in developmental neurobiology in the laboratory of Mary E Hatten, PhD at The Rockefeller University in New York.

Dr. James Millonig brings to this position a notable research background, effective administrative skills and a strong commitment to GSBS. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Millonig on his appointment as Senior Associate Dean of the Rutgers Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

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### **1. Student Wellness Program- Altruism & Happiness: Perfect Together**

As the academic year unfolds and the scholastic demands continue to multiply, perhaps this might be a good time to take stock of one such option that could afford all of us the opportunity to lessen such stressors (perceived or authentic) and visualize an openness to the personal contentment which we all search for with regularity... cultivating enjoyment in our lives by means of altruism.

(Please see attachment)

### **2. Student Wellness Program- Self-Confidence**

Self-confidence is a powerful attribute and can have a profound impact on all areas of an individual's life; yet for many individuals, there is a tremendous struggle to fully embrace this trait of self-efficacy. Too often poor self-confidence or low self-esteem can hold a person back from opportunities that can enhance their professional careers, transmit excitement into their personal relationships, or lead them towards accomplishing individual goals. (Please see attachment)

### **3. Sexual Assault Resources**

"When You're the Victim" and "Sexual Assault Protocol Resources".

(Please see attachments)

### **4. Federal Tax Refund for Same-Sex Married Couples**

As a result of the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision invalidating portions of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), the United States Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) have ruled that certain federal tax benefits are now extended to same-sex married couples. As such, employees may be eligible to receive a refund of federal income and employment taxes paid in tax year 2013 from Rutgers, and in previous tax years by filing an amended income tax return with the IRS.

Under this new ruling, same-sex married couples will be treated as married for federal tax purposes, including income and gift and estate taxes. This policy shift has implications for all federal tax provisions for which marriage is a factor, including filing status, claiming personal and dependency deductions, employee benefits, contributing to an IRA and claiming the earned income tax credit or child tax credit.

This new ruling applies to any same-sex marriage entered into in any of the 50 states, including the District of Columbia, any U.S. territory, or any foreign country. The ruling does not, however, apply to registered domestic partnerships, civil unions, or any similar formal relationships recognized under state law.

Legally-married same sex couples generally must file their 2013 federal income tax return using the "married, filing jointly," or "married, filing separately," tax filing statuses.

In order to comply with the new ruling from the federal government, Rutgers University Human Resources (UHR) is requesting that employees seeking to file for a 2013 tax refund or seeking to stop withholding of federal income taxes to provide a copy of the marriage license to UHR. Payroll will correct the additional federal income and employment taxes withheld in 2013 and a refund will be generated in a subsequent biweekly paycheck. Employees can also change their federal W-4 online through Employee Self Service based upon your individual tax situation.

More information regarding the record and benefit coverage level changes which may be made as a result of a legally-recognized marriage, civil union or same-sex domestic partnership can be found at <http://uhr.rutgers.edu/worklife-balance/life-events/marriage-civil-union-or-same-sex-domestic-partnership>.

Employees should also note that, generally, the statute of limitations for the filing of a refund claim is three years from the date the return was filed or two years from the date the tax was paid, whichever is later. As a result, refund claims can still be filed for tax years 2010, 2011 and 2012, depending on when the marriage license was issued. Taxpayers who wish to file a refund claim for income taxes should use Form 1040X, the Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return.

Additionally, employees should be aware that the beneficiary that they have designated through their retirement plan may change due to recognized marital status, and that a previously named primary beneficiary, such as a child, niece, nephew, etc. would now be super-ceded by the legal marital status change. In order to maintain previously named beneficiaries, it is recommended that you update or change your beneficiary information on file with the State pension system to which you belong.

If you have any additional questions regarding this new policy, please feel free to reach out to UHR at (848) 932-3020, or via email at [info@hr.rutgers.edu](mailto:info@hr.rutgers.edu).

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Vivian Fernández,  
Vice President for Faculty & Staff Resources

## **5. Fellowship Opportunity for Postdocs in STEM from Northeastern University: Applications Due 1/15**

Northeastern University STEM Future Faculty Fellowship Program

Northeastern University invites nominations and applications from candidates in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields for the Northeastern University STEM Future Faculty Fellowship (Postdoctoral) Program.

The objectives of the STEM Future Faculty fellowship program are:

- 1) to encourage and promote excellence and diversity in the pool of future faculty candidates in the STEM fields at Northeastern;
- 2) to introduce to Northeastern's academic community qualified postdoctoral researchers in the STEM fields who are considering faculty careers;
- 3) to enhance opportunities for academic careers in the STEM fields for persons from diverse backgrounds who have demonstrated a commitment to an inclusive faculty and an inclusive academic experience for all students;
- 4) to prepare Future Faculty Fellows for possible tenure-track appointments at Northeastern;
- 5) to enhance the academic environment of Northeastern's STEM fields by providing opportunities for students and faculty to gain experience in multi-cultural, broadly diverse and inclusive work settings and research collaborations that improve the capacity of all their members.

For more information about the Future Faculty Fellowship, please see the attached program description and flyer or visit:

[www.northeastern.edu/advance/recruitment/northeastern-university-stem-future-faculty-fellowship-program/](http://www.northeastern.edu/advance/recruitment/northeastern-university-stem-future-faculty-fellowship-program/)  
(Please see attachments)

## **6. Congressional advocacy for trainees**

Dear Post Docs, Graduate Students, MD-PhD Students:

It's your turn: you can support funding for the National Institutes of Health! The recent agreement in Congress provides funding until Jan. 15, but the long-term budget remains to be worked out. You can authentically speak about the future of biomedical research and its importance to all of us.

Use one of the links below to enter the legislative action center at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and send a personal message by email to your representative and two senators in Washington, DC.

Step 1. Using a personal device or non-university-owned computer, go to one of the following links (a log-in or sign-on is NOT required to view these sites):

For Post-docs: <http://www.capwiz.com/aamc/issues/alert/?alertid=62961516&type=co>

For PhD Graduate Students: <http://www.capwiz.com/aamc/issues/alert/?alertid=62966246&type=co>

For MD-PhD Students: <http://www.capwiz.com/aamc/issues/alert/?alertid=62966336&type=co>

Step 2: Fill in information on your name and address. The system will automatically identify your senators and representative in Congress.

Step 3: Review the template message. If you wish, add text in the space provided about your own training and institution, and why NIH funding is critical. (If you prefer, you can leave that section unedited).

Step 4: Press "Send Message". An email will go automatically to your members of Congress.

Every message counts! Please encourage other students and post-docs to participate also. The deadline for sending letters is Nov. 1, 2013. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact [sheinig@aamc.org](mailto:sheinig@aamc.org) at the AAMC. This effort is being organized by the AAMC and the Group on Graduate Research, Education, and Training (GREAT Group).

## **7. RU Just in Case app**

Introducing the free Rutgers Just in Case App. With the touch of a button on your smart phone or tablet, you can link to all the available resources on campus - RHS-CAPS, RUPD, and more - as well as local and national hotlines. Scan the code above or connect to <http://codu.co/cee05e> and you are ready to assist – just in case.



## **8. GradFund Update: Fall 2013**

1. Check out the New GradFund Website!
2. Individual Appointments
3. Mock Review Sessions
4. GradFund Drop-In Hours
5. Follow GradFund on Social Media

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### 1. Check out the New GradFund Website!

We've just updated our website! The site is full of useful information and guidance on how to apply for grants and fellowships as a graduate student. A new feature includes the GradFund Database with nearly 4000 grants and fellowships searchable by funder, award, keywords and citizenship requirements.

### 2. Individual Appointments

We offer individual appointments throughout the year to assist graduate students with identifying and applying for external research grants and fellowships. Pre-application meetings are designed to help graduate students identify and learn more about possible grants and fellowships to apply for to support graduate work. Application review meetings are designed to provide feedback and guidance on application materials under development for a specific fellowship or grant competition. We currently have appointments available in October, November and December. Appointments can take place in person in our offices at 25 Bishop Place, CAC or over skype. To request an appointment, visit the Schedule a Meeting section of our website.

### 3. Mock Review Sessions

Are you preparing a fellowship or grant application and would you like to see how it will fare in the review process? Sign up for one of our Mock Review Sessions! During the session, a small group of students will read and comment on each others application materials, guided by a GradFund Fellowship Advisor. Mock Review Sessions are scheduled for:

Thursday, November 7 at 1pm to 4pm in the Busch Campus Center, room 115, BC

***To participate in a Mock Review Session, please pre-register [here](#).*** Bring with you 3 copies of the application materials you would like to have reviewed. To participate in the Mock Review Session, you must bring with you an application to be reviewed (3 copies) and plan to participate in the full session.

### 4. GradFund Drop-In Hours

Are you working on an fellowship or grant application and have a question that can be answered quickly? Stop by our drop in hours during the week of November 4th!  
During the week of November 4th, GradFund will hold drop in hours in the Busch and Cook Campus Centers. Stop by for a brief conversation with a Fellowship Advisor and get answers to your questions.

#### GradFund Drop-in Hours Schedule:

November 4, 2013: 10am-4pm Busch Campus Center, room 118, BC

November 7, 2013: 10am-1pm Cook Campus Center, room 111, CC

November 7, 2013: 1pm-4pm Busch Campus Center, room 118, BC

November 8, 2013: 11am-3pm Busch Campus Center, room 118, BC and Cook Campus Center, room 111, CC

### 5. Follow GradFund on Social Media

Keep up to date on GradFund news and events! Follow us on [Linkedin](#), [Wordpress](#), [Twitter](#), [Google+](#) and [Facebook](#).

## **9. GSBS "Academic Forms"**

Please visit the GSBS "Academic Forms" link <http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/education/gsbs/current/forms.html> and make sure you download the required most current form whenever needed.

Anyone who submits an outdated form will be asked to complete and obtain all required signatures again on the most current form.