Genetics Student Updates:

- **Congratulations Are In Order……**
  - Juan Santana: Successfully defended his thesis on April 12th!
  - Kellie Schaefer: Received a NIH NRSA award for her project “CAPN5-PDGF Signaling in Vitreoretinopathy”!
  - Danielle Herrig: Received the Ballard Seashore Dissertation Fellowship (spring 2017) and the Graduate College Summer Fellowship!
  - Allison Cox: Received the Ballard Seashore Dissertation Fellowship (fall 2016)!

- **Upcoming Dissertation Defense**
  - Ashlyn Spring: “A postsynaptic signaling system for the regulation of homeostatic synaptic plasticity”
    - April 26, 2016 at 9am in Room 2117 MERF
  - Joshua Fletcher: “Oxidative stress resistance in the *Francisella tularensis* Vaccine Strain is associated with genetic variability in the ferrous iron uptake gene *feoB*”
    - April 27, 2016 at 1pm in Room 2117 MERF

- **Student Seminar**
  - Emily Toombs: “LINCing prostaglandin signaling and the regulation of collective cell migration”
  - Tanner Reeb: “Defining the Mediator CDK8 Module in Cardiac Stress”
    - April 21, 2016 at 12-1pm in 1-107 BSB - Lunch will be provided - [Read abstracts](#)

- **Seminar 2016—Special Topics in Genetics: The Personal Genome**
  - Andy Faucett, Geisinger Health Systems “Precision Medicine Research in an Integrated Healthcare System”
    - April 18, 2016 at 4-5pm in Room 2117 MERF
  - Julie Granka, Ancestry DNA “Research at Ancestry DNA: Insights into Recent History and Populations Genetics from Over One Million Customer Genotypes”
    - April 25, 2016 at 4-5pm in Room 2117 MERF
  - Scott Roberts, University of Michigan “Psychological and Behavioral Responses to Personal Genomic Testing”
    - May 2, 2016 at 4-5pm in Room 2117 MERF

- **Graduate College Updates**
  - **Careers Outside of the Academy**
    Careers Outside of the Academy is the Graduate College’s career education conference for graduate students and postdocs. Attendees will network with PhDs working in a wide variety of non-academic fields, listen to inspirational speakers, and participate in a workshop designed to improve their presentation style. Lunch will be provided. **Keynote**: David Sarno, MFA (founder for Lighthaus Inc.). Over 25 **panelists** from the local and regional community working in a variety of fields. **Register here**
    - April 23, 2016 (Saturday) at 9am to 4:30pm in MERF - [Event Schedule](#) [Event Flyer](#) Direct questions to **Joseph Cannella**
  - **One of our alumni, Tara Maga, PhD, will be a panelist. Tara is a certified genetic counselor at the University of Illinois-Chicago in the UI Hereditary Cancer Clinic. Tara counsels patients, who are at high risk for cancer due to their personal or family history, regarding genetic options that can clarify their risk.**
  - [Seminar in College Teaching](#) (Grad 6217) is a course designed primarily for graduate students planning to teach in their professional career. One section of the course will be offered this summer. Each student will write a teaching philosophy statement at the end of the course. College teaching practicum students, TAs, and graduate students planning to teach in the future are highly encouraged to enroll. This course will be taught by Dr. Mitchell Kelly in the College of Education - Dr. Kelly has received numerous awards for teaching excellence. **More information**
Genetics Student Updates (con't):

- **Graduate College Updates (con't)**
  Center for Teaching Graduate Teaching Fellowships: The Center for Teaching is offering three graduate teaching fellowships for the 2016-2017 academic year. Fellows will design and implement teaching-related programming for their home departments and for inter-disciplinary events, will assist with new TA training in the beginning of the fall and spring semesters, and will design a capstone experience based on their professional and career interests. Fellows should be PhD students who have significant TA and/or teaching experience and who are interested in pursuing either an academic career at a teaching-focused institution or a position in a teaching-related field. We plan to invite 3 Fellows - ideally one in a STEM field, one in a humanities field, and one in a social science field. Applications are being accepted and are due by April 29th.  More information

- **CCOM Office of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies Updates**
  Professional Development for Graduate Students
  Writing in the Disciplines (RHET: 7930: 3 s.h., pass/fail option available), meeting Wednesdays 2:30-5:00 - Graduate students may be interested in professional development opportunities that allow them to hone their skills of communication and persuasion. We are offering a course in the fall that allows graduate students at any stage of their studies to become better writers. This course has been enormously popular with graduate students from across the University who learn about the writing conventions and expectations of a wide array of disciplines in the sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Students work on their existing writing projects in the course. They develop habits of writing regularly. Students learn strategies for writing with clarity, precision, and style. The course helps new graduate students develop as writers, helps dissertating graduate students make progress on their theses, and helps all students in between. We consider many genres of writing, from the manuscript to the email to the job application and cover letter.

- **Microbiology Undergraduate Student Association Fundraiser**
  Buffalo Wild Wings Luncheon
  Enjoy wings and chicken wraps while supporting students attending ASM Microbe 2016. $5 per ticket - one ticket = 5 wings OR a wrap. Two tickets can be used for combinations like 10 wings OR 2 wraps OR 5 wings + 1 wrap. Questions? Alyssa Conrad
  - April 27, 2016 (Wednesday) at 12:00pm to 2:00pm in BSB - 3rd floor conference room

Genetics Faculty Updates:

- **SAVE THE DATE - Genetics Program Faculty & Student Meeting**
  Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 1-3pm in BSB Aud 1 - Biesner Auditorium

Program Office Reminders:

- **Training Grant Applications** - Have been distributed (contact program office if you need it again), and are due May 16, notifications by June 1

- **Individual development plans** - Will be sent out on Friday, May 13 and due by July 15, More information

- **SAVE THE DATE - Genetics First Year Rotation Talks** - Monday, May 16, 2016 at 3-5pm in 101 BBE - Kollros Auditorium

- **SAVE THE DATE - Genetics Program Faculty & Student Meeting** - Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 1-3pm in BSB Aud 1

- **Photo Booth** UI Grad Success is inviting Graduate students to sign up to have a professional photo taken at no charge. Use for websites, publicity, and/or LinkedIn.  More information
  - June 6, 2016 (Monday) at 12:15pm to 4:15pm in 423 GILH