

Department of Genetics Townhall Meeting

27 APR 2020

General Stuff

- Rules for the meeting:
 - All participants will be muted
 - Send questions using the “CHAT” box in zoom
 - If you wish to ask a question, please unmute and introduce yourself
- Pay attention to updates from the university, the state and the CDC
- Practice social distancing
- Pay special attention to avoid infecting those at risk for serious disease: the elderly and those with pre-existing conditions
- Be kind

State of NC Guidance - 4/23

- Governor extends stay at home order through May 8
- To begin lifting restrictions, NC needs to see progress in key metrics:
 - Sustained leveling or decreased trajectory in COVID-like illness surveillance over 14 days – current trend ↓
 - Sustained leveling or decreased trajectory of lab-confirmed cases over 14 days – current trend ↑
 - Sustained leveling or decreased trajectory in percent of tests returning positive over 14 days – current trend ↑
 - Sustained leveling or decreased trajectory in hospitalizations over 14 days – current trend ↗
- NC public schools will remain closed for rest of school year

PPE – On Campus Mandatory - UPDATE

- UNC Healthcare is now asking all mandatory employees who work onsite to wear surgical masks, regardless of patient contact. Two masks per week
- Please follow up with Cara or Chris to pick up your masks each week – new batch provided on Tuesdays
- Department plans to purchase masks for when UNC re-opens (for those who must wear, e.g., in animal facilities)

Social Distancing on Campus

- Work Schedules
- Desks
- Lab Bays
- Common Areas (kitchens, bathrooms, etc.)

Critical Activities

- PROJECT PI decision, VCR approval
- PEOPLE Employee decision, HR approval
- RESOURCES Core approval & Department involvement

Department Seminars

- Last seminar for the semester:
 - Jason Whitmire – 4/29 (promotion seminar)
- PLEASE ATTEND (via Zoom)! Link included in weekly e-newsletter

Practical R for Scientists

- Zoom meetings on MWF until May 1
- If you would like to join, please email NaEshia at: ancalade@email.unc.edu
- Links to recordings are on department intranet

Art Competition Reminder

- The Department of Genetics has opened a competition to select an art piece to be located in the newly renovated Emeritus Conference Room (GMB 5094). The format is flexible but the piece should fit in the proposed space. Painting, sculpture, photography, collage, mixed media and other visual arts are welcome. The department seeks a highly original piece and the subject matter has no restrictions, but some connection (formal or subjective) to the mission of the department or its members is welcome. Pieces that are contrary to the values and strategic framework of the UNC School of Medicine (research, education, faculty, diversity-equity-inclusion, service and administration) will be disqualified.
- **ARTIST.** The artist(s) should have a connection to the department. Direct or indirect connections are acceptable (please ask if you qualify). Art pieces with team authorship that includes one or more members of the department will also qualify.
- **DIMENSIONS.** Maximum dimensions for the piece are: 8' tall, 30" wide (including frame if needed) and 14" deep. Size will not impact eligibility for the prize.
- **PRIZE.** A single prize of \$600.00 will be awarded to the winner. The stipulation for the winning piece is that it will be donated to the department for display in the conference room.
- **SUBMISSION PROCESS.** Artists should submit up to three high-quality photographs of the art (suitable for judging) and include the name of the artist, a short paragraph describing the piece, and the dimensions. Please send submissions by email to Cathy Cornett at: Catherine_cornett@med.unc.edu with the title: Art Competition – “last name”
- **REVIEW AND SELECTION.** Photographs of the submitted pieces will be posted online for review for a period of two weeks. The winner will be selected by popular vote of qualified members of the department using a survey tool that will be provided by email.
- **DATES**
 - Submission Window: May 18-June 1, 2020
 - Review Process: June 1-14, 2020
 - Voting Survey: June 15-19, 2020
 - Award: By June 26, 2020

COVID-19 Funding Opportunities

- COVID-19 related funding opportunities of interest to Department of Genetics scientists have been curated and saved to [website intranet folder](#) “COVID-19 Funding Opportunities”. This will be updated on a regular basis so please check back weekly.