Roundtable Discussions

Join us on your lunch break in the Exhibit Hall to discuss topics that are important to you! These discussions will be held on Sunday, December 8, Monday, December 9, and Tuesday, December 10 from 1:00-2:00 PM each day. Pick up your lunch or stop by The Food Show in Hall B and come sit and network with your colleagues.

**Location: Exhibit Hall B, Roundtables Section 1 & 2**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 | 1:00 PM-2:00 PM**

**CAREER AND MENTORING**

**Table #1**
**Obtaining a Position and Starting a Lab at a Primarily Undergraduate Institution (PUI)**
This discussion will help attendees prepare for applying, interviewing, and setting up a lab at a PUI; learn what to expect regarding teaching, research, and service; and how to succeed during the probationary period leading to tenure.
*Target Audience: Graduate Students, Postdocs*

*Roundtable Leaders:*
Christina King-Smith, Saint Joseph’s University
Lina Dahlberg, Western Washington University

**Table #2**
**Working at a Biotech Startup**
We will discuss what it is like working in a small biotech startup. Come learn and discuss the diverse skill sets that are required for working in a startup biotech, many of which are not encountered in traditional scientific training.
*Target Audience: All Attendees, Students*

*Roundtable Leader:*
David Elzi, BioAffinity Technologies

**Table #3**
**Women in Cell Biology**
We will discuss a variety of topics that focus on how we can facilitate and celebrate the successes of women and other underrepresented cell biologists, including mentoring, networking, awards, and career development.
*Target Audience: All Attendees*

*Roundtable Leader:*
Mary Munson, University of Massachusetts Medical School
Emily Mace, Columbia University

**Table #4**
**Scientific Careers in 21st Century**
The purpose of this discussion is to address the future directions of scientific research in light of introduction of robotics and artificial intelligence in research environments. We will look at how these factors will impact the scientific workforce in the 21st century.
*Target Audience: All Attendees*

*Roundtable Leader:*
Prashant Mishra, National Institutes of Health

**EDUCATION**

**Table #5**
**Teaching Undergraduates as the Main Component of a Career**
The education and training to earn a PhD emphasizes research with teaching, if at all, “on the side.” Undergraduate teaching is a worthwhile career, even with only minimal, if any, research.
*Target Audience: All Attendees*

*Roundtable Leaders:*
K.T. Schmeidler-Sapiro, Irvine Valley College
A. Malcolm Campbell, Davidson College

**Table #6**
**Innovations in Publishing and Communication**
Do you want to be able to toggle back and forth on a before and after treatment image? Should we be making more videos explaining our research or writing more summaries in plain language? Here we will talk about innovations that we want to see that will help us tell our science stories.
*Target Audience: All Attendees*

*Roundtable Leader:*
Kate Bredbenner, The Rockefeller University

**Table #7**
**Active Learning in Biology Education**
This roundtable will focus on high-impact teaching practices, especially active learning techniques, assessment, and implementation. Learn about funding for mentorship in using active learning in lecture courses through the Promoting Active Learning and Mentoring (PALM) Fellowship funded by NSF.
*Target Audience: Students, Educators, Assessment Professionals*

*Roundtable Leaders:*
Stephanie Kim Levi Blumer, Oakton Community College
Sue Wick, University of Minnesota
Roundtable Discussions

**SCIENTIFIC**

**Table #8**
**Merging Biology and Technology into Multi-Disciplinary Science**
The biggest advances in cell biology are frequently coupled to adopting new technologies. Come and talk about how to incorporate new tools from different disciplines into your biology and how to set up multi-disciplinary collaborations and labs.
*Target Audience: All Attendees*

**Roundtable Leaders:**
Catherine G. Galbraith, Oregon Health & Science University
James Galbraith, Oregon Health & Science University

**Table #9**
**Visualization in Cell Biology**
An open discussion about visualization (illustrations, animations, data visualizations) in cell biology. This can touch on techniques and tips for creating effective figures, careers in visualization, and visual science communication.
*Target Audience: All Attendees, Students, Researchers*

**Roundtable Leader:**
Janet Iwasa, University of Utah

**Monday, December 9 | 1:00 PM-2:00 PM**

**CAREER AND MENTORING**

**Table #12**
**Being the Only ________ in the Room**
Underrepresented individuals—based on gender, race, sexual orientation—are often the only ________ in the department, room, committee, the list goes on. Being the "only one" presents unique challenges. The discussion will focus on those challenges and strategies to succeed in these environments.
*Target Audience: All Attendees, Underrepresented Groups*

**Roundtable Leaders:**
Tina Louise Tootle, The University of Iowa
Anna Allen, Howard University

**Table #13**
**Juggling Time - Work, Family, Play**
Careers in academe can generate work to fill more than the time available. It is challenging to be successful in one's career and also care for family members and one's self. We will talk about strategies and resources to accommodate the tugs on our time and minds, cover our obligations, and also play.
*Target Audience: All Attendees*

**Roundtable Leaders:**
K.T. Schmeidler-Sapiro, Irvine Valley College
Sandra Masur, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

**Table #10**
**Career Opportunities in Space Biology at NASA**
Opportunities will be presented for all education and career levels from high school through faculty—including internships, fellowship opportunities, civil servant and contract positions, grants for ground and spaceflight studies, working groups, and use of publicly available NASA databases.
*Target Audience: All Attendees, Students, Researchers, Educators*

**Roundtable Leaders:**
Sigrid Sophie Reinsch, NASA Ames Research Center
Elizabeth Keller, NASA Ames Research Center

**Table #11**
**Engineers and Cell Biology: An Emerging Mutualistic Symbiosis?**
This discussion will be on the ever-increasing scope of collaboration between cell biologists and engineers, especially in synthetic and systems approaches of biology. How simulation and quantification tools can integrate with experiments and eventually can shape a new experiment will be the focus.
*Target Audience: All Attendees, Students, Researchers, Educators*

**Roundtable Leader:**
Tatsat Banerjee, John Hopkins University

**Table #14**
**Securing the Ideal Lab for Your Postdoc**
Picking a laboratory and securing a postdoc can be daunting, but should also be an exciting task. We will cover various topics, including the importance of being proactive, define what is important to you, including mentoring, and define what you have that adds value to the host laboratory.
*Target Audience: Students, Researchers*

**Roundtable Leader:**
Carsten Gram Hansen, The University of Edinburgh

**Table #15**
**Seeking Great PhD Mentors - A Critical Decision for Academic Success**
How to find a great PhD mentor? Having supportive mentors is the key for our academic success, as they play critical roles at different stages of our career, ranging from our lab training to our future research independence. I would like to share how to identify a great mentor during lab rotations.
*Target Audience: Students*

**Roundtable Leader:**
Ho Man Tang, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Roundtable Discussions

Table #16  
Career Progression in Academia  
We will discuss how to transition from PhD to postdoc and then to independence. We have experience in both the US and the UK with the funding systems, mentoring of junior researchers, and running a lab, as well as having a family life at home.  
Target Audience: Students, Postdocs, Researchers  
Roundtable Leaders:  
Laura Machesky, The Beatson Institute  
Mark McNiven, Mayo Clinic

Table #17  
Research Opportunities in the Intramural NIH Program  
Join us to discuss how one goes about getting a job in the NIH intramural program.  
Target Audience: All Attendees, Students, Researchers  
Roundtable Leader:  
James Sellers, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health  
Alex Compton, National Institutes of Health

Table #18  
Building Your First Laboratory, Starting from Scratch!  
I started my lab at Johns Hopkins Medicine in 2017 and learned a lot of “do’s” and “don’t’s”. I would like to share the critical factors for building your first lab, which includes recruiting funds, hiring the first lab member, ordering major equipment, collaborating, and dealing with neighbor labs.  
Target Audience: Researchers  
Roundtable Leader:  
Ho Lam Tang, John Hopkins Medicine

EDUCATION

Table #19  
Community College Educators Meet & Greet  
Meet other community college educators! Discuss challenges unique to teaching at a community college and share resources, with emphasis on open admission policies and associated obstacles to maintaining academic standards. Learn about ASCB initiatives that can uniquely support community college instructors, and talk about how ASCB can serve you and other community college instructors better.  
Target Audience: Community College Educators  
Roundtable Leaders:  
George Risinger, Oklahoma City Community College  
Jayme Dyer, Durham Technical Community College  
Lalitha Jayant, Bay Mills Community College

Table #20  
National Science Foundation Funding for Education Research and Development  
Program Officers in the NSF Division of Undergraduate Education will lead a discussion of funding programs available to support undergraduate cell biology education. Time will be available to speak with NSF staff one-on-one.  
Target Audience: Researchers, Educators  
Roundtable Leaders:  
Robin Wright, National Science Foundation  
Ellen Carpenter, National Science Foundation  
Pushpa Ramakrishna, National Science Foundation  
Mark Pauley, National Science Foundation

Table #21  
Art in Cell Biology Education and Outreach  
In recent years, art-science collaborations have proliferated. However, the impact of art-science collaborations on education in cell biology is still being explored. We will discuss experiences and best practices for using art to enhance cell biology teaching and learning.  
Target Audience: All Attendees  
Roundtable Leader:  
Tamira Elul, Touro University California

SCIENTIFIC

Table #22  
Developing Approaches for Testing Gene Function in Post-Embryonic Stages  
Delivery of functional tools specifically into post-embryonic stages of an organism is often required for investigating juvenile/adult level processes such as regeneration, physiology, and behavior. This roundtable discussion will focus on tools for testing gene function in post-embryonic stages.  
Target Audience: All Attendees, Industry/Exhibitors  
Roundtable Leaders:  
Busra Duygu Ozpolat, Marine Biological Laboratory  
Alexa Bely, University of Maryland, College Park

Table #23  
Systems and Synthetic Biology of Decoding Complex Cellular Rhythms, Waves, and Patterns  
Interested in the general spatiotemporal dynamic processes? Come discuss the new tools developed in the constantly growing field of synthetic biology that may have the potential to provide a paradigm-shifting view in these complicated phenomena.  
Target Audience: All Attendees, Students, Researchers, Educators  
Roundtable Leader:  
Qiong Yang, University of Michigan
Roundtable Discussions

**Table #24**
**Scientific Peer Review**
This roundtable discussion will focus on peer review for research grant applications in diverse areas of science.
*Target Audience: All Attendees, Students, Researchers, Educators*

*Roundtable Leader:*
*Ramesh Nayak*, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

**Table #25**
**Medical Genomics—Where Are We At?**
This roundtable discussion wants to bring together all parties interested in genome assemblies, DNA, and sequence polymorphism in discussing our current and future applications to medical and diagnostic interventions.
*Target Audience: All Attendees, Students, Researchers*

*Roundtable Leader:*
*Simona Giunta*, The Rockefeller University

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 | 1:00 PM-2:00 PM**

**CAREER AND MENTORING**

**Table #26**
**Careers in Core Facilities**
Core facility positions are becoming more established at many universities as careers that include benefits, career advancement, and general stability. Come to this table to learn more about career opportunities in the core facilities and participate in discussions about teaching, research, training, and mentoring.
*Target Audience: Students, Researchers*

*Roundtable Leaders:*
*Debra Page Baluch*, Arizona State University
*Bret L. Judson*, Boston College

**Table #27**
**Doing a PhD or Postdoc Abroad**
Your PhD and postdoctoral training offers a unique opportunity for you to experience science in a different culture. It is easy to return to the USA after to further your career, so why not consider this?
*Target Audience: All Attendees, Students, Postdocs*

*Roundtable Leaders:*
*William Earnshaw*, The University of Edinburgh
*Celia Regina Da Silva Garcia*, Universidade de Sao Paulo

**Table #28**
**Working at a Biotech Startup**
We will discuss what it is like working in a small biotech startup. Come learn and discuss the diverse skill sets that are required for working in a startup biotech, many of which are not encountered in traditional scientific training.
*Target Audience: All Attendees, Students*

*Roundtable Leader:*
*David Elzi*, BioAffinity Technologies

**Table #29**
**Being the Only ________ in the Room**
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*Roundtable Leaders:*
*Tina Louise Tootle*, The University of Iowa
*Anna Allen*, Howard University

**SCIENTIFIC**

**Table #30**
**Career Opportunities in Space Biology at NASA**
Opportunities will be presented for all education and career levels from high school through faculty—including internships, fellowship opportunities, civil servant and contract positions, grants for ground and spaceflight studies, working groups, and use of publicly available NASA databases.
*Target Audience: All Attendees, Students, Researchers, Educators*

*Roundtable Leaders:*
*Sigrid Sophie Reinsch*, NASA Ames Research Center
*Elizabeth Keller*, NASA Ames Research Center

**Table #31**
**Inclusive Pedagogy Practices in Biology**
We will discuss how course content, teaching methods, and student and professor mindset can make more equitable, transparent spaces. Inclusive pedagogical techniques not only improve learning, but help build community and sense of belonging in our classrooms, labs, and discipline.
*Target Audience: All Attendees*

*Roundtable Leader:*
*Angela Hilliker*, The University of Richmond
Roundtable Discussions

Table #32  
Informal Science Learning  
What are you doing in the community to increase science literacy and engagement? Come join this roundtable discussion to share strategies, resources, and ideas.  
Target Audience: All Attendees, Educators  
Roundtable Leader:  
Quyen Aoh, Gannon University

Table #33  
National Science Foundation Funding for Education Research and Development  
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Target Audience: Researchers, Educators  
Roundtable Leaders:  
Robin Wright, National Science Foundation  
Ellen Carpenter, National Science Foundation  
Pushpa Ramakrishna, National Science Foundation  
Mark Pauley, National Science Foundation

CLIMATE AND CULTURE OF SCIENCE

Table #34  
Cultivating Mental Health in the Cell Biology Academic Community  
We will discuss barriers and solutions for cultivating mental health in your academic research environment. Mental health challenges are rampant in academia and often difficult to address. We will organize, prioritize, and coordinate for immediate and personalized implementation at your institution.  
Target Audience: All Attendees  
Roundtable Leaders:  
Matthew Akamatsu, University of California, Berkeley  
Wendy Ingram, Johns Hopkins Medicine

Table #35  
Women in Science: Finding Our Voice  
Are we doing enough to support women in science throughout their career? What steps can we take to better support women to become established scientists? This roundtable discussion aims to build connections and brainstorm ideas on how to improve science practices toward equality.  
Target Audience: All Attendees  
Roundtable Leader:  
Simona Giunta, The Rockefeller University

Table #36  
The Role of Scientific Societies in Supporting Science Communication, Outreach, and Advocacy  
Do you aim to engage with non-scientists through science communication, outreach, or advocacy? We’ll discuss ways that scientific societies like ASCB & EMBO can support that work and brainstorm additional things they can do to equip and empower scientists to engage with the public and policymakers.  
Target Audience: All Attendees  
Roundtable Leader:  
Rose Hendricks, American Society for Cell Biology