

The G.S.A. NEWSLETTER



*a publication of the
Graduate Student Association
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 5 MAY / JUNE 1998

Why you should care about...Reading

by Tara L. Riemer

This is one of a series of articles discussing my opinions on issues impacting scientists or graduate students in the sciences.

Reading? Of course you read, as any good graduate student does. You read more journal articles than you can count. When you go to conferences and meetings, you read abstracts and posters for days at a time. And for classes, you might even read a textbook or two. You probably read so much science that you are sick of it! Why should you care about reading more than you already do?

Think for a minute: when was the last time you read...

- a newspaper cover to cover?
- an article on how to give a good scientific presentation?
- a classic novel?
- a book full of career advice to scientists?

I hope you understand my point; I am not talking about reading scientific books and articles. Reading is a way to become and stay generally informed about the world around you and about your future. (My second favorite way to stay informed is to listen to National Public Radio — WJHU 88.1 FM, but that is a tangent...)

Many scientists are very single-minded; they live, eat, and breathe science. This ability to focus can be a tremendous asset when you are trying to finish a long series of experiments. However, ignoring the outside world will not help you to obtain your dream job or to advance in your career.

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Book Review

by Tara L. Riemer

Ms. Mentor's Impeccable Advice for Women in Academia by Emily Toth (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1997, GSA library book #1001)

Emily Toth, in the guise of Ms. Mentor, has written a pithy treatise directed at women who are at any point of a career in academia, from graduate student to tenured professor. Ms. Mentor, a wise and all-knowing (and tenured) professor, gives advice on topics ranging from what to do if your thesis advisor dies (keep working and find a new mentor quickly), to what to wear to a conference (something forgettable — you do not want to be remembered for what you were wearing), to how to get tenure (keep a tenure diary and do not take your children to work).

The advice is consistently sound and insightful, never subtle, and always amusing. Her questions and answers arose mainly from an advice column for academic women, so they are not hypothetical. However, they are often those questions you would be too embarrassed to ask, and many are concerned with the politics of an academic department.

As Emily Toth is Professor of English and Women's Studies at Louisiana State University, her advice tends towards the humanities, although she strives to address all academic fields and often addresses "the sciences."

A note to women — This book is a must-read if you plan on an academic career.

A note to men — You will learn many useful things from this book, but make sure you have a sense of humor before you pick it up!

Upcoming GSA Meeting June 9

GSA Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 3 pm in Hunterian Room G-5.

Notes from the GSA

Teacher of the Year Award

This year's award goes to
Dr. Mark Schlissel,
Dept. of Medicine.
Congratulations!

Watch the next issue of the GSA Newsletter for an article featuring Dr. Schlissel.

GSA Elections

It's time to elect the GSA officers for the 1998-1999 school year.

Elections will be held in late May.

The elected positions are:

President, two Vice-Presidents,
Secretary, and Treasurer.

If you are interested in running for an office, check your email for more details, and send your nominations to gsa-g@welchlink...

Upcoming Events

May 15th:

GSA Career Seminar:
Patent and Intellectual
Property Careers
3 p.m.

WBSB West Lecture Hall

June 2:

Orioles vs. Mariners,
3:05 p.m. Tickets will go on sale
Monday, May 18th.

Check your email for details.

Contact Jutta Beneken
(jbeneken@welchlink...) with any questions.

AWIS Careers in Science Workshop

by Melissa J. Landrum

"So what do you plan to do with your Ph.D.?" Five years into graduate school there is only one question I dread more, and that of course is "When do you think you will finish?" Many graduate students, including myself, are investigating science careers other than the traditional research track in academia. Information in these other fields can be difficult to track down, since most of us don't have contacts outside of academia. To address this, the Association for Women in Science (AWIS) recently sponsored a "Careers in Science" workshop, held at the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C. The goal was to not only provide information about pursuing various career tracks, but also to provide an opportunity for networking with women already established in these fields. One-hundred-ten young scientists, nearly all women, attended the workshop, which included keynote speaker Vera Rubin, Ph.D., a panel discussion, and smaller group workshops.

The morning started with the keynote speech by Dr. Rubin, an observational astronomer at the Carnegie Institute of Washington. Dr. Rubin exemplified one of her pieces of advice: "Learn to give good talks." She first gave a brief history of women in science, most of which did not appear to be familiar to the women in the audience. Dr. Rubin then gave advice garnered from her 50-year career in science - ranging from how to choose a topic of study, to the importance of "fight(ing) injustice wherever you see it," including the workplace or scientific meetings. Her talk closed with a slide presentation of her recent expedition to Antarctica.

The schedule then moved on to a marathon panel discussion. The panel included six women with different science oriented careers. The speakers were Dr. Mary Clutter, Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation; Dr. Elia Ben-Ari, Features Editor for *BioScience*; Dr. Toby Horn, teacher and curriculum manager at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology; Joy Bryant, a registered patent agent; Julia Moore, Director of Legislative and Public Affairs at the NSF; and Dr. Cynthia McIntyre, Assistant Professor of Physics at George Mason University. Each speaker described the work she does, the track her career had taken, and gave practical advice for those interested in going down

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Dr. Joshua Lederberg, Nobel Laureate and President Emeritus of Rockefeller University, presented a lecture on April 28, 1998. His talk on "Evolution of Infectious Disease — Past and Future" was part of the 1998 Pioneers in the Biological Sciences Lecture Series.

Photo by E. Hsiao.

The pen is mightier than the pipet...

The GSA Newsletter editorial staff would like to thank everyone for their contributions during the past year! Our next issue will be the New Student Issue in August, 1998.

If you would like to help with any aspect of the newsletter, or would like to submit an item, please contact any editor for more information!

Have a great summer!

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GSA Web Page

Make sure you check out the GSA Web Page at
<<http://www.med.jhu.edu/gsa>>.

You'll find everything from local happenings to GSA meeting minutes to back issues of the GSA Newsletter.

Bookmark it!

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Congratulations to the winners of the 1998 Young Investigator's Day Awards!

The Michael A. Shanoff Research Prizes

Prasad V. Jallepalli
Victor E. Velculescu

The Hans Joaquim Prochaska Research Prize

Andrew MacGregor Cameron

The Mette Strand Research Prize

Brian C. Lewis

The Alicia Showalter Reynolds Research Prize

Hui Sun

The David Israel Macht Research Prizes

David Cory Adamson
David C. Johns

The Martin and Carol Macht Research Prize

James J. DiCarlo

The Paul Ehrlich Research Prizes

Paul Wes
Hung-Hsiang Yu
Haley A. Perlick
Sara Isabel Pai

The Helen B. Taussig and Alfred Blalock Prize

Julie Ann Sosa, M.D.

The W. Barry Wood, Jr. Research Prizes

Mirella Gonzalez-Zulueta, M.D., Ph.D.
Kornelia Polyak, M.D., Ph.D.

The Albert L. Lehninger Research Prize

Shiming Chen, Ph.D.



Master of Arts

John Gibb
Hoc Kho
William Scavone

Thomas Graves
Joseph Ong
Krista Townsend

Kenneth Heyman
Maura Riffe
Michael Tychko

Doctor of Philosophy

D. Cory Adamson
Patricia Baker
Amy Brisben
Rosemary Clyne
Deborah Croteau
James DiCarlo
Michael Egan
Tracey Gant
Mary-Elizabeth Harmon
Donald Jackson
Ching-Hsien Lee
Alexandra McPherron
Kalyani Narasimhan
Ravi Ranjan
Paul Schwartz
Timothy Tobery
Jia Xu

Gabrielle Bains
Sudha Balasubramanian
Andrew Cameron
Katherine Coffing
Robert DeBoy
Gina Doody
Michael Ehlers
Joel Gillespie
Eleanor Featherstone Hoff
David Kanter
Diego Loayza
Scott Molitor
Weiyang Pan
John Rice
Ann Sheehy
Paul Wes
Randa Zakhary

Harshivinderjit Bains
Jennifer Fosnaugh Brakeman
Qi Chen
Noam Cohen
Paul Dempsey
D. Marck Eckley
Mon-Chou Fann
Robert Greenberg
Karl Hoffman
Nicole Kinsey
Gregory Lyford
Theresa Morrow
Scott Plafker
Albert Ruff
Hui Sun
Zhan Xiao

Restaurant Guide

by Sarah Wheelan

It's time for a whirlwind semester-end tour of memorable restaurants to try over the summer. For those of you with romantic, elegant tastes, you're in luck — Spike and Charlie's on Cathedral Street (across from the Lyric and the Meyerhoff, 410-752-8144) has an artistically intriguing atmosphere. There's also a daring menu which includes asparagus soup, several unusual salads, fish with fantastically tempting and surprising garnishes, and excellent desserts (the chocolate tart is a must), and the restaurant is known for its wine selection. Go after 8 PM on a show night to get free wine (!) with dinner. Another restaurant for the romantically inclined is Hamilton's, in the basement of the Admiral Fell Inn. The atmosphere is cozy, the service is impeccable, and the menu is extraordinary — peanut-crusted grouper and haddock with shittake mushroom-crabmeat ravioli were standouts.

On the cheaper, more social side you can try the Bay Cafe (410-522-3377) in Canton for a nice selection of sandwiches plus a decent waterside view. Also, the Silver Diner in Towson (behind the Towson Town Center) has classic diner food plus some of the most satisfying desserts around. Try the Brown Cow malt for a real treat — vanilla ice cream, chocolate syrup, and malted milk... It gets crowded on weekend nights but it's worth a trip. For those who live north of the beltway (yes, there is something between Baltimore and New York), try the DuClaw Brewing Company (410-515-3222), located off of Bel Air South Parkway (take 95 north to route 24 west, left on Bel Air South Parkway). Their microbrews are cheap and good — the porter is a very smooth, rich blend and the pilsner (Bare Ass Blonde Ale) is well worth the \$2.50. Even better, their menu is diverse and everything is good, for a reasonable price. They have several pages of fish, chicken, and pasta dishes; we've tried almost 10 entrees and haven't been disappointed yet. To top off the evening, go to BelAir Regal Cinemas, which had stadium seating years before Loews and charges less admission with almost no waiting.

POSTER SESSION WINNERS

Congratulations to the following students:

I. Graduate Students in Years 1-3

1st Place: Dan Cahill	Human Genetics
2nd Place: Krishnan Ramanathan	BME
3rd Place: Pamela Bradley	BCMB

II. Graduate Students in Years 4+

1st Place: Cory Adamson	Neuroscience
2nd Place: Amy Tam	BCMB
3rd Place: Kurt Thoroughman	BME

The Johns Hopkins University International Travel Clinic

Traveling for work or fun? Don't forget to contact the International Travel Clinic at least two weeks prior to your departure!

This service provides health information, routine immunizations, and preventive medications for your trip. The service also takes appointments for the diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up of travel related illnesses.

Appointments can be arranged by calling 410-955-8931.

SIMON'S - A Good Place to Relax

Looking for a place to unwind after a long day in lab? You may want to check out Simon's Pub & Eatery located at 2031 E. Fairmount Ave. (just 6 blocks South of the Basic Science Building!!) Simon's reflects the cozy atmosphere of a traditional neighborhood bar. Pay a visit and you're likely to be greeted by Simon Price, the Bar's namesake, or his father, who've recently opened this friendly establishment just down the street. Several excellent beers are on tap including; Guinness, Sierra Nevada Pale Ale, Victory's HopDevil IPA, Boddington's Cream Ale, Alpenhoff Dunkel, DeGroen's Pils and Maibock, as well as various Belgian offerings in the bottle. The menu features reasonably priced appetizers and entrees with enough choices that you're sure to find something you like. The portions are generous and the food is quite tasty. Operating hours are: 5:00 - 10:00PM weekdays and 5:00 - 11:00PM on Saturdays. Keep your eyes open as they plan to begin opening for lunch as well...

Graduate Student Living - Downtown/Federal Hill/ Mt. Vernon

(Third in a series)

by Matt Wallenfang

In this installment of a continuing series detailing areas of Baltimore in which graduate students live I'll be describing three neighborhoods to the west of the Hospital - Downtown, Federal Hill, and Mt. Vernon. In general, all three areas are convenient to shopping, nightlife, restaurants, and the Hospital - in many respects they are perfect for students who don't have access to a car. In fact, having a car can be a distinct disadvantage in these neighborhoods given the lack of parking and the high incidence of break-ins. Beyond these broad similarities, each neighborhood, and often each street, offers its own charms, so it is probably a good idea to spend some time walking around the area. Following is a brief general description of each neighborhood, assembled from comments sent to me by current graduate student residents.

Federal Hill: Federal Hill is the neighborhood just south of the Inner Harbor, east of I-395, and north of I-95. In general, it is one of the more pricy neighborhoods in the city, although bargains can be found as you get further from the Inner Harbor. Federal Hill features some great restaurants and bars, and the Cross Street Market is one of the best and most popular city markets. Federal Hill is also a clean and relatively quiet area. A number of beautiful parks scattered throughout the neighborhood are great for pets. The biggest disadvantage about Federal Hill is transportation. There is no direct public transportation or shuttle to Hopkins and parking is notoriously difficult. If transportation is a big issue for you, you might want to consider Otterbein, the neighborhood just to the south of the Convention Center. It is very similar in character to Federal Hill, has more parking available and is a bit closer to the Metro, however rent is proportionately higher. Both Federal Hill and Otterbein are extremely popular, and apartments can be difficult to come by - look early and often for the best selection in this area.

Downtown/Mt Vernon: Downtown and Mt Vernon are the neighborhoods
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The JHU Lab Rats helped out at the Hands on Baltimore Serv-a-thon on May 3rd. The group was one of about a dozen that repainted classrooms at Dunbar Middle School. Photo by J. Beneken.



Dr. Linda Buck from Harvard Medical School presented the 1998 Alicia Showalter Reynolds Memorial Lecture on May 5, 1998. She spoke on "Molecular Maps of Odor and Pheromone Perception." Photo by E. Hsiao.

Art As Applied to Medicine Graduate Exhibition

The 1998 Graduating Class
of the Department of Art as
Applied to Medicine
will hold its annual
Graduate Exhibition from
May 7th through
May 22nd, 1998,
on the Ground Level of
the Turner-Ross
Concourse at the
Johns Hopkins School of
Medicine.

This year's Master of Arts
graduates are
John Gibb, Thomas Graves,
Kenneth Heyman,
Hoc Kho,
William Scavone, and
Krista Townsend.

A broad view of the world of science is essential to be able to converse competently with your colleagues. It is also an essential skill to be able to discuss topics *other* than science (say, current events, recent movies, politics, etc.) in social situations! Remember that good science is not the only qualification for advancement.

If you say you do not have time for extraneous reading now, start with materials that are currently applicable to your life. An easy place to start would be with books on graduate school survival, writing papers, or giving scientific presentations. Fortunately for you, the new GSA library contains many of these books. Visit the library in Hunterian G-1 to be on your way to being a broad-minded scientist. Information on the library and a list of its contents are on the web at <<http://www.med.jhu.edu/gsa/library.html>>.

GSA Career Seminar
Patent and Intellectual
Property Careers
May 15
3 p.m.
WBSB West Lecture Hall

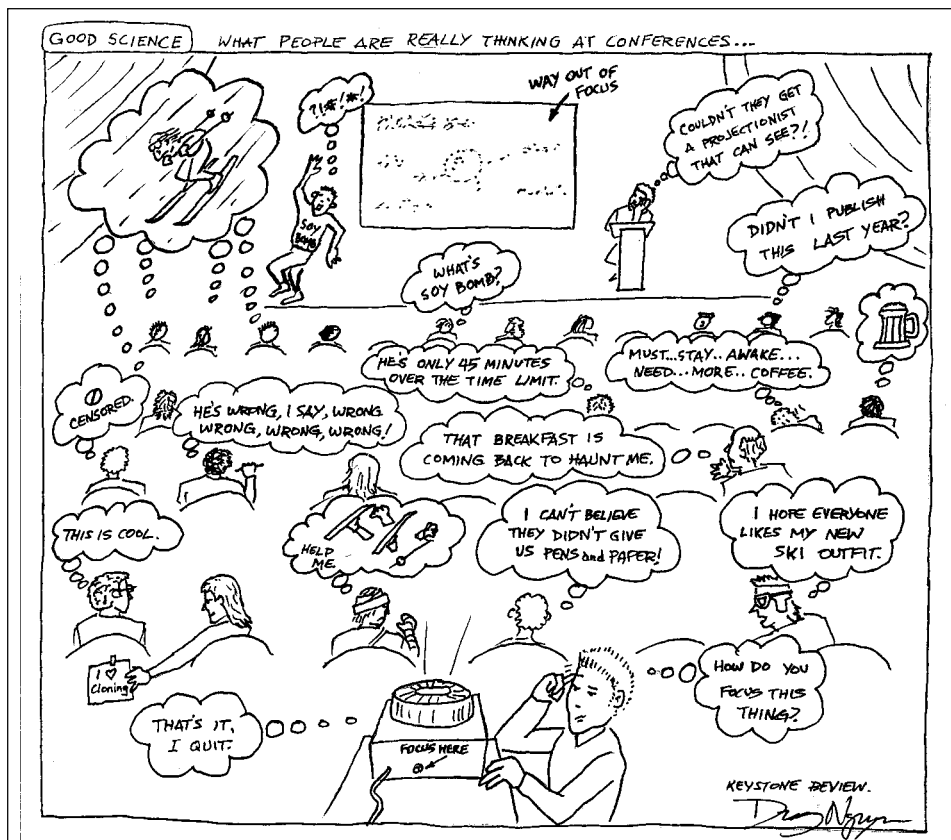
centered around Charles St. from the Inner Harbor to roughly Mt. Royal Ave. One of the biggest conveniences here is the availability of transportation to the Hospital - these include the Homewood shuttle (stops at Penn Station and Centre St/Peabody), the Metro, the Lightrail, and the Fallsway shuttle. Mt. Vernon is full of great shops, bars, restaurants, and nightlife. Options for grocery shopping, while not plentiful, have been enhanced by the opening of a Safeway at Charles and 24th St. Parking in Mt. Vernon is difficult, although it is not quite as bad as Federal Hill. Noise can also be a problem in this area, especially from traffic and sirens. Rent is a bit more reasonable than Federal Hill, and availability is greater. Once again, expect to find better deals with increasing distance from the Inner Harbor.

Without exception, everyone whom I talked to loved living in this part of the city. While city life is certainly not for everyone, the neighborhoods of Federal Hill, Downtown, and Mt. Vernon offer a number of attractive living possibilities for graduate students who are looking for convenience and an exciting, vibrant neighborhood.

a similar path. Several speakers indicated various places which employ non-research scientists; some also described how much money you can expect to make in their field.

Interestingly, a common theme among the speakers were stories describing someone who had discouraged their interest in science, simply because they were women - and importantly, how they persevered and succeeded anyway. Although science today is not nearly so hostile to women, the speakers nonetheless gave words of encouragement and advice on how to realistically pursue both science and a life. For example, if you're interested in science writing, you may need to be open to many types of writing jobs, as free-lance writers often have erratic incomes. Heard throughout the day was the importance of a network of support, both professionally and emotionally. As Dr. Rubin stated, "If you're going to marry, marry the right person. You're going to be busy anyway, and the support and benefits of a family are worth fitting it all in."

In the afternoon, workshops with about 40 people each were held on specific career related topics, including networking, writing a CV/resume, interviewing skills, and interpersonal communication. From the response of the participants, organizer Abigail Stack, from the Washington, D.C. chapter of AWIS, suggested the workshop may be held again, perhaps biannually. For more information on AWIS, check their website at <<http://www.awis.org>>.



The next GSAN issue
 will be the New Student
 Issue in
 August 1998.

Have a great summer !