



Boston University Professional Development & Postdoctoral Affairs



Reconnecting and Rebuilding

Annual Report | FY2022

Overview

Boston University is committed to providing a supportive and competitive training environment for doctoral and postdoctoral research and scholarship. Professional Development & Postdoctoral Affairs (PDPA) offers programs, resources, and services across both our Charles River and Medical Campus that are tailored to meet the specific needs of doctoral students, postdoctoral scholars (postdocs) and their faculty mentors. .

Our office expanded in staff and in the areas we support this year and we are excited for the possibilities created by these new directions! We have expanded our role in graduate student affairs and the work we do to support PhD students, hired a dedicated director of postdoctoral affairs to increase our resources for postdocs, and are collaborating with faculty in new ways through developing research development services.

Quick Stats

454

Postdoctoral scholars
(48 non-employee, 406 employee)

80

Advising
appointments for postdocs

51

Events for postdocs and PhD
students

1000+

Doctoral students and postdocs
attended events

*from the desk of assistant vice
president & assistant provost*

Expanding Our Support

It's a well known strategy among administrators that support graduate students and postdocs - never order the same amount of catering as RVSPs! Graduate students and postdocs have busy and ever changing schedules, and inevitably attendees will change plans at the last minute.

But something magical happened when we hosted separate BBQs for PhD students and postdocs this year, bringing those communities together outdoors and in-person for the first time since the pandemic started. People

just kept coming...and coming...and both times we ran out of catering! The joy and buzz in the air was like nothing I have ever experienced in my career at BU so far. We are proud of all of the services and resources we provide, but are thrilled to play a convening role in helping our communities and the people we serve reconnect with one another.



Sarah Hokanson,
Assistant Vice President
& Assistant Provost

Meet the Team



Emma Zheng (she/her/hers)

Emma joined the PDPA office as the Assistant Director for Graduate Training and Programming in March 2022. Her primary role in the office is to manage and oversee several key programs and resources for graduate students. Her portfolio consists of assisting in maintaining university wide compliance with the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR), overseeing the internal graduate fellowships process (e.g., Clare Booth Luce, Martin Luther King Jr., Whitney Young Jr., Lu Lingzi, Hing Wah Cheung, and the William V. Shannon), and implementing diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives and programming for BU graduate students.



Bénédicte Gnanon (Béné, she/her/hers)

Béné joined the PDPA office as a Postdoctoral Associate in February, after completing a PhD and a postdoc in STEM. She started supporting PhDs in their career development and transition during her first postdoc, by getting involved in the PhDOOC association that runs the "PhD & Career Development" MOOC and joining the postdoctoral association (PDA) at her previous institution. Willing to go on supporting PhDs in this area, she joined the PDPA office to contribute to creating badges for the PhD Progression program and communicate about Skillsmatch, a tool created by EMSI/Burning glass to match job seekers' skill set and interests with career areas. She also co-organized and hosted workshops on Communication (e.g., Abstracts, Dissertation prospectus, Elevator pitch) with BU's ERC, ELL and Innovate@BU during the summer 2022.



Joseph Farmer (Joe, he/him/his)

Joe joined PDPA in June of 2022 as a Program Manager and Data Analyst after being in Boston University's Office of Research since January 2019. In this role, Joe serves as the Program Manager for Limited Submission Funding Opportunities from a variety of government, private, and foundational sources. Additionally, he provides data analytic support for research development to address a wide variety of institutional questions centered on the research effectiveness and performance of Boston University.



Pallavi Eswara (she/her/hers)

Pallavi joined the PDPA office as Director of Postdoctoral Affairs in June 2022. Her primary role is to direct the professional and career development programs for postdoctoral associates. Her portfolio includes working on learning communities for Postdoc Academy, developing programs and resources around grant writing for all postdocs. Further she will work with BU's Postdoc Association to grow community-driven events for postdocs from all campuses. She will also work on postdoc tracking, newsletters and reports and related administrative tasks around postdoc training.



Sasha Goldman (she/her/hers)

In her role as assistant director for doctoral student professional development, Sasha continues to lead all aspects of our professional development support for PhD students, including our in-person workshops and events. She also oversees our self-paced learning programs, such as the Vitamin PhD podcast, the 21 Days of Learning Anti-racism and Unlearning Racism resource program, and our PhD Progression badging platform.

Boston University Postdoctoral Association

The Boston University Postdoctoral Association (BUPDA) was created and is led by postdocs to create opportunities for the postdoc community to connect. They are an active partner of our office and work closely with us to organize community-driven and professional development events and to advocate for policy changes to improve the postdoctoral experience.

Join our events

Postdoctoral Seminar Series - This year the BUPDA is planning on bringing back in person our monthly lunch series, in which two postdocs give a presentation on their research. Postdocs often have minimal opportunity to present their research and receive feedback, improve their presentation skills, or see the research of other postdocs. This seminar series has filled this critical role for BU postdocs and presented opportunities for postdocs to socialize and network. The series began in January 2018 and went virtual in 2020. We are resuming the in-person format for the 2022-2023 academic year.



Writing Group - The BUPDA hosts informal monthly writing groups on both the Charles River Campus and the Med Campus. All BU postdocs are welcome to attend any of these writing sessions as a way to focus on writing or other work. The goal is to provide a space to avoid distractions and provide

feedback or bounce ideas off each other as desired.

Monthly Social Events - The BUPDA also hosts monthly social events for postdocs to meet each other and explore Boston! This year we have hosted happy hours at the BU Fuller Pub, visited the Franklin Park Zoo, and walked the Freedom Trail, among other events. These events provide a way to get to know one another and serve as well-deserved breaks.



Highlighting BUPDA Leaders

This year BUPDA elected new leaders:



Dr. Razan Alnahhas



Dr. Shambhavi Tannir



Dr. Kanchana Ayyar



Dr. Hayley Knox



Dr. Sayantani Chatterjee



Dr. Kimberly Bowal

**BUPDA is always looking for
new postdocs – get involved!**

Email: bupda@bu.edu

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BUPostdocs/>

Meet Our Leaders

Dr. Razan Alnahhas is a Postdoc in Dr. Mary Dunlop's lab in Biomedical Engineering at Boston University. Her current research focuses on antibiotic resistance and persistence in *E. coli* using time-lapse fluorescence microscopy. Razan obtained her Ph.D. in Biochemistry in Dr. Matthew Bennett's lab at Rice University where she studied synthetic microbial consortia. She also served as the President of the Biochemistry Graduate Student Association at Rice University.

Dr. Kanchana Ayyar is a postdoctoral associate in the Moss Lab at Boston Medical Center and Boston University. Her current research focuses on identifying biomarkers for Inflammatory Bowel Disease from Extracellular Vesicles. She has worked extensively on mucosal immunology during her Ph.D. at the National Institute for Research in Reproductive and Child Health (NIRRH), Mumbai India and her postdoc at the University of Miami, Miami, USA. She also served on the committee of the postdoc association at the University of Miami. At BU, Kanchana also serves as a committee member on the DEI committee-Gastroenterology division and Committee on Sexual Assault and Harassment Prevention.

Dr. Sayantani Chatterjee is a Post-Doctoral Associate in Prof. Joseph Zaia's research group in Boston University School of Medicine in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. Her current research focuses on exploring viral glycoproteomics, particularly of influenza and SARS-CoV-2 viruses, using high-throughput mass spectrometry, to aid in the development of effective therapeutics. Previously, she completed her PhD under the supervision of Dr. Morten Thaysen-Andersen from Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia where she investigated the structure, function, and involvement of mannose-terminating glycoproteins in cancer, innate immunity and pathogenic infections.

Dr. Shambhavi Tannir is a Postdoctoral Associate in Prof. Malika Jeffries-EL's group in the Department of Chemistry at Boston University. Her current research focuses on the synthetic design and device development of organic light emitting diode materials (OLEDs) and organic solar cell/photovoltaic (OSCs/OPVs) materials. Shambhavi completed her PhD in the design, synthesis and applications of chiral quantum dots and chiral supramolecular semiconductor nanomaterials under Dr. Krizstina Varga and Dr. Milan Balaz from the University of Wyoming. She served as the Graduate Ambassador for the Chemistry Department as well as a mentor for the McNairs Scholarship Program while at the University of Wyoming.

Dr. Hayley Knox is a Postdoctoral Associate in Professor Karen Allen's research group in the Department of Chemistry at Boston University. Her current research is on the structural characterization of glycosyltransferase enzymes involved in the biosynthesis of glycoconjugate biosynthesis. Hayley completed her Ph.D. in the structural characterization of cobalamin-dependent radical S-adenosylmethionine enzymes under Dr. Squire Booker at Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Kimberly Bowal is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Biological Design Center, working with Profs. Joe Larkin and Kirill Korolev. She is interested in the collective dynamics of living systems - mostly through simulations, although you can occasionally find her at a microscope! Her key questions right now centre around understanding how different cell phenotypes in biofilms contribute to the spatiotemporal patterning at their edge. Her PhD work at the University of Cambridge focused on elucidating the molecular structure of combustion-generated soot particles.

Research and Scholarship

New papers out this year:

Goldman, Sasha. Constructing A Curriculum: 21 Days towards Unlearning Racism and Learning Antiracism. *Impact: The Journal of the Center for Interdisciplinary Teaching & Learning*. 2022 Winter 11(1).

Wu, Jue; Hokanson, Sarah Chobot; Goldberg, Bennett B. Change Mapping of Models to Diversify STEM Faculty as Practiced by Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate. *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education* (2022),



Current grant programs:

2018-2023 Inclusive Learning and Teaching in Undergraduate STEM instruction (\$3m)

This project created a massive open online course tailored to future and current STEM faculty focused on research-based inclusive teaching practices. The course and its associated learning communities are in the pilot phase and will launch nationally in spring 2021 on BUx.

2018-2023 Postdoctoral Pathways: Broadening Access to Career Advancement (\$1.9m)

This project created a national professional development program featuring two massive open online courses tailored to postdocs called the Postdoc Academy. To date, our program has reached over 5,000 postdocs, held learning communities at 47 institutions, and has trained 118 facilitators.

2016-2022 CIRTl-AGEP: Improved Academic Climate for STEM Dissertators and Postdocs to Increase Interest in Faculty Careers (\$3m)

This project focuses on understanding the drivers that influence under-represented PhD student and postdoc interest and participation in faculty careers and developing activities that improve the research climate in STEM departments.

2018-2022 AGEp National Research Conference 2020: Sustaining, Institutionalizing, and Scaling AGEp Models and Initiatives (\$500k)

This project focuses on disseminating the practices and research findings of the National Science Foundation funded Alliances in Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) programs through a national meeting. Due to COVID-19, our 2 day 2020 conference has been transformed into a year-long series of virtual webinars, poster sessions, research talks, and conference workshops.

Landscape for Postdocs and PhD Students

The work that we do connects to many University-wide initiatives and working groups that support graduate and postdoctoral training.

AAU PhD Education Initiative

The AAU PhD Education Initiative seeks to change the culture of PhD training to be supportive of the full range of careers available to PhD students both inside and outside of academia. Our first cohort of six departments successfully implemented local plans to increase resources and support for their students - Biology, Biostatistics, Classical Studies, Counseling Psychology and Applied Human Development, Pharmacology, and Sociology. We look forward to welcoming a new cohort of departments in Fall 2023 that will undertake a similar data collection and strategic planning process. We are proud that this initiative advances our culture of student-centered education and provides our PhD students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to succeed in their chosen career path.

Taskforce on the Future of PhD Education

Boston University is re-examining our practices, policies, and structures to develop a guiding vision that best positions our PhD programs for the future. Sarah Hokanson has joined the Taskforce on the Future of PhD Education, which will discuss the challenges at the forefront of the national dialogue on PhD education - access and diversity, culture and inclusion, student wellbeing and mental health, mentoring, professional development, and career advancement. The Taskforce will meet during the 22-23 academic year and produce recommendations to Provost Morrison.

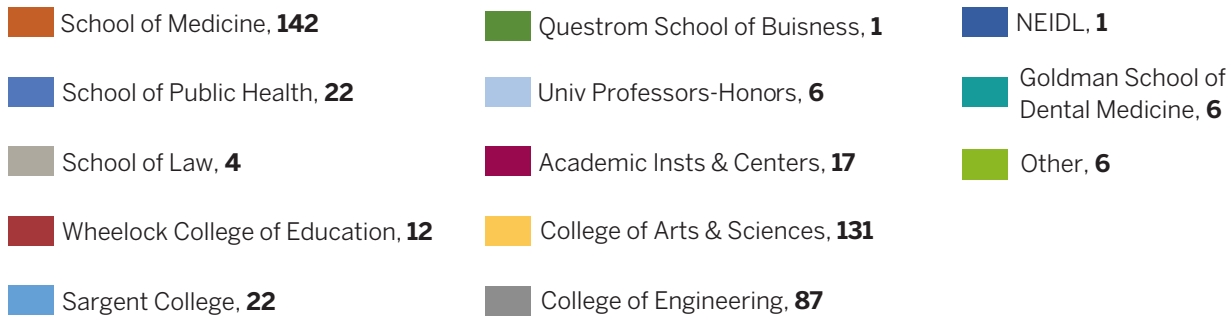
Childcare subsidies for PhD students

We offer annual \$600 subsidies for PhD student parents to offset childcare costs. Awards are granted based on student eligibility and availability of funds. Last year, we funded 38 students within 8 schools/colleges. Applications for this program will launch again in September 2022.



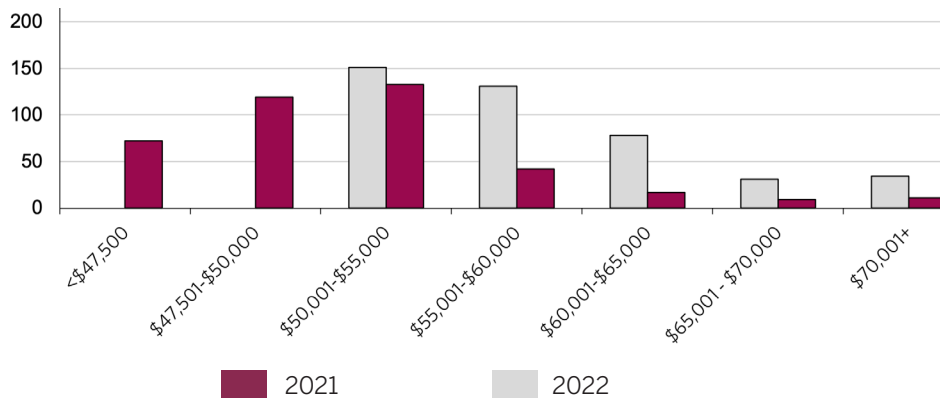
BU Postdocs: At a Glance

School & College Distribution

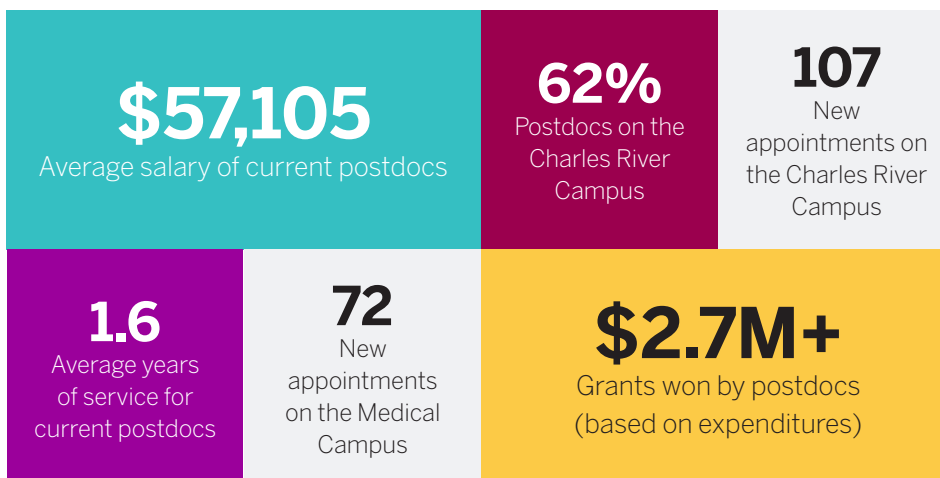


Salary Distribution

The minimum salary for postdocs in FY22 was \$50,001.



Quick Stats



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

BU postdocs represent 52 countries. The most common countries of citizenship are:

United States **232**
China **70**
India **36**
South Korea **13**

RACE/ETHNICITY

White **232**
Asian **167**
Black **15**
American Indian **1**
Multiracial **2**
Hispanic/Latino **25**

Race data is unreported for 61 postdocs.

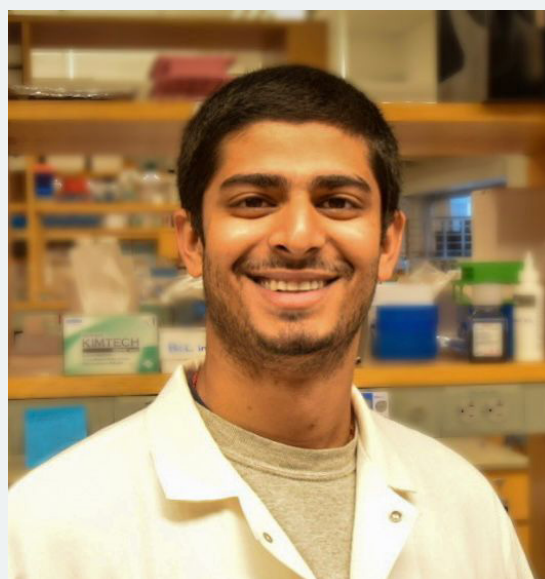
Highlighting Our Postdocs

Our office gives out travel awards each year to support graduate students and postdocs to pursue the professional development opportunities that will enrich their training and enhance their career. Here we highlight two of the winners from last year:

Maria Shvedova is an MD, PhD, Postdoctoral Associate working at the Department of Surgery. Her research focuses on understanding the underlying pathological mechanisms of chronic wound persistence in aging and to develop interventions aimed at improving wound healing in aging using an aged murine model. In April 2022, she attended the Wound Healing Society (WHS) annual meeting, in Phoenix, Arizona to give an oral presentation entitled 'Alterations of the wound-induced senescence response in aging'. This meeting was an important opportunity to present the results of her project, as well as an important professional development opportunity as it is one of the largest meetings in Maria's research field. Attending this meeting allowed Maria to keep up to date with the current trends and advances in wound healing research.



Ankul Shanoy is a postdoctoral fellow mentored by Dr. Jay Mizgerd at the Pulmonary Center within School of Medicine. His work focuses on elucidating the cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying lung epithelial and resident CD4+ TRM cell communication in the context of pulmonary immunity during health, infections and allergy. The PDPA travel award was instrumental in defraying his expenses to travel to the Immunology 2022 conference organized by American Association of Immunologists (AAI) in Portland, Oregon during May 6-10, 2022 where Ankul gave a talk and shared his science with fellow immunologists from across the globe. In addition to giving me access to the most cutting-edge science being performed by fellow immunologists worldwide, this travel award also gave Ankul an opportunity to meet people and form networks in a new scientific field in which his work is becoming increasingly relevant.



Highlighting Our Graduate Students

Our office now oversees the prestigious graduate fellowships (Clare Booth Luce, Martin Luther King Jr., Whitney Young Jr., and Lu Lingzi) that award full tuition, fees, and student health insurance to a select cohort of students. The criteria for these awards honors our commitments to diversity, equity, and inclusion as well as academic excellence. Below we highlight our most recent fellowship winners.



**Clare Booth Luce:
Parker Landon,**
College of Engineering,
Ph.D. in Electrical and
Computer Engineering

Parker Landon is one of the recipients for this year's Clare Booth Luce Award who will be beginning her Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer at the College of Engineering in fall 2022. During her undergraduate years, she was extensively involved in research on campus in a wide variety of projects, some of which were summer engagements associated with NASA and Jet Propulsion labs. Her commitment to research early on in her academic career coupled with her many other diverse engagements will be a significant contribution to the sciences, as well as her Ph.D. program.



**Lu Lingzi:
Luyi Chen,**
Sargent College, M.S. in
Nutrition program

This year's Lu Lingzi recipient is a former terrier, who will be continuing her journey as a double terrier when she begins her M.S. in Nutrition program at Sargent College this coming fall semester. Luyi is a first generation student who is originally from Wenzhou, China who has an incredibly profound passion for food and nutrition, and how it can impact one's health. She aspires to complete her M.S. degree and eventually work as a registered dietitian, and plans to explore her passion through her graduate program and volunteer opportunities.



MLK Jr.: Kiara Olatunde,
School of Social Work, M.S.W.

Kiara Olatunde was raised in Charlottesville, Virginia. She is a first-generation African American college student, who will also be the first in her family to obtain her Master's in Social Work. Kiara graduated, magna cum laude, from James Madison University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Family Studies. Over the course of her undergraduate career, she studied environmental risk factors affecting child cognitive development. Her passions stem from her awareness of the lack of mental health resources available in minority communities. Not only does she excel academically, but Kiara also devotes much of her time mentoring and advising children in the Harrisonburg, VA community. Her commitment to service drives her to become a clinical social worker and mental health advocate for underprivileged populations after graduation.



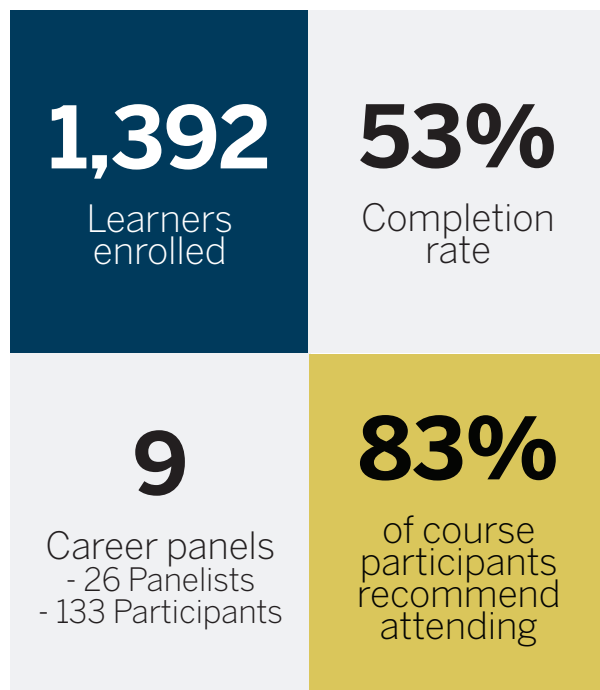
**Whitney Young Jr.:
Kaye-Alese Green,**
School of Law and
School of Medicine,
JD/MD program

Kaye-Alese Green is dually enrolled in Boston University's School of Law and School of Medicine as she pursues both her MD and JD degrees simultaneously. The interdisciplinary nature of her academic interests ties to her professional journey and future goals. Through her extensive training, she is determined to become an impactful advocate in the service of urban communities through her scholarly research and practical interventions.

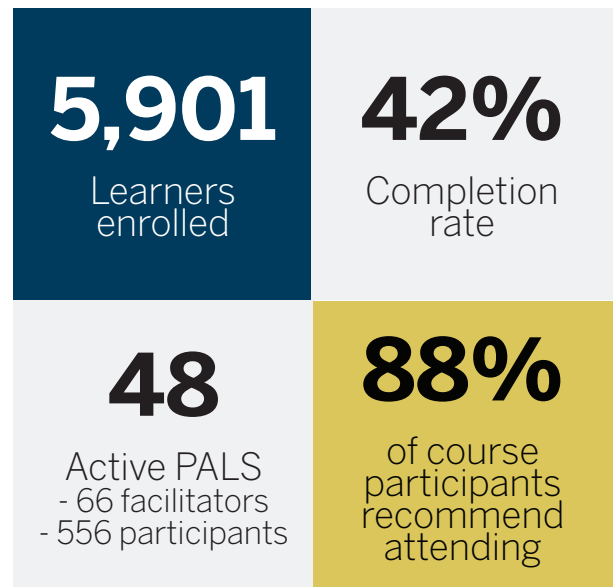
Postdoc Academy

The Postdoc Academy program is a comprehensive online and in-person professional development program available to all postdocs to help them develop the transferable skills that will enable their success in a diverse set of biomedical careers. Our content includes free online courses, open educational facilitation guides and accompanying curricular materials, in-person workshops, and supported learning communities. Our available courses include Succeeding as a Postdoc and Building Skills for a Successful Career, and cover themes related to: joining a new community of practice, setting goals and expectations with a mentor, career planning, developing resilience, working effectively in intercultural environments, leadership, becoming a new supervisor, project management, translating teaching skills into new professional settings, developing elevator pitches, and preparing job application materials. We have reached over 7000 postdocs since our program launch, and more than 25% of our program participants are from underrepresented groups.

Building Skills for a Successful Career: Course Outcomes



Succeeding as a Postdoc: Course Outcomes



Connect with us



Postdoc Academy

Website:

postdocacademy.org

Instagram, Twitter, Facebook

[@postdocacademy](https://www.instagram.com/postdocacademy)

LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/company/postdoc-academy

This collaborative initiative with Boston University, Northwestern University, Michigan State University, and University of Wisconsin- Madison is funded by the National Institutes of Health Grant No. R25121257.

Inclusive STEM Teaching Project

The Inclusive STEM Teaching Project is designed to support instructors to cultivate inclusive STEM learning environments for all students. The project offers an online course via edX twice per calendar year as well as synchronous learning communities and identity-based affinity group discussion opportunities. The project also ran facilitator training for the third time in January 2022, welcoming 27 new facilitation teams from across the country. In total, the project has trained 134 facilitators representing 52 institutions nationwide.

The primary sponsor for the Inclusive STEM Teaching Project is the National Science Foundation (NSF), Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR), and Division of Undergraduate Education (DUE). This project is supported under DUE grants 1821684; 1821571; 1821528; 1821510; 1821574. The project is a collaboration between Boston University, Northwestern University, University of Michigan, University of Georgia, University of Utah, University of Wisconsin - Madison, and Des Moines Area Community College.

University, Northwestern University, University of Michigan, University of Georgia, University of Utah, University of Wisconsin - Madison, and Des Moines Area Community College.

Quick Stats



Connect with us



Website

www.inclusivestemteaching.org

Email

inclusivestemteaching@gmail.com

Instagram, Facebook

[@inclusivestemteaching](https://www.instagram.com/inclusivestemteaching)

Twitter

[@inclusivestem1](https://twitter.com/inclusivestem1)

edX course page

<https://www.edx.org/course/the-inclusive-stem-teaching-project>

PhD Progression

The PhD Progression platform is an online digital-badge tracking platform and dashboard that allows BU PhD students to gain skills in 7 core capacities (Self-Awareness, Teaching, Research, Management & Leadership, Communication, Career Development, Discipline-specific knowledge) that exist within all doctoral programs across the University.

The goals of this program are to allow PhD students from all fields to:

- Develop skills that are useful for them during their PhD and for their career transition
- Learn the vocabulary necessary to communicate effectively about their skills to future employers
- Track their progress - they earn a digital badge for each of the courses they complete on the badgr pro platform.

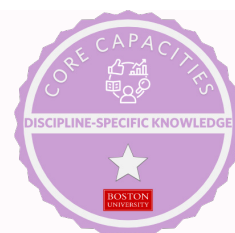
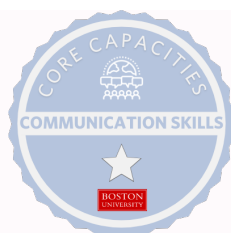
They can share these badges on LinkedIn to showcase their marketability.

2022 PhD Progression News

After a pilot program ran in 2021 (7 learning pathways with 67 badges made available to 65 participants, 640 badges awarded), the program was open to all PhD students at Boston University. 538

more badges have been awarded since then. Three new pathways have been created so far in 2022:

- Level 2 Career Development (10 badges)
- this pathway guides students through getting ready for their career transition and writing job application documents for academic and non-academic positions.
- Level 2 Communications skills (15 badges)
- this pathway provides courses for PhD students to plan and write their dissertation, manage writing challenges, get and incorporate feedback, and communicate their research using various channels and to various audiences. Five workshops have also been run in the Summer 2022 to allow students to earn badges from this pathway via more interactive sessions.
- Level 2 Teaching skills (7 badges) - this pathway, which focuses on Inclusive Teaching, has been created in partnership with the Center for Teaching & Learning at Boston



LEARNING PATHWAY SPOTLIGHT: Teaching

This year we partnered with the Center for Teaching and Learning to create two learning pathways focused on teaching skills. These badges are ideal for PhD students serving as teaching fellows or instructors, and cover topics

such as teaching with technology, inclusive teaching practices, learning assessment and feedback, and course design.

Vitamin PhD Podcast



The Vitamin PhD podcast was created in 2019 to provide another way for doctoral students at BU and beyond to engage in professional development and form a community.

Each season of Vitamin PhD is hosted by a pair of current doctoral students at BU. Hosts research, plan, and produce seasons focused on a topic aligned with current PDPA programming.

Season 5, hosted by PhD students Jessica Wright (Earth & Environment) and Rohin Banerji (Biomedical Engineering), is the first season in a series of seven seasons focused on the PhD Core Capacities. In conversations with faculty, students, and professionals in the field, Rohin and Jess talk about the core skill of communication – how to develop the skill, challenges in

Quick Stats for Seasons 5-7

26

Episodes

3000+

Downloads

163

Downloads per
Episode

communication, and what platforms can support success.

Season 6, hosted by PhD students Heather Mooney (Sociology) and Matthew Boyd (Computer Engineering), focuses on the core skill of research – addressing the fundamentals of the research process, publishing, ethics, and reaching a broader audience.

Hosted by PhD students Shaunesse' Jacobs (Theology) and Jenna Rindy (Biology), season 7 explores the core skill of teaching by facilitating discussions around the fundamentals of the teaching process as well as its many rewards and challenges.

All seasons of the podcast are available on Apple Podcasts and Spotify, which enables a worldwide audience to access it. Listeners can access additional information about the podcast on our website, www.bu.edu/vitaminphd, and get updates via Twitter @BUvitaminphd.



2022 Vitamin PhD podcast hosts (clockwise from top left): Alexa Friedman, Adrianna Spindle-Jackson, Alyssa Kreikemeier, and Grace McGowan

EPISODE SPOTLIGHT: SEASON 5, EPISODE 7: Navitagting Communication for Broader Audiences

In this episode, our hosts are joined by Professor Derek Turner, a science philosopher from Connecticut College, and PhD Candidate Meredith Schmehl, Public Engagement & Communications Chair for the National Science Policy

Network and they talk about the tools needed to effectively communicate with a broad audience. We cover topics from science policy to dinosaurs, with lots of helpful communication tips throughout.

Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)

Responsible conduct in research (RCR) broadly describes the awareness and application of established professional standards and ethical principles in the execution of research-related activities. Since the 1980s, the term RCR has also become associated with educational programs designed to teach graduate students and postdoctoral scholars about ethical practices associated with scientific investigation and developing scholarship with integrity. Our RCR program combines online and in-person training to ensure our graduate students and postdocs are well-versed in the nuanced ethical decisions they will encounter throughout their research career. Over 500 members of our faculty and staff have participated as discussion facilitators since 2006.

Boston University recognizes that identifying, addressing, and mitigating power dynamics will play an important part in ensuring graduate students and postdoctoral scholars adhere to RCR principles in their research and scholarship. The RCR curriculum at Boston University has been updated to integrate required RCR topics with themes such as social justice definitions, setting mentoring expectations, implicit bias, and managing difficult conversations effectively. The activities within our required in-person workshops also move beyond solely analyzing and responding to case studies towards activities that require students to develop and apply professional skills in critical thinking, self-awareness, and communication.



Fall 21 - Spring 22

Workshop 1 Attendees 101	Workshop 2 Attendees 120
Workshop 3 Attendees 97	Workshop 4 Attendees 101

Summer 22

Workshop 1 Attendees 105	Workshop 2 Attendees 100
Workshop 3 Attendees 136	Workshop 4 Attendees 130

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Sarah Hokanson
Emma Zheng
Tom Bifano
Deborah Carr
Paola Divieti Pajevic
Andrew Henderson
Daniel Kleinman
Francesca Seta

Provost Mentor Fellows Program

Mentoring relationships between faculty and doctoral students and postdoctoral scholars across all fields foster the development of innovative scholarship and the creation of new knowledge. These relationships are also critical to shaping the independence of these early career scholars.

PDPA has developed a model for mentor training called the Provost Mentor Fellows program. This cohort-based program sponsored directly by the Provost meets monthly throughout the academic year to promote peer learning across disciplines, highlight mentoring successes among faculty, and collectively commit not just to updating personal strategies for mentorship, but towards enacting changes within others.

This year's cohort was committed to deepening their mentoring practices, identifying new mentoring strategies, and developing a mentoring plan. Each faculty member also developed a project that represented their learning and skill development within the program. One example project this year focused on using departmental survey data to optimize mentoring relationships between graduate students and faculty.



Quick Stats

9

Fellows

4

Schools/
Colleges

34%

Professors

22%

Chairs/Prog.
Directors

10%

Associate
Professors

56%

Assistant
Professors

Summary

Our mission is to ensure that Boston University provides a supportive and competitive environment for PhD and postdoctoral scholarship and training, as well as provide support to faculty mentors.

Professional Development

- In-person workshops
- Self-paced learning opportunities and podcast episodes
- Professional development and travel awards
- Business cards
- One-on-one advising and office hours

Postdoc Appointments & Onboarding

- Offer letters
- Postdoc guidebook resource
- In-person and virtual orientation sessions
- Non-employee / trainee benefits

Creating Community

- Family-friendly events
- Social events
- Wellness programs
- Postdoc association (BUPDA)



Sasha Goldman
absent from team photo

Connect with PDPA



In Person

Charles River Campus:

1 Silber Way, Room 909,
Boston, MA 02215

Medical Campus:

72 E. Concord Street,
Boston, MA 02118



Online

bu.edu/postdocs
bu.edu/grad
postdocacademy.org
bu.edu/vitaminphd
inclusivestemteaching.org



On Twitter

[@postdocacademy](https://twitter.com/postdocacademy)
[@buvitaminphd](https://twitter.com/buvitaminphd)
[@inclusivestem1](https://twitter.com/inclusivestem1)
[@BU_PhDs](https://twitter.com/BU_PhDs)



BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Professional Development & Postdoctoral Affairs

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gradpd@bu.edu