



## Postdoctoral Mentoring Activities

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Mentoring and other forms of professional development and guidance are associated with successful outcomes for graduate students and post docs. Rice University encourages all faculty who supervise postdoctoral scholars to develop and implement mentoring plans to assist young scholars in professional development. In addition, NSF has put in place a new requirement that PIs explicitly detail mentoring activities they will provide for any postdocs requested on NSF awards. The Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies has a number of ongoing activities at Rice specifically designed to mentor postdocs and those activities are listed below. Should you have any questions on the specific activities, please contact **Paula Sanders**, Dean of **Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies**.

### Resources for Postdoctoral Mentoring

The National Postdoc Association (NPA) has assembled numerous resources to assist faculty in designing and implementing postdoctoral mentoring programs. The NPA also provides toolkits on a variety of specific topics, including Responsible Conduct of Research Postdoctoral Training.

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute chapter on mentoring from Making the Right Moves: a practical guide to scientific management for postdocs and new faculty. The entire manual is available as a downloadable pdf.

### Resources for Postdoctoral Mentoring

- Postdoctoral Career Development activities at BCM available to Rice Postdocs
- Library Resources for Ph.D. Students and Post Docs
- NSF grant-writing workshop (fall)
- NIH grant-writing workshop (fall)
- NEH/ACLS/Mellon grant-writing workshop (fall)
- Teaching workshop for current & future teachers (2x/month)
- Postdoc lunches (2x/month--one time generally work/life balance issue; other time generally professional dvlp. issue)
- Job market (for postdocs and graduate students) workshop (separate for Eng & NatSci, SocSci, Humanities)
- Conflict resolution (spring)
- Entrepreneurship club (full academic year)
- A course title "Teaching Engineering" taught by Professor James Young is designed to give students who plan on academic positions the teaching skills necessary to hit the ground running and to be able to spend more time on research. Postdocs are welcome to audit this class. More information can be found at ENGI 501: Teaching Engineering
- Felder-Brent Workshop on Effective College Teaching (August 19-20, 2010). Contact Jim Young (young@rice.edu) for further information.
- CHEM 570 Nanotechnology for Teachers - this class links introductory IPC, high school Chemistry and Physics curriculum to Nanotechnology with applications in Enviromental and Biological Sciences

### Planned for introduction next academic year

- NSF CAREER workshop (spring)

- [Responsible Conduct of Research training program through CITI](#)
- Proposal development and peer review workshops (4-10 weeks as needed)

Periodic: possibly to be offered annually or every other year in the future

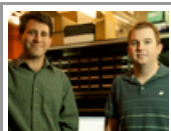
- Entrepreneurship workshop (day-long)

### Sample Postdoctoral Mentoring Plans

Below are examples of what one might put in a postdoctoral mentoring plan. We will try to continually update these and post some from successful proposals.

- [Sample Postdoctoral Mentoring Plan](#)

### Research News



#### [Rice researchers take molecule's temperature](#)

Douglas Natelson, a professor of physics and astronomy, and Dan Ward, who recently earned his doctorate at Rice, found a way to determine the temperature of single molecules. They reported their technique this week in Nature Nanotechnology.



#### [Rice sociologist's paper is candidate for foundation's top 5 publications of 2010](#)

Rice sociologist Rachel Kimbro's study, "Federal Food Policy and Childhood Obesity: A Solution or Part of the Problem?," has been recognized as one of the most influential research articles funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation this year.



#### [Study probes link between magnetism, superconductivity](#)

European and U.S. physicists this week are offering up the strongest evidence yet that magnetism is the driving force behind unconventional superconductivity. The findings by researchers from Rice University, the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Physics of Solids in Dresden, Germany, and other institutions were published online Dec. 13 in Nature Physics.



#### [Rice professors named American Physical Society fellows](#)

Two Rice University professors were named fellows of the American Physical Society this week. Ching-Hwa Kiang, assistant professor of physics and astronomy, and Tom Killian, professor of physics and astronomy, were nominated by their peers and elected by the APS Council.



#### [Computer scientist Kaviraki elected ACM fellow](#)

The Association of Computing Machinery has elected Rice University's Lydia Kaviraki as a 2010 fellow.

#### [Research News Archives](#)

### [Rice News](#)

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