

Kaisa Kajala, Facilitator

Kaisa Kajala is originally from Finland and studied for her BA (Natural Sciences) and PhD (Plant Sciences) at University of Cambridge, England. After her graduation, she took some time off to explore the world (of science). She did her first postdoctoral project at University of Western Australia. In 2012, she received a two-year Finnish Cultural Foundation postdoctoral fellowship to study role of individual cell-types in tomato root development here at UC Davis, project that she now carries on under her PI's NSF grant.

Jonathan Ashby, 2015 Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow

Jon obtained his BS in Chemistry from Trinity College in Connecticut, and his PhD in Analytical Chemistry from the University of California, Riverside. As a graduate student, Jon received the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship to develop methods for probing biomacromolecular interactions. Since 2014, he has been working in Dr. Sheila David's lab in the Department of Chemistry at UC Davis, working in the field of DNA repair.

Juan Debernardi, 2014 Human Frontier Science Program Postdoctoral Fellow

Juan obtained his BS in Biotechnology and his PhD in Biological Science from the National University of Rosario, Argentina. Juan performed his PhD research at the Molecular Biology Institute of Rosario, Argentina. As a PhD student, Juan received an Argentinean Research Council fellowship and an EMBO Short-Term Fellowship to study the evolution and role of plant miRNA networks in the control of organ development using Arabidopsis as a model. Since 2014, he has been working in Dr. Jorge Dubcovsky's lab in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis, working in the field of flowering time regulation in wheat.

Maryam Griffin, 2015 UC President's Postdoctoral Fellow

Maryam obtained her BA in Political Science from UCLA, her JD from the UCLA School of Law, and her MA and PhD in Sociology from UC Santa Barbara. She has just begun the UC President's Postdoc at UC Davis, working under the mentorship of Dr. Sunaina Maira in Asian American Studies. Maryam's research examines the politics of Palestinian public transportation in the West Bank.

Aurele Piazza, 2013 EMBO and 2015 Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow

Aurele obtained his BS, MS, and PhD degrees in Genetics at the University Pierre and Marie Curie in Paris, with exceptional honors. As a graduate student, he received fellowships from the Research Ministry and the Association for the Research on Cancer. Since 2013, he has been working in Dr. Heyer's lab in the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at UC Davis, in the field of DNA Repair. More specifically, he is interested in the mechanism of homology search during Homologous Recombination.

Sumit Sandhu, 2015 A.P. Giannini Fellow

Sumit completed her MS in Human Genetics from G.N.D. University, India and her PhD in Molecular Biology from the University of Manitoba, Canada. During her graduate studies, she received several prestigious awards and fellowships. Sumit joined Dr. Neil Hunter's laboratory in Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics in January 2014 and is working on understanding the role of several DNA repair proteins during meiosis.

Upcoming Funding/Fellowship Sessions:

Grant Writing: One Step at a Time

Tuesday, October 6, 2015 – 6:00-7:30 PM
ARC - Meeting Room 1

The prospect of writing your first big grant proposal can be daunting. Take some of the anxiety out of the process by participating in Grant Writing: One Step At a Time. In this interactive workshop, we will break down the process of writing a successful grant proposal into a series of manageable steps.

Instructor: Melissa Bender, University Writing Program

Sponsored by the University Writing Program: Writing Across the Curriculum Program and GradPathways (Graduate Studies)

Questions? Contact: Teresa Dillinger (tdillinger@ucdavis.edu), OGS

Information Session: California Science & Technology Policy Fellowship

Thursday, November 19, 2015, 3:30-5:00 PM
114 South Hall

The California Council on Science and Technology seeks Ph.D. scientists and M.S. engineers (with at least three years post-degree experience) to serve as Fellows to provide the California State Legislature with critical, unbiased scientific and technical advice. Modeled on the AAAS Science Policy Fellowships, this program offers a rare opportunity for PhDs to seamlessly enter the world of California policy. Current and past fellows will share their experiences and the application process. Visit: <http://fellows.ccst.us/index.php>. Application is open December 1, 2015.

Questions? Contact, Gwynn Benner (wbenner@ucdavis.edu), ICC

Interested in helping the PSA plan a Career Development Workshop?

The PSA is in the process of planning a Career Development Workshop during the Winter Quarter. If you are interested, send an email to Kaisa Kajala (kkajala@ucdavis.edu) to receive additional information on planning meetings and other details



Professional Development

Research Dissemination

Outreach and Mentoring

Funding Your Postdoctoral Studies

Tuesday, September 29, 2015
5:00-6:30 PM, PES 3001

Tentative Schedule of Events:

5:05: Welcome and Remarks
Jonathan Ashby, PSA Chair

5:10: Navigating UC Davis's External Fellowships Page
Deborah McCook, Office of Graduate Studies

5:25: Introduction of Panelists
Kaisa Kajala, PSA Career Development Officer

5:30: Discussion of Fellowship Benefits/Applications
Panelists (see inside flyer for bios)

6:00: Q&A