



Microbiology and Immunology Postdoc Association

The Department of Microbiology and Immunology Postdoc Association offers opportunities for networking, career development, and interaction between postdoctoral research fellows in microbiology and immunology labs. Our meetings serve as a foundation for M&I postdocs to interact and share their experiences. Meeting topics focus on networking activities and career development discussions, while other activities allow for postdocs to mentor graduate students in the department and to present their work.

The postdocs in the M&I department organize an annual M&I postdoc symposium. During this event, M&I postdocs are able to present their work to the department and gain public speaking experience. Each year, the symposium features talks from postdocs in the department, a keynote address from an invited microbiologist or immunologist, and multiple opportunities for postdocs in the department to discuss science and career development with our keynote speaker. Postdocs in the department submit and vote on nominations for the keynote speaker, and a committee of postdoc volunteers organizes the symposium in the months before the event.

M&I postdocs are also able to participate in the Postdoctoral Consulting Corps. This is a formal mentoring experience in which postdocs provide scientific advice and guidance to graduate students working on their preliminary exams. Students can reach out to participating postdocs for consultation on hypothesis development, experimental design, feasibility, and methods at any point while they are working on their prelim exams in the spring semester. This does not require a large time commitment, and is a great way to mentor students throughout the department.

For more information on the M&I Postdoc Association or any of the activities listed above, or to be added to the listserv, please email Elizabeth Danka (esdanka@email.unc.edu).

M&I Postdoc Association faculty mentor: Dr. Virginia Miller (virginia_miller@med.unc.edu)