BCGC Job Opening: Program Coordinator

BCGC is hiring a program coordinator to support management and operation of the Center and of the SAGE IGERT PhD fellowship program. The program coordinator will prepare reports, keep track of budgets, create/oversee the creation of web/outreach content, and help engage campus stakeholders. This is a job for someone with great communication and interpersonal facilities and who is committed to the BCGC mission. The ideal candidate should have Advanced degree at the master's level or equivalent and at least 2 years of experience in a field related to science, engineering, or health. This is a half-time position. To learn more about this position contact marty_m@berkeley.edu. To apply visit https://aprecruit.berkeley.edu/ Job #: JPF00654.

SAGE Fellow Noah Kittner and Professor Daniel Kammen find greener, cheaper alternatives to coal in Kosovo

The World Bank is deliberating whether to replace an aging coal plant in Kosovo with a new coal facility or a combination of renewable alternatives. The project includes significant U.S. funding, and recent news from conversations between the Bank and the Obama administration indicate they are leaning towards replacing coal with coal, despite earlier promises to invest in renewables whenever possible. Obama administration officials and World Bank President Jim Yong Kim have argued that in this case coal is the most affordable option.

But SAGE fellow Noah Kittner and Professor Daniel Kammen of the Energy and Resources department disagree. They assessed the cost and environmental impact of various alternatives to replace the plant, known as Kosovo C, and found the argument for coal is flawed. They determined that increasing energy efficiency and incorporating renewable sources like solar would not only reduce carbon emissions and particulate air pollution, but cost less than building a new coal plant. Kittner and Kammen have urged the World Bank and Obama administration officials to save money and reduce pollution by investing in solar, wind, and better management of existing resources instead of burning more coal.

Dr. Schwarzman co-authors a study on company size and REACH compliance

BCGC associate director Dr. Meg Schwarzman, along with colleagues at Stanford and the University of New Mexico, published a paper last month investigating the impact of new European Union (EU) chemical regulations on small and medium sized companies in Europe. The regulations are part of the Registration, Evaluation, and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) program. REACH was passed by the EU in 2006, with implementation phased in through 2018.

REACH requires chemical manufacturers to provide basic information on the chemicals they make or sell in the EU, but also requires consumer product manufacturers to disclose certain high hazard chemicals in their products. The complexity of consumer product supply chains can make this a difficult task, and in 2013 the European Commission expressed concern that small and medium sized companies weren’t getting the support they needed to comply with these new rules.

Schwarzman and her colleagues concluded that successful implementation of REACH requirements will depend on increased education and technical support from the EU and trade organizations, particularly targeting small and medium sized companies.

The Green Chemistry and Sustainable Design Seminar is Back this Semester!
The seminar will be hosting talks this spring and is still looking for more people to be involved. Our first talk this semester will be Rebecca Hernandez, from UC Berkeley, who will be presenting a talk titled, “Efficient use of land for meeting sustainable energy needs.”

- Monday, February 23rd at 4 pm in Hildebrand Library Room D
For more information or to sign up for a meeting with Rebecca, email Heather Buckley and Noah Kittner.

**Call for Papers for the Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference**

Call for Papers and Early-Bird Registration Now Open for the 19th Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference (GC&E), "Catalyzing Innovation: Smarter research, greener design, better world." The conference will be held by the ACS Green Chemistry Institute July 14-16, 2015 in the Washington, DC metro area. Hundreds of participants will come together to share research as well as education and business strategies to ensure a green and sustainable future. If you are interested in contributing to GC&E by presenting a paper, visit the conference program page for more information. Deadline for submissions is March 13, 2015.

**Design of Safer Chemicals and Products Workshop**

This workshop on the Nexus of Toxicology and Chemistry for chemists, toxicologists, material scientists engaged in material selection and product design will be held on April 23, 24 in Troutdale, Oregon. Hosted by Northwest Green Chemistry, and MoDRN, this 2-day course is for professionals who design new chemicals, formulations, and commercial products, as well as those interested in supporting safer products and processes within public, private, and non-profit organizations. Recognized leaders in chemistry, toxicology, ecotoxicology, nanotoxicology, and other disciplines will guide participants in the use of the most prominent tools used in chemical design and predictive toxicology. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss cutting-edge science and practical strategies for the design of safer chemicals and products. Refer to this flyer for more information and register here.

**BASF Science Competition: Lightweight Solutions**

As part of BASF’s 150th anniversary celebration, this year’s BASF Science Competition - Lightweight Solutions for a Sustainable Future will focus on the global challenges of urban living, the food chain and smart energy. The challenge is: What chemistries can be used to create lightweight solutions with improved end-of-life management? The proposal submission period is February 1, 2015, through March 18, 2015. Submitted proposals will be evaluated based on their scientific and commercial merit by experts in the field. On April 20, up to 5 proposals will be selected as finalists. The finalists will be provided with $5,000 per team for developing proof of concept and help in developing a pitch for their proposal to be presented to a judging panel of BASF executives. The winner will be selected during the idea pitch event held on June 4-5 at BASF Corp. headquarters in Florham Park, NJ and the winning team of up to 4 members will be awarded an all-expense paid trip to BASF International Summer School in Germany in August 2015. For more information visit this website or contact the BASF North America Science Competition Team here.

**Job Listings**

**Consultant to Help Law Firm Identify California Proposition 65 Violations**

Glick Law Group seeks chemistry/toxicology graduate student to help identify products that violate Proposition 65. Proposition 65 requires California manufacturers, distributors, and retailers to label a product if human exposure to a listed chemical in the product is above established “safe harbor” levels. Currently, many of the toxins listed on the Proposition 65 list of chemicals can be found above safe harbor levels in common household products, cosmetics, bags, foods, paints, office supplies, and furniture. Specifically, consultant will (1) conduct background research on proposition 65; (2) familiarize himself/herself with the list of regulated chemicals; (3) analyze trends in reported Prop 65 violations, by sector and product category; and (4) recommend products for testing by a certified testing laboratory. The ideal candidate will have an interest in
chemical composition of products, and a desire to protect California consumers from unsafe products. Pay is $25/hour. To apply, contact Noam Glick via email, fax at 619.615.2193, or by phone at 619.382.3400.

**Oh, Oh Organic, Inc. seeks Regulatory Compliance Assistant**

This independent contractor will remotely (from home or wherever) contribute to the preparation of regulatory documentation including preparation of chemical substance and/or mixture specifications, creation of and/or transference of Certificate of Analysis Information, and preparation of Material Safety Data Sheets. Additionally you will be required to fill in documentation for customers for various Quality Systems. There will be an array of documents to create from existing templates. Hours are flexible, with an average of up to 15 hours per week. Pay starts at $15/hr. Willing to train given that applicant has sufficient background in chemistry, biochemistry, or related field. All work will be reviewed and finalized by the owner of the company and the company will be solely responsible for the final product. Oh, Oh Organic, Inc. is a cosmetic chemical distributor and consulting company founded in 2000 that offers goods and services that meet a variety of recognized Standards aligned with Green Chemistry goals & principles. The company is currently located in Campbell, CA but will be moving to Richmond, CA in the near future. To apply, please send resume to Gay Timmons at gay@ohohorganic.com

**Beautycounter seeks Science Director**

Beautycounter is a beauty brand and two-year-old direct-retail startup based in Santa Monica. The Science Director will screen chemicals for safety using our internal screening protocol, which uses comparative Chemical Hazard Assessment (CHA) to identify safe, functional alternatives to possibly toxic or otherwise undesirable ingredients and will conduct or manage out-sourced structural analysis reviews (e.g. computational modeling) to help Beautycounter make informed and precautionary choices. The Science Director will co-design and participate in ground-breaking research on cosmetics ingredients, including emerging green chemicals, and on cosmetics packaging. In addition, the Science Director will assist the Head of Health & Safety with internal chemical policy, strategy and communication. The Science Director should have an advanced degree, preferably a PhD, in chemistry, green chemistry, biology, toxicology or other relevant discipline. Experience should include conducting chemical reviews for companies, NGOs, or government agencies; chemical hazard, exposure and risk assessment of individual chemicals and mixtures; using and building databases with complex scientific information; formal training in or demonstrated familiarity with the principles of Green Chemistry. Position is based in Santa Monica, CA. Competitive salary, health benefits, and vacation. Must be willing to travel. Please send resume and cover letter to info@beautycounter.com with “Science Director Application” in subject line.

**Students Needed to Make AskNature Chemistry Content More Accessible**

The Biomimicry Institute seeks two graduate-level chemistry/biochemistry students to collaborate to develop functional descriptions for AskNature, the world’s most comprehensive catalog of nature’s solutions to human design challenges. To support innovators, AskNature content is organized by function using the Biomimicry Taxonomy, which aligns biology with human challenges. This project entails crafting one-paragraph descriptions of approximately 35 chemistry-oriented functions; these descriptions will provide AskNature users context and understanding of the Biomimicry Taxonomy. Additional opportunities will be available to augment existing chemistry-oriented AskNature strategies by identifying descriptive tags, including operating condition and mechanism, as well as updated scientific references, images, and more. The ideal timeline for this project is February through April. The ideal candidates will have an understanding of biomimicry and be interested in scientific communication. Contact Jennifer Schill if interested.

**CARE Fulltime CA Position Opening**

The Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) is seeking candidates to fill a new fulltime position supporting the CARE California Carpet Stewardship Program. This Project Manager will, under the direction of the Dr. Robert Peoples, Executive Director of CARE, manage the principal duties of the CARE California Carpet Stewardship
program specified in the document, in order to meet the California Carpet Stewardship Regulations and the requirements of the Carpet Stewardship Plan. These responsibilities include assisting existing or potential carpet recyclers and/or processors with general manufacturing, communication and business issues; managing the existing Rural County Program and its expansion; participating in regular Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) visits and reviews; developing Education, Communications and Outreach materials; verifying that facilities have all proper operating permits and contracts; and performing other duties as assigned by the CARE Executive Director including manufacturing, communication and business issues. A minimum of 5 years’ experience in environmental/recycling fields, a Bachelor’s degree in a related field, (engineering degree or equivalent work experience preferred), and a track record of successful project management and delivering results in the California regulatory environment. The employee will reside in California (location is open to discussion). It is expected the employee will travel across the whole state at times, with concentrated focus in the greater Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Sacramento areas in particular. To respond to this Request for Proposal, please submit your resume (focused on demonstrated accomplishments, maximum 4 pages), references (minimum of 4), and salary expectations by email to Bob Peoples, PhD, Executive Director of CARE. The deadline for this position opening is February 18, 2015 7:00 pm EST.