

Growing Pains: The Journey to Being My Authentic Self

October 8, 2021 between 8:00 pm and 9:00 pm (EDT)

Synopsis:

In this presentation, Ms. Caroline Goon will discuss the process of career exploration with a focus on three lessons learned from her own personal career experience and journey. The goal is to help students begin to thoughtfully consider and understand the elements of career planning and walk away with tangible action items to implement right away. The mentees will also hear from a guest speaker who will discuss how they chose their college major, their experience as interns at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the lessons learned as they continue in their post-graduate studies.

Panelists:

Caroline Goon

Goon is the Principal Strategist for the Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) Portfolio in the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Prior to EDI, Goon worked in the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) at NIH where she was a Career Development Program Lead. Goon cares deeply for the community, and is working to empower AAPIs to find their voice and place in the workplace, and beyond. She is actively seeking and developing ways to intentionally cultivate multi-cultural coalitions to act as partners for greater impact. Prior to NIH, Goon spent over 12 years working at Georgetown University Medical Center and was the Assistant Dean of Strategic Initiatives and Marketing for Biomedical Graduate Education programs. Goon was also the founding director of a specialized Career Strategy and Professional Development office that served 33 different biomedical graduate programs. Goon graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park, with a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Community Health. She also holds master's degrees in Biohazardous Threat Agents and Emerging Infectious Diseases and Business Administration from Georgetown University.

Barry Liang

Liang is 4th year PhD student in the Fischell Department of Bioengineering at the University of Maryland (UMD), College Park. He is also an NCI-UMD Integrative Research Fellow who spends 50% of his time at UMD and the other 50% at the NIH to conduct his research. His current research involves engineering light-activatable, mechanism-based nanotechnology to tackle multidrug resistance in cancer. Liang's interests in scientific research began during high school when he did two years of summer internship at the NICHD, NIH. After high school, Liang attended St. Mary's College of Maryland and graduated with a B.S. in biochemistry and minors in mathematics and material sciences. For the past three years, Liang has served on the Bioengineering Graduate Student Society (BGSS) executive board to promote community outreach and intra-department research seminars. Outside of science, Liang enjoys hiking and playing basketball. He is an aspiring home cook and working towards crafting a perfect bowl of ramen.