

## 2019 Career Symposium Panel Descriptions

### Industry Panels:

- Industry R/D Overview:
  - Do you dream of working in industry? Are you interested in learning about the different sectors in industry to discover where your skills set fits? Are you curious about the long-term strategies that will help you find success and thrive in industry? If you are asking all these questions, this overview panel is here to help. Panelists will highlight the four major career branches and sectors in industry to give you a taste of the different opportunities available for you. You will not only hear about product discovery and development phases (R&D), but also industry career development and alternative non-research careers in industry.
- Discovery Phase R&D:
  - The scientists on this panel continue to engage in experimental research, discovering potential therapeutic targets for development by pharmaceutical companies. The panelists will discuss a variety of opportunities available in the drug discovery phase, how research in industry differs from academia, and how to make a smooth transition to industry. They will share their path to their current positions and key skills that helped them succeed, as well as how to thrive in the fast-paced environment of industry.
- Development Phase R&D:
  - Once potential therapeutics have been identified, scientists at pharmaceutical companies must bring a new pharmaceutical drug to the market. Helping these drugs reach the patients who need them, a journey from preclinical research to clinical testing, can be an arduous yet rewarding feat. Panelists will discuss their roles in the bench-to-bedside transition in addition to the unique working environment common to these endeavors.
- Alternative Industry Careers
  - Should I stay (at the bench) or should I go? What does a career away from the bench look like? What are non-bench career options in industry? These are common questions among trainees in the life sciences. Given the extremely competitive academic job market, many creative Ph.D.-level scientists are finding career opportunities beyond traditional bench research positions. This panel aims to introduce opportunities in the fields of sales and marketing, patient outreach, serving as medical science liaison, quality control, and project management. The panelists will discuss the diverse non-R&D positions available in different industries as well as how to leverage scientific training during the job search process.

### Careers Away from the bench

- Careers in Investment and Consulting
  - A career in consulting provides PhD-level scientists the opportunity to solve interesting and complex problems for a multitude of clients in the private, academic, and government sectors. Consultants can work in both multidisciplinary and highly specialized teams in many different environments - from large, global firms to small, local start-ups. The speakers in this panel will share their experiences about

transitioning to a consulting career and discuss the skills necessary to succeed in this field.

- Careers in Science Administration
  - Science relies on administrators to manage programs that keep research running. Panelists manage fellowships, grants, academic programs and other programs in nonprofit and academic institutions. They will discuss the skills needed to take on an administrative role after years at the bench, and the impact their daily jobs have on shaping science.
- Careers in Science and Education Outreach
  - Science education involves many opportunities both in and outside of the classroom. Professionals in this field promote scientific literacy to advance research and to inspire future generations. Panelists will share their thoughts on how the public is informed about scientific advances and the roles within their organizations that support this goal.
- Careers in Science Policy and Advocacy
  - Policy and advocacy are necessary cornerstones for growth and development in science. Scientists in this field provide evaluations on existing and proposed regulations and policies that impact every aspect of the scientific community, including allocation of resources and navigation of public scientific issues. The panelists in this section will discuss exciting opportunities in science policy and advocacy at the federal and private level. They will also discuss what training opportunities are available for scientists, and what it takes to prepare for a career in this field.
- Technology Transfer and Patent Careers
  - Technology transfer and patents provide scientists with career opportunities in academia, government, and the private sector. Professionals in these fields identify opportunities for the commercialization of research, evaluate new technology for licensing potential, develop patent applications, and work with inventors to negotiate licensing or collaboration agreements as well as intellectual property documents. Panelists will discuss the differences between technology transfer and patent management and how to be competitive for these fields.
- Careers in Data Science and Healthcare IT Services
  - Big data is a rapidly growing area that broadly involves the collection and analysis of data sets that are so large, they are difficult to process using on-hand database management tools or traditional data processing applications. Examples include large scale analysis of genomics, metagenomics, proteomics, metabolomics, climate data (for modeling climate change), epidemiological data (for modeling outbreaks), medical records (assessing links between treatment and outcome), and many others. With the increasing ease and decreasing cost of accumulating terabytes of data, this field is poised to explode in the near future. This session will provide insights into big data careers for scientists.
- Career Options for Clinicians
  - Physicians play an important role in advancing science and improving public health not only by practicing medicine and conducting translational research but also by performing other jobs away from the bedside or bench. A wide variety of career options are available for medical doctors in different sectors including academia, industry, government, and nonprofits. Panelists in this session will discuss their experiences and the career paths available to clinicians.
- Science Communication

- Communication is a skill vital to any scientific career. Professionals in science communication take this component to the next level with diverse scientific knowledge and their specialized expertise. Science writers and editors present cutting-edge research and technologies to diverse audiences. How they relate new developments can influence science policy, education, advocacy, and regulation. These panelists will discuss how to leverage your training to become a professional communicator.

### **ACADEMIC PANELS**

- THE US ACADEMIC SYSTEM OVERVIEW
  - Explore the breadth of faculty positions available, each leveraging different communication strengths, research commitments, and teaching philosophies to sow science literacy and discovery in a variety of settings. Panelists will range from teaching-intensive to research-focused institutions. After this session, attendees will be acquainted with the higher education system in the United States.
- TRANSITION FROM POSTDOC TO FACULTY
  - Knowing what it takes to make the transition from trainee to independent faculty member will help you envision the best path for your burgeoning research program. Faculty from research-intensive institutions will share their strategies and experiences on interviewing and balancing new responsibilities while continuing to be a successful researcher.
- HOW TO MAINTAIN SUCCESS IN ACADEMIA
  - Faculty distinguished in their career will share what they have learned from their journeys in academia. From mentoring and research to the tenure process, panelists will offer insight into adapting to new obstacles and tips for a fulfilling career as a primary investigator.
- TEACHING INTENSIVE FACULTY CAREERS
  - Faculty and lecturers in teaching-focused higher education institutions will share their experiences about teaching and the paths they followed to get there. They will discuss what it means to teach at different types of institutions and talk about the challenges and rewards of this career choice.

### **SKILL BLITZES**

These short sessions are designed to give you an overview of the skills required to launch a successful job search. These will be a fast-paced, fun way to end the day. The first two sessions will be limited to twenty minutes with a five minute break between sessions. Speakers, who are our very own OITE staff and the scientific leadership of the NIH, will give you the highlights of the topics, with information about additional resources. Choose three sessions from the following offerings:

- Interviewing
  - This session will help you to navigate the interview process. We will discuss common interview questions and how to succeed using the Situation-Action-Response method.
- The Stadtman Search
  - Come learn about the NIH Intramural Research's program: Earl Stadtman Tenure-Track Investigator Recruitment
- Understanding the US Academic System
  - Academic institutions come in a variety of sizes and flavors. This session will define the spectrum of academic institutions according to their research and salary support, teaching and research expectations, tenure requirements, and student body composition.

- **Unraveling the Myths of Industry**
  - This session will debunk common questions associated with industry such as: can you return to academia, do you have intellectual freedom, do you do good science, and can your project be taken away from you?
- **Negotiating your job offer**
  - What and how do you negotiate the various parts of your job package. This session is focused on non-academic positions.
- **Finding a Postdoc**
  - This session is for graduate students pondering a postdoc. We will highlight what to look for in a postdoc, deciding if you need a postdoc, how to apply, and more. We will also discuss how to get a postdoc at the NIH intramural research program.
- **Stress Management for Scientists**
  - Combining research, job-searches, and life do not always seem to be easy for scientists. Come learn some stress management strategies to enhance your well-being
- **Academic Chalk Talks**
  - Learn to give an outstanding chalk talk for faculty positions. Learn important elements to be included, how to structure your talk for your audience, and how to avoid common mistakes.
- **Exit Strategies and Preparing to Leave**
  - This session will give you strategies to talk to your boss about your career plans and also how to prepare for a successful launch to your new career.
- **Networking and Informational Interviews**
  - Find out how to expand and maintain with your network. This session will also explore using social media to advance your job search.

## SUPER BLITZ

### **Find the Career for You**

Your dream job does exist! You heard about many different positions today, and perhaps are narrowing down your career choice. This session will help you map out a plan to determine how your skills, interests and values can lead you to your perfect job.

### **CV/Resumes and Cover Letters**

These important job search documents are your first chance to make an impression on potential employers. This session will cover the general structure of these documents, how to highlight transferable skills, and how to fill gaps in your experience by gaining additional skills while in grad school/postdoc.

### **Receiving Feedback**

Being resilient around feedback is a critical skill to learn. Learn how your responses to feedback influence your ability to succeed in your career.