

ALUMNI NETWORK NEWS

Center for Biotechnology: Stony Brook University / Stony Brook Manhattan



FUNDAMENTALS OF THE BIOSCIENCE INDUSTRY PROGRAM ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

2005 4TH ANNUAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

ISSUE 4, FALL 2005

The 2005 4th Annual Life Science Career Development Conference was a huge success! Over 150 Students representing thirty institutions and over 75 industry professionals from the region's leading life science companies participated.

Students from colleges and universities throughout the Northeast were in attendance. These included all of New York's major academic institutions as well as Harvard, Clemson, Drexel, McGill, Rutgers, Virginia Tech, University of Pittsburgh, University of Pennsylvania and many more. Students ranged in level of study from under graduate to post-doctoral fellow, to medical students.



Participants were able to attend more than 20 different topic sessions



Dr. Neil Gibson from OSI Pharmaceuticals delivered the closing plenary

The two day program included more than 70 speakers representing all areas of the life science community from core life science companies to essential support organizations. Four diverse plenary speakers were featured on the program; Dr. Jan Vilcek, Remicade Co-Inventor and Professor of Microbiology, NYU School of Medicine, Dr. Jack Linehan, Executive Faculty, Program in Biodesign, Stanford University and former Vice President of The Whitaker Foundation, Bill Fair, Managing Director of Healthcare and Biosciences for the New York City Economic Development Corporation and Dr Neil Gibson, Chief Scientific Officer of OSI Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Multiple concurrent sessions were offered to attendees and covered a wide range of relevant career development issues. The conference is an invaluable tool for the life science student in the New York area. It is the only event of its kind and is dedicated to expanding the knowledge of and understanding of the variety of career paths the life sciences industry has to offer. It will continue to forge increased communication and formal linkage between New York's graduate student and post doctoral population and New York's life sciences industry for the purpose of fueling industry growth.



Attendee network with Jon Walter from On Assignment/Lab Support during the conference.

Be sure to read an article highlighting a first hand perspective on the conference by fellow alum, Cheng He: [Beyond the Ivory Tower and Into the Woods: An Alternative Career Development Conference for Life Science Graduates](http://info.bio.sunysb.edu/biotech/educWork/career2005/ConferenceRecap.html) at <http://info.bio.sunysb.edu/biotech/educWork/career2005/ConferenceRecap.html>

Article Submission, Alumni Updates, Job Announcements, Questions or Comments?

Email: Santhosh at vadivelu@cshl.edu

Join the online discussion group at: biosciencecertificatealumni@topica.com

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2005 STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

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This has been an exciting summer for the 2005 Manhattan class! In addition to outstanding participation in numerous Center events, many of the students were eager to pursue internships in different facets of the biotech industry.

Cheng He and Ron Katz were self-starters by taking the initiative to create internships in their respective schools' tech transfer offices. According to Cheng, "One of the areas covered by the program was IP law and technology transfer. Right now I'm building on the knowledge I learned from the course and actually examining technologies and writing marketing summaries of real patent applications." Ron agreed by adding that the networking opportunities provided by the course enhanced his pursuit. He stated, "My interactions at the NYBA meeting and a guest lecturer (Barbara Sawitsky, OSI pharmaceuticals) led me to pursue this internship. I believe this course provided me with the foundation to go out and pursue an opportunity such as this." Both Cheng and Ron volunteer their time to develop skills in technology transfer, and expect to utilize these experiences when applying for industry positions after completion of their PhD's.

Alex Serebrov and Kathy Jo Carstarphen applied for internships with assistance from the Center for Biotechnology. Alex does public relations and Kathy Jo marketing and business development. According to Kathy Jo, "The hands-on experience of an internship gave me a personal perspective of the inner workings of the industry and its key players. I gained the most insight in the area of soft skills of independent business management." Izabella Messina capitalized on her networking abilities and attained an internship in clinical trial consulting. Izabella Messina performed clinical trial consultation for a biotech company. Because of her hard work and competence, she has paved the way for other students at from the Center to do work there also. Her firm now solicits students from the Center for Biotechnology for future interns.

Nate Poulsen and Maren Connery took a different path. Both applied and were accepted into MBA programs that began this summer. Nate states, "I know that what I learned during the program helped me to identify what I wanted to do and also helped me when applying to Cornell."

Not all students could logistically pursue internships this summer. With the completion of degrees and continuation of current jobs in the industry, some were offered internships but due to other obligations could not commit the time. In seasons to come, the entire 2005 class will undoubtedly continue to soar while growing in industry connections and knowledge. What can we expect of them this fall? There are no limits!

-K.J. Carstarphen
Manhattan 2005