Futures in Life Science Seminar Series

Together, Propel Careers, MassBio, and MassBioEd are committed to fostering the next generation of industry leaders in the life sciences. We believe that the career paths that exist in the Massachusetts Life Science Industry are numerous, exciting, and rewarding and that it is imperative that students considering these careers be well informed regarding the areas that their education and training are relevant. We have identified a need to promote awareness of opportunities within life sciences companies, ranging from research and development to marketing and commercialization. Many students with science backgrounds pursue careers involving lab-based research, but we also want to ensure that other career paths are highlighted, that involve a high degree of technical and scientific knowledge, but that are not based in the lab.

With this in mind, we have kicked off a year-long program that will provide in-depth overviews of specific careers in the life science industry that often require advanced degrees, but that are primarily corporate in nature. Most graduate students and post-docs are well prepared to take numerous directions in their careers, and it is our intent to provide a comprehensive understanding of the aptitudes and work environments that are associated with specific career paths, so that the participants of the program can make more informed career decisions. We are also big believers in the power of connections and networking, so each seminar will have specific time set aside to meet the presenters and the attendees and to develop relationships that will be an asset to those in attendance.

For more information, visit http://www.propelcareers.com/index.cfm/events/.
Many types of people thrive in successful life science companies

- Extroverts AND Introverts
- Backgrounds include: Scientists, Business/Marketing, Finance/Accounting, Operations, Communications, Legal, etc

Attributes Unique to Smaller/Entrepreneurial Organizations

- Exposure to many areas of the company
- Individuals “wear many hats”
- Questions are welcome – don’t be afraid to ask
- Projects may morph over time as business needs change
- The team is so important
- Culture fit is critical

7 Qualities of Entrepreneurial Employees

- Results Oriented
- Energy
- Growth Potential
- Team Player
- Multitasking Ability
- Improvement Oriented
- Ability to Deal With Risk

Ways to Increase Connections

- Tap into the local biotech networking scene
- Be exposed to more than just what you are initially looking for in a job/career
- Meet new people - put yourself in situations to meet who you want to meet and learn what you want to learn
- Leverage your network to find people who can assist you with connections to people who will impact your life and career

Local networking organizations/groups are listed below to assist with relationship building

- Association for Women in Science (AWIS): http://www.awis.org/
- Biotech Tuesday: www.biotechtuesday.com
- Care Innovators: http://www.careinnovators.com/
- Healthcare Business Woman’s Association: http://www.hbanet.org/
- Massachusetts Biotechnology Council: www.massbio.org
- Mass Life Sciences Center: http://www.masslifesciences.com/
- Mass Medic: http://www.massmedic.com/
- Medical Development Group: www.meddevgroup.org
- The Boston Area Systems and Synthetic Biology Meeting: http://www.bassbiology.org/
- Women in Science and Technology (WEST): http://www.westorg.org/
- WPI Venture Forum: http://www.wpiventureforum.org/About/
Stay in Ma: http://www.stayinma.com/
Scholarship program for Massachusetts-based students funded by Flybridge Capital Partners focused on fostering entrepreneurship and innovation between students and the local business community. Provides financial assistance to students and postdocs interested in joining or attending the events of technology and business organizations in the region.

Massachusetts Industry Biotech/Pharma and Medical Device Industry Organizations


About MassBio: MassBio, a not-for-profit organization that represents and provides services and support for the Massachusetts biotechnology industry, is the nation's oldest biotechnology trade association. Founded in 1985, MassBio is committed to advancing the development of critical new science, technology and medicines that benefit people worldwide. Representing over 600 biotechnology companies, academic institutions, research hospitals, and service organizations involved in life sciences and health care, MassBio works to advance policy and promote education, while providing member programs and events, industry information, and services.

About Mass Medic: The Massachusetts Medical Device Industry Council (MassMEDIC) is the voluntary grassroots association of medical device manufacturers and associated companies in the Commonwealth. MassMEDIC is the only organization in New England dedicated solely to promoting the unique interests of the medical device industry. MassMEDIC strives to create a positive environment which will nurture developing companies, retain and help established medical device companies to grow, and attract new companies to Massachusetts. MassMEDIC provides services, programs and collaborative initiatives with the goal of making Massachusetts the medical device research, development and manufacturing capital of the world.

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