

IN TOUCH WITH

BSCP

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE
CAREERS PROGRAM

2007 Evening of Hope Scholarship Recipients and Major Sponsors

At the 10th annual Evening of Hope, which took place on April 11 at The Boston Park Plaza Hotel, four students received \$7,500 scholarships.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: JASMINE A. McDONALD, HARVARD UNIVERSITY; BONNIE L. AKERMAN, DARTMOUTH MEDICAL SCHOOL; N. ABIMBOLA SUNMONU, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE; JOSÉ O. ALEMÁN, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL/ MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The event had four major sponsors. Genzyme Corporation and Biogen Idec Foundation donated \$50,000 each. Boston Scientific Corporation and Waters Corporation donated \$25,000 each.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: PAUL WARNER, VICE PRESIDENT, HUMAN RESOURCES, WATERS CORPORATION; HENRI A. TERMEER, CHAIRMAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND PRESIDENT, GENZYME CORPORATION; JAMES C. MULLEN, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BIOGEN IDEC; JAMES R. TOBIN, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BOSTON SCIENTIFIC CORPORATION

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SPECIAL THANKS TO

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for their support of this newsletter.

SAVE THE DATES

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE CAREERS STUDENT CONFERENCE

Sponsored by the Biomedical Science Careers Program

Friday and Saturday

April 4–5, 2008

The Boston Park Plaza Hotel
Boston, Massachusetts

Target Audience: Post-doctoral fellows; medical, dental and graduate students; college and community college students; post-baccalaureates; and high-school seniors and juniors (particularly African-American, Hispanic and American Indian/Alaska Native individuals)

Purpose: The primary objective is to provide approximately 700 African-American, Hispanic and American Indian/Alaska Native students with an opportunity to network with advisers/role models from the basic and clinical sciences, medicine, public health, academic administration and the private sector. The second objective is to enable student participants to meet, inspire and network with each other.

Registration: There is no registration fee for this program. To obtain an application form or for further information, please contact: Lise D. Kaye, Executive Director, Biomedical Science Careers Program, at lise_kaye@hms.harvard.edu or (617) 432-0552.

Summer Internships in Biotechnology

FOR UNDERGRADUATES AND GRADUATE students interested in the biomedical sciences, and medical students who might want to work in industry, two of the world's leading biotechnology companies, Genzyme Corporation (Genzyme) and Biogen Idec, offer extremely valuable, paid summer-internship programs. The companies, both headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, are also dedicated to providing opportunities for underrepresented minority students, and both are actively involved with the Biomedical Science Careers Program.

Genzyme's internships provide students with practical work experience that is directly related to their education and career interests. There are three primary components to the program, to maximize the students' experience:

- Project-based assignments within a variety of departments, including laboratory or clinical research and medical or regulatory affairs. Student interns partner with experienced Genzyme employees to learn new technical skills.
- Summer Seminar Series, including corporate presentations, department briefings, career panel discussions and student networking events.
- Summer assignment review, including a final presentation or project report that students conduct or submit upon completing their internships.

Dimitri Leonidas, a second-semester junior at Boston University's Metropolitan College, is a BSCP student who just completed a summer internship at Genzyme. Leonidas, who is working on a clinical sciences degree, worked in the Pharmacovigilance department at Genzyme. This department creates and monitors case files for patients who have had adverse events. Dimitri and the other interns in the group reviewed the files that were ready to be closed, making sure that all the necessary documentation was present. If anything was missing, they notified a case manager.

He says that working at Genzyme "taught me a lot about pharmacology. I learned a lot about how Genzyme's products worked, and ... gained a better understanding of the clinical trial arena." Leonidas says he has already spoken to Shawna Ferguson, manager of Diversity and College Relations, about continuing to work at Genzyme through this school year.

In fact, Ferguson says the company looks to its internship program as a source for future employees. Currently, she estimates that 10 percent of the interns end up working for the company. Right now the company has multiple openings in several geographic locations, with increasing needs in research and science, cytogenic technology, engineering, regulatory affairs, clinical research, biotechnology manufacturing, quality and pharmacovigilance.

Biogen Idec also hires summer interns with an eye toward the future. "Our hope is that students will want to come back for another internship or come work here," says Nancy Duran, Human Resources business partner. Some students at this company come through Community Lab, which focuses on high school students who want to learn about science. But the majority are undergraduates, graduate and medical students. There were five BSCP students at Biogen Idec this past summer.

Some of this past summer's student projects included:

- Assisting in selecting drug candidates and determining the acceptability of in-licensing candidates for development,
- Generating and analyzing non-clinical and clinical safety and pharmacologic data for submission of regulatory documents,
- Learning tissue culture techniques, exposure to routine maintenance of cells, media preparation and Mycoplasma testing, and
- Providing a rational basis for clinical dose/regimen selection and "safe use conditions" based upon an integrated pharmacokinetic, pharmacodynamic and safety profile.



Opportunities at Boston Scientific

THERE ARE MANY WAYS AND PLACES IN which concerned, dedicated individuals can help improve medical care for the general population — even if they don't have a medical degree. Boston Scientific, headquartered in Natick, Massachusetts, is one such place. Founded in 1979, Boston Scientific develops innovative products, technologies and services for less-invasive medical procedures.

From the beginning, the company's founders believed that less-invasive medicine, which provides alternatives to major surgery, could help clinicians improve patient care by reducing the risk, trauma, cost, procedure time and need for aftercare. With 29,000 employees in 29 locations, it is the world's largest medical-device company focused on less-invasive medicine. And that means lots of opportunity for recent college and graduate school graduates, as well as students looking for summer internships.

According to Jennifer Hoffman, senior staffing specialist, Boston Scientific is always looking for qualified candidates to fill positions, particularly in its Corporate Research and Development departments. Interested applicants should have an undergraduate or graduate degree in biomedical, mechanical, electrical or chemical engineering; or biomaterials. "We are looking for someone who has technical skills ... is energetic and passionate about the field, and is ready to make a difference," Hoffman says.

The company also has an active summer internship program, hosting 350 paid interns

per summer across the US. To qualify for an internship, students should be entering their senior year, enrolled in one of the majors listed above and have a GPA of 3.2 or higher. Extracurricular activities are also important.

Once in the program, students are assigned to a manager. The managers match each student with a peer, who is not at the manager level yet, and acts as the student's mentor for the summer. Typical projects for interns include testing polymers against devices and building prototypes to test new iterations of current products.

Students can apply for internships online at www.bostonscientific.com. Hoffman suggests checking the site in January. Representatives from the company also attend most BSCP events, so you should seek them out. "We really enjoy going to [BSCP] events and talking to students and seeing why they think they'd be a good fit at [Boston Scientific]," she says. There is a strong conversion rate of interns to employees. "We're looking at it to build a pipeline for candidates," she says of the program.

To apply for a job with the company, Hoffman notes that Human Resources representatives recruit at many college campuses, so watch for them at your school. You can also apply on the website starting in the spring. Or seek out a Boston Scientific representative at the next BSCP event, even if it's just to learn more about the company. ■

Summer Internships *continued from page 2*

One student in the program says, "I would recommend the internship, especially to other BSCP students ... I never really understood how arduous a process it is to develop a drug, and how many different departments are involved."

The company's managers select the interns by reviewing their resumes, so the types of jobs for interns vary from year to year, depending on individuals' needs. Duran says

it is very important for students to get their resumes in. You can submit them through the website, www.biogenidec.com. Managers start looking in March. Biogen Idec representatives also attend most BSCP events.

At Genzyme, Ferguson says the best way to apply for internships is through the website, www.genzyme.com. The company accepts applications online from February through May, and you can watch for information on the site. Genzyme representatives also attend most BSCP events. ■

NEW ENGLAND SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

Sponsored by the Harvard Medical School Minority Faculty Development Program (MFDP) and the Biomedical Science Careers Program (BSCP)

Sunday, April 6, 2008
The Conference Center at Harvard Medical
Boston, Massachusetts

Target Audience: Postdoctoral fellows; medical, dental and graduate students; college and community college students; and post-baccalaureates (particularly African-American, Hispanic and American Indian/Alaska Native individuals) involved in biomedical or health-related scientific research

Purpose: The New England Science Symposium promotes careers in biomedical science. The aim of the symposium is to encourage postdoctoral fellows; medical, dental and graduate students; college and community college students; and post-baccalaureates (particularly African-American, Hispanic and American Indian/Alaska Native individuals) involved in biomedical or health-related scientific research to present their research projects through oral or poster presentations, to exchange ideas to further their career development and to expand their professional network.

Registration: Abstract submission and registration form available at www.mfdp.med.harvard.edu/med_grad/ness

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BSCP Website

INTERNSHIP & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

In this section of the BSCP website, companies can post internship and employment opportunities, and BSCP students can apply for positions. Check it out!

UPDATE/SUBMIT YOUR INFORMATION

Remember to post your resumes to the site, www.bscp.org, and update your contact information. We're keeping track of you (at least we're trying).



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BSCP
Biomedical Science Careers Program
c/o Minority Faculty Development Program
Harvard Medical School
164 Longwood Avenue, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02115-5818

Summer Student Research Program in Newborn Medicine

THROUGH THE SUMMER STUDENT Research Program in Newborn Medicine at Children's Hospital Boston, students can begin to get exposure to medicine in a way that will help them determine whether it is truly a career path they want to pursue. The program, which accepts 14 to 20 students every summer, is open to undergraduates, medical and dental students.

The objective of the program is to provide students with intensive laboratory and clinical research experience under the guidance of mentors from the Division of Newborn Medicine. According to one of the program directors, Dara Brodsky, MD,

the interns perform bench, clinical or epidemiological research; observe newborn care in nurseries, the neonatal intensive care units and infant follow-up clinics; and participate in weekly tutorials, where they assess medical students' presentation of babies' cases under a facilitator's guidance. Many of the interns continue to communicate with their mentors after the summer is over. If they go to school in the Boston area, a lot of them continue to work on their summer projects throughout the academic year.

The program, which lasts from 8 to 12 weeks, provides stipends for the students,

who are expected to work 30 to 40 hours per week. Students must find their own transportation and housing. Applicants must be enrolled in medical or dental school, or a college or university. If they are undergraduates, students should show some interest in medicine. Applications for the 2008 summer will be accepted between December 1, 2007, and January 31, 2008. For more information, visit the program website, www.childrenshospital.org/clinicalservices/Site1930/mainpageS1930P14.html. ■