2005 Summer Internship Opportunities for College and Graduate Students

by Joan C. Wood, Vice President, Workforce Development — Genzyme Corporation

RECENTLY THE BSCP BOARD HELD a daylong session to discuss strategic priorities that will advance the mission of BSCP. One important outcome of this meeting was the formation of a taskforce to actively recruit college and graduate students for salaried 2005 summer employment opportunities at four Boston-area companies. The four companies offering internships are Abt Associates, Boston Scientific Corporation, Biogen Idec Inc., and Genzyme Corporation.

Operating on the premise that work experience combined with academic learning provides the best preparation for success, these four companies are seeking to bring talented college and graduate students in as interns, thus introducing students to the corporate world and preparing them for careers in biomedical sciences.

Recruiting is now underway for summer opportunities. To apply for an internship at any or all of the companies, send your resume by the end of January, as noted below.

- **Abt Associates** believes in making a difference for its clients, its communities, and nations throughout the world. Founded in 1965, Abt Associates is an employee-owned company that applies scientific research and technical assistance expertise to a wide range of the social, economic, clinical, and science policy issues confronted by public- and private-sector decision makers. The staff includes experts in fields ranging from public health to economics, from survey research to business, education, international development, urban affairs, and clinical trials. The scope and quality of the company’s work attract extraordinarily talented professionals, many of whom are internationally recognized.

With headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Abt staffs seven corporate offices in the U.S. and approximately 50 project sites in 30 countries. The ethnically diverse staff of more than 1,000 employees is guided by strong corporate values that include collaboration, respect, and civic responsibility. With fiscal year 2004 revenues of approximately $199 million, the company ranks as one of the 100 largest employee-owned companies in the United States.

Please submit resumes to cabot_west@abtassoc.com.

- **Boston Scientific** is a worldwide developer, manufacturer, and marketer of medical devices, with approximately 15,000 employees and revenue of $3.5 billion in 2003. For more than 25 years, Boston Scientific has advanced the practice of less-invasive medicine by providing a broad and deep portfolio of innovative products, technologies, and services across a wide range of medical specialties. The company’s products help physicians and other medical professionals improve their patients’ quality of life by providing alternatives to surgery.

Internship opportunities are available at the company’s Massachusetts sites in Natick, Watertown, and Marlborough.

Interested students should submit their resumes to Jennifer Farabini, Program Manager, University Relations, at jennifer.farabini@bsci.com. In addition, please log on to www.bostonscientific.com/careers and create a profile.

- **Biogen Idec Inc.** (NASDAQ: BIIB) was formed from the merger of two of the world’s leading biotechnology...
Mentor Profile

Alfred C. Johnson, Ph.D.

ALFRED C. JOHNSON, PH.D., DOESN’T remember exactly which year he attended his first BSCP Biomedical Science Careers Student Conference, but he does know that since that first one, he’s been hooked. “I do everything,” he says of his relationship with the BSCP. “I’m a mentor. I speak on panels. Whatever they tell me they want me to do, I do.”

Johnson, an accomplished and dedicated scientist, holds two positions at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). It is through one of these, deputy director in the Office of Loan Repayment and Scholarship, where he oversees the NIH Undergraduate Scholarship Program (UGSP), that he met BSCP President and Chair Joan Y. Reede, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.

Reede, who is on the UGSP scholarship advisory committee, invited Johnson to Boston for a conference. “At the first conference, we recruited kids for our scholarship program and NIH research training programs,” Johnson recalls. “It works out well for us and for the students.”

UGSP is a competitive program that offers scholarships for exceptional students from disadvantaged backgrounds, who are committed to biomedical, behavioral, and social science research careers at the NIH. “We’re looking for great students who really want to do research as a career,” he says.

“The thing I like most of all,” he continues, “is because our students are from financially disadvantaged backgrounds, from all kinds of schools, we see them come in with their targets set. But then they see other students, and start to think, ‘oh, if he or she can do that, so can I.’ So they raise their targets. I love seeing that.”

Johnson is also an investigator in the Molecular Biology Section of the NIH’s National Cancer Institute, which he joined 15 years ago. His research focuses on the dual role of growth factor receptors in promoting the proliferation of normal cells and signaling the aberrant growth of several types of human tumors.

As a mentor to scholars at NIH and to BSCP students who think they have identified their chosen path, Johnson offers the same advice. “Make sure you have passion…and make sure you get the experience to know this is really what you want to do.”

NIH UGSP

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Undergraduate Scholarship Program (UGSP) offers scholarship support, paid research training at the NIH during the summer, and paid employment and training at the NIH after graduation. The program pays up to $20,000 per academic year in tuition, educational expenses, and reasonable living expenses to scholarship recipients. Scholarships are awarded for one year, and can be renewed for up to four years.

For each full or partial scholarship year, recipients are committed to two NIH service obligations. The first is a 10-week summer laboratory experience in which students train as paid summer research employees in an NIH research laboratory. Each scholar is matched to an NIH principal investigator, who serves as his or her mentor. Scholars also attend formal seminars and participate in a variety of skill-enhancement programs.

After graduation, scholars continue their training as full-time employees in an NIH research laboratory. They must serve one year of full-time employment for each year of scholarship. Applications for the 2005–2006 school year are due by February 28, 2005. Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a U.S. citizen, national, or qualified non-citizen
- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a full-time student for the 2005–2006 academic year at an accredited, 4-year undergraduate institution
- Be from a disadvantaged background, certified by the financial aid office as having “exceptional financial need”
- Possess a 3.5 GPA or higher (on a 4.0 scale) or rank within the top 5 percent of their class

For applications or information, go to www.ugsp.info.nih.gov.
Where Are They Now?

Angelo Green, Ph.D.

“IT WAS A BIT OF A CULTURE SHOCK coming from Dominica to Amherst, Massachusetts,” says Angelo Green, Ph.D., recalling his arrival as a 16-year old freshman at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst (UMass) from his home on the Caribbean island of Dominica.

It helped that his older brother was a student at the university. But Green says that his first year at school, all he did was work. Later, he joined a community service-based fraternity, which he credits with helping to bring him out of his shell socially. And all his hard work paid off.

Green received his B.S. cum laude from UMass in 1999, with a double major in chemistry and biochemistry/molecular biology, and a minor in economics; and a Ph.D. in molecular and cellular biology from the school in September 2004. He is now a research fellow for the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), one of the institutes at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), in the laboratory of Kenneth Yamada, M.D., Ph.D., studying cell adhesion as it relates to embryonic development.

“I heard about Dr. Yamada while I was working on my dissertation,” Green explains. “His interests were very close to mine. I e-mailed him my curriculum vitae and said that I would be interested in working in his lab.” In response, Yamada asked Green to send three recommendations. Later, Green flew to Bethesda, Maryland for an interview, and was granted the position.

Green became involved with the Biomedical Science Careers Program (BSCP) when he was an undergraduate, and says that much of what he learned and the contacts he made through the organization have been invaluable.

“I heard about the BSCP through the minority advising program at UMass,” he says. “In 1998 they drove students by bus to the BSCP conference.” At that conference, Green learned of several UMass professors who were conducting NIH-sponsored research on campus. He tracked them down when he got back to school, and ended up working with Bruce Jacobson, Ph.D., ultimately doing graduate work in Jacobson’s lab.

In 2002, as a graduate student, Green attended another BSCP conference. He also was on the planning committee for the 2003 and 2004 New England Science Symposia. In 2003, Green received a $5,000 BSCP Hope Scholarship. “I used half of the money to pay off student loans. The other half I used to buy a laptop. I don’t know how I would have written my dissertation without it,” he says.

Green will be at NIH for at least three years. He says he definitely wants to pursue a career in research, though he is not sure whether he will want to stay with the government or move to the private sector. With his education, experience, and drive, he will be well prepared for whichever path he chooses.

2005 SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

As one of the top five biotechnology companies in the world, Genzyme offers an entrepreneurial environment in which individuals can excel, working together to build on their broad range of strengths and deliver their personal best. Around the world, Genzyme’s more than 6,500 employees are united by their common and constant commitment to patients.

As individuals and as a company, Genzyme employees turn their talents and efforts to making a major positive impact on the lives of patients with difficult diseases. This commitment gives the team a sense of urgency that compels them to develop and deliver therapies and diagnostics, to insist on excellence, and to act with integrity and openness. It also underlies the company’s entrepreneurial culture and global organization. It encourages employees to come together in diverse and productive teams. Above all, it inspires everyone with the knowledge that every day, in any circumstance, an individual can make an important, beneficial difference.

Internships are available at Genzyme’s Massachusetts sites, including Cambridge, Framingham, Allston, Waltham, and Westboro. Please submit resumes to bscpinterns@genzyme.com.
Upcoming Events

JUNIOR SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM (JSHS)
April 1-2, 2005
JSHS provides a forum for high school students to present their work during a research symposium held at Harvard Medical School. Student abstracts are due January 31, 2005. Student Delegate Attendee Forms are due March 4, 2005. Contact Pinar Kilicci-Kret at (617) 432-4697 or pinar_kilicci-kret@hms.harvard.edu.

REFLECTION IN ACTION:
BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES™
Monday, June 13, 2005
Reflection in Action is a day to honor and reflect upon everyday heroes from the past and present who have demonstrated a commitment to building healthy communities and inspiring students to generate a vision for positive change. Contact Judith Sanford-Harris, Ph.D., at (617) 432-4634 or judith_sanford-harris@hms.harvard.edu.

PROJECT SUCCESS: OPENING THE DOOR TO BIOMEDICAL CAREERS
June 27–August 19, 2005
Project Success targets Boston and Cambridge minority high school students who participate in mentored summer research internships at Harvard Medical School and its affiliated institutions. Applications are due March 12, 2004. Contact Pinar Kilicci-Kret at (617) 432-4697 or pinar_kilicci-kret@hms.harvard.edu.

ATTENTION STUDENTS:
Please make sure to update your contact information on the BSCP website, www.bscp.org. Go to the home page, and click on “Update/Submit Your Information.” You can also post your resume to the site, where prospective employers can see it.