



## Committee Call Notes

### Scientist Mentoring & Diversity Program for Biotechnology (SMDP Biotech) Outreach & Planning Committee

#### Conference Call

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

2:00PM Eastern / 11:00 AM Pacific

<https://icpdprograms-org.zoom.us/j/83447109840?pwd=ekxkTHN1ZGJyYnFwWC9xRmlSZmhjdz09>

Meeting ID: 834 4710 9840

Passcode: 220203

#### **The following Committee members were in attendance:**

- Richard Besingi, PhD, Johnson & Johnson Consumer Healthcare
- Takeisha Bromell, PPD
- John Bullen, PhD, AstraZeneca
- Luther Clark, Merck
- Adrienne Dawson, Merck KGaA Darmstadt Germany
- Meka DeCoteau, Johnson & Johnson
- Ashton Delauney, BMS
- Khateeta Emerson, Merck
- Mel-Pilar Espaillat, PhD, Takeda
- Tara Flagg, Incyte
- Cleat Jerden, Amgen
- Scott May, ICPD
- William Meilandt, Genentech
- Roberto Monseratte, Amgen Manufacturing Limited
- Reilly O'Connell, Trinity
- Shakima Perez, Pfizer
- Cornel Phillip, PhD, AstraZeneca
- Charlene Rincon, PhD, Amgen
- Janaye Ruhl, IGM Biosciences
- Dustielyn Savage, ICPD
- Lamont Terrell, PhD, GSK
- Elisabeth Valerio, ICPD

#### **Welcome & introductions: BOLD ITEMS WILL BE COVERED DURING THE CALL.**

For a more in-depth briefing contact Scott May at [smay@icpdprograms.org](mailto:smay@icpdprograms.org) or +1 (202) 441-7370

Scott May welcomed the committee members to the first Scientist Mentoring and Diversity Program for Biotechnology (SMDP Biotech) Outreach & Planning Committee meeting for 2022. Scott mentioned the agenda was sent via email. Scott reminded the committee members they could locate the agenda, past meeting notes and supporting documents for the meeting on the website [www.icpdprograms.org](http://www.icpdprograms.org), select "Committees" from the "Select an ICPD site" drop-down menu at the top right side of the page.



Scott then invited everyone on the call to introduce themselves before reviewing the meeting agenda.

### **Scholar Updates**

Dustie provided updates on the following scholars: Cody Hernandez PhD, from SMDP Biotech 2021 is working at Evozyne as a Research Scientist; Mel-Pilar Espaillat PhD, from SMDP Biotech 2015 is a Medical Science Liaison at Takeda; Lawrence Lett from SMDP Biotech 2019 has started working at the American Dental Association as a Research Associate; Jada Selma, PhD. from SMDP MedTech 2016 is a Sr. Clinical Research Specialist at Medtronic; Eric Lontchi Yimagou, PhD, from SMDP Biotech 2020 is working at Sanofi as a Clinical Scientist-Associate Director; Jade Williams PhD, from SMDP Biotech 2020 just started as a Sr. Scientist at Pfizer. Charlene Rincon added that Valerie Hernandez, PhD, was joining the Emerging Talent Rotational Program at Amgen in July 2022.

### **Sponsor Updates -**

There were no updates at this meeting

- **SMDP related announcements**
- **Diversity and inclusion activities**

### **Planning for the 2022 SMDP Biotech, June 11-15, San Diego**

- **ICPD is planning for the training program to be in person; Mentor should plan on traveling for the 2022 program; COVID guidance for the 2022 SMDP biotech training session**

Scott shared that planning is well underway for the 2022 SMDP training sessions. We are very confident that we will be in person in San Diego June 11-15. Scott asked Elisabeth to discuss the COVID guidance.

Elisabeth noted that after two years of going virtual, we are excited to be in person this year. She reminded everyone that we co-locate SMDP Biotech with the BIO International Convention (BIO). We have been looking at the COVID guidelines to ensure that SMDP attendees will be safe when attending the training sessions. Elisabeth shared that BIO's position is that everyone attending must present proof of vaccination and wear a mask while at the convention. Elisabeth asked the committee for input about what COVID guidelines ICPD should put in place for SMDP. She asked if testing should be done or if ICPD should simply follow the BIO guidelines, etc.

Dr. Clark suggested that ICPD should follow the BIO guidelines and possibly do more. Richard Besingi, PhD said the difference between BIO and the training session is that at the convention there are a lot of walking around whereas at the training session, participants are sitting near someone all day. Given that he wondered if ICPD should require daily testing. Cornell Philip, PhD, agreed that we should follow BIO's guidelines and perhaps test everyday. William Meilandt (Bill) asked if the room for the training session is large. Dustie answered that yes, the room for Sunday's training is over 15k square feet in size. Bill added that California is lifting the mask mandate in about 10 days, so perhaps ICPD should follow the state guidelines. Elisabeth added that we need to consider that ICPD should at a minimum follow state guidelines. Charlene Rincon, PhD, suggested that ICPD should simply follow the BIO requirements so that there is consistency between SMDP and BIO. Her thought was that the size of the space being large enough and with vaccinations and masks SMDP would not need daily testing.



Elisabeth mentioned that the training session would include having meals and dining at the reception and training, so people will be removing their masks to eat. Dr. Clark suggested we do wristbands for the level of comfortability of each participant. For example, green for those that will hug, yellow would welcome a fist bump and red would be for people that don't want any contact. Dustie and Charlene both liked that idea.

Charlene asked if we have enough space to put everyone 6 feet apart. Dustie advised that there is not enough room to seat participants 6 feet apart. Cornell noted that by June we may not need to do any additional testing. Shakima Perez asked if there are attendees who test positive just prior to or during SMDP, if there will be another way for them to attend. She suggested perhaps a hybrid offering. Dustie stated there are also numerous other considerations. For example, SMDP scholars share accommodation. They would both need to be quarantined and SMDP is not currently planning on streaming the training sessions. Elisabeth said ICPD would give much thought to everything that was shared and we can discuss more during the next Outreach & Planning committee meeting, if needed. Scott thanked everyone on the committee for their input.

- **Scholar - Scholar application is live and open until April 1; Call for Applicants and applications; Provide university introductions to Dustie Savage (dsavage@icpdprograms.org)**

The application for the 2022 Biotech program is already live and we have begun to accept applications. The deadline to apply is April 1.

- **Mentors - ICPD will send a mentor nomination email template to the partner company; Mentors are responsible for their own travel and lodging arrangements; BIO is optional for mentors; ICPD request partner companies identify mentors by April 22**

We would like to have mentors identified by April 22, 2022.

- **Program Agenda, Speaker Needs**

- **Venues - This section was postponed until next meeting due to time constraints**

- **Scholar Lodging - Springhill Suites Bayside**
- **Informal Dinner - Two options**
- **Training Program - Day 1, June 12 (all day) Venue 808, Day 2, June 13 (half day) Janssen West Coast Research Center**
- **Hosting Opportunity - Site visit and lunch the afternoon of Monday, June 13**
- **Celebration of Mentoring & Diversity - Venue 808**

- **Celebration of Mentoring & Diversity Reception - Sunday, June 12, 6-9pm, San Diego. RSVP to Dustie Savage**

Postponed until next meeting due to time constraints.

**2021 and 2020 SMDP Biotech - This section postponed until next meeting due to time constraints.**

- **In-person sessions at the 2022 BIO International Convention - Scholars and Mentors should arrive in San Diego the afternoon of Sunday June 12; Scholars will depart Wednesday June 15, after attending the Convention; Mentors can depart afternoon of June 13 or they can optionally attend the BIO International Convention, June 13-16 and will receive full convention access**



- **Venues**
  - **Scholar Lodging - Springhill Suites Bayfront**
  - **Training Program - Hosting opportunity - training, June 13 (morning)**
- **Follow-up sessions - "Pop-up" sessions over the next 3 months available for Lead Sponsors, open to 2021 SMDP Biotech scholars only; contact Scott made to offer a "Pop-up"**

**Current programming: - Postponed until next meeting due to time constraints**

- **Virtual support for the Scholars - the second session of the new SMDP biotech career networking virtual meeting was Friday, February 4, and featured Genentech, J&J Consumer Healthcare, Merck, Merck KGaA Darmstadt Germany and Takeda; DISCUSSION ITEMS: demand for third session?; Debrief about the events; Project pages; Smartphone app for the portal; SMTP gateway membership program Elisabeth.**
- **CONFABS/Webinars - Update on CONFAB sessions; contact Elisabeth Valerio to produce a CONFAB or webinar featuring senior leaders from your company speaking on topics aligned with the SMDP mentoring curriculum**

**Partner Support - postponed until next meeting due to time constraints.**

- **2022 Sponsorship - so far, 73 scholar/mentor pairs have been sponsored for the 2022 SMDP biotech; Welcome to new sponsors: 23andMe, AstraZeneca Medical Affairs - Immunology and Takeda have joined as SMDP program sponsors**
- **Outreach & Planning Committee - let Scott May know for changes in committee membership from your organization for 2022**  
**Sponsorship information available here: <http://www.icpdprograms.org/sponsorship/>**
- **Portal orientations for recruiters - schedule with Scott May**

**ELISA** - online tours and briefings about ELISA are available by contacting Scott May

**2022 SMDP MedTech training will be October 8-13, Boston, MA**

**Other & Action Items:** Scott and Elisabeth thanked everyone for their participation on the committee and reminded everyone the next meeting will be Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 2pm EST.

**Upcoming Calls:**

Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 2:00 PM Eastern / 11:00 AM Pacific

Tuesday, July 12, 2022, 2:00 PM Eastern / 11:00 AM Pacific

Tuesday, September 13, 2022, 2:00 PM Eastern / 11:00 AM Pacific

Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 2:00 PM Eastern / 11:00 AM Pacific