



Committee Call Notes

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

Conference Call

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

12:00PM Eastern / 9:00 AM Pacific

<https://icpdprograms-org.zoom.us/j/84565404872?pwd=aEM0TkozNFdpcnRsRDhVSTRJUFdkZz09>

Meeting ID: 845 6540 4872

Passcode: 032773

The following Committee members were in attendance:

- Richard Besingi, Kenvue
- Sarah Charland, Pfizer
- Adrienne Dawson, Merck KGaA
- Francisco Fields, Kenvue
- Bill Heath, Lilly
- Kevin Kenworthy, Incyte
- Scott May, ICPD
- Sarah Moyle, AstraZeneca
- Patrick O'Brien, Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals
- Yusef Oni, BMS
- Joyce Rhoden, Kenvue
- Janae Ruhl, IGM Biosciences
- Dustielyn Savage, ICPD
- Elisabeth Valerio, ICPD
- Tamisha Vaughan, Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals

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

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

Scott welcomed the committee members to the Scientist Mentoring and Diversity Program for Biotechnology (SMDP Biotech) Outreach & Planning Committee meeting. Scott mentioned the agenda was sent via email and reminded the committee members they can locate the agenda, past meeting notes and supporting documents for the meeting on the website 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.

Proposed Alumni program - Plan to launch it in conjunction with 2024 SMDP Biotech and 2024 SMDP MedTech; overview of the proposed program and feedback from the committee; alumni will be engaged in program planning and running the program.

ICPD is conceptualizing and planning to launch the SMDP Alumni program during the 2024 programs. We are in a holding pattern with funding support.



Virtual Programming -

- **2023 SMDP Biotech Mentor Next Steps virtual session was held July 20**
On July 20 we had a follow up session with the 2023 Biotech Mentors to see discuss their support of their scholars and discuss strategies for the upcoming 12 months of mentorship.
- **Amgen Virtual Event will be held September 20**
Amgen will be holding some virtual programming for the SMDP Scholars. The kickoff event will be held September 20 and will highlight alumni who are working at Amgen.
- **Kenvue hosted a Virtual Poster Session for the 2023 SMDP Biotech Scholars August 30**
Francisco "Pancho" Fields shared that on August 30 Kenvue hosted a Virtual Poster session where they had 15 scholars in attendance. The scholars shared their posters and Senior Leaders from Kenvue attended to brief the scholars about R&D at Kenvue. They are now planning an in-person open house, October 31-November 1.
- **SMDP Biotech Career Networking virtual event - Inviting partner companies to express interest for fall 2023 and winter 2024**
Scott invited any of the partner companies to participate in the upcoming Biotech Networking Virtual events. They are one hour in length and highlight 4 companies. The scholars will rotate through all 4 "company rooms" to hear about career opportunities. Francisco said it was a great experience for the scholars and helped with building their network. Patrick from Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals stated that his company would like to participate.
- Project pages; Smartphone app for the portal; SMDP Gateway membership program

Partner Support

- **Request for renewal of sponsorship for SMDP Biotech 2024 by November 17; email Scott May to indicate the number of scholar/mentor pairs you would like to reserve**
Scott requested that sponsor companies interested in continuing their sponsorships at their current level email him to renew their spots.
- Sponsorship information available here: <http://www.icpdprograms.org/sponsorships>
- Portal orientations for recruiters at partner companies - schedule with Scott May

Planning for the 2024 SMDP Biotech training program, June 1-6, San Diego

- **Scholars - The application deadline is April 5, 2024. ICPD is accepting applications at <https://smdp.icpdprograms.org/>; Please share the call for applicants: https://smdp.icpdprograms.org/assets/y1lyu45dj3qh/page_widgets/2024-SMDP-Call-for-Applications.pdf; ICPD staff and scholars are attending professional meetings for 2024 student outreach including NOBCChE (National Organization of Black Chemist and Chemical Engineers) September 11-14 where Dustie Savage will have the opportunity to share SMDP at the Young Professionals Luncheon; SACNAS, (Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science) October 25-29 in Portland, OR where SMDP will have a booth and Dustie will lead a session about SMDP along with some alumni, SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers) November 1-5 in Salt Lake City, UT, and ABRCMS (Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists) November 15-18 in Phoenix, AZ where SMDP will have a booth; ICPD is developing/renewing its strategic partnerships with SACNAS and NSBE; Dustie will present at Vanderbilt University, University of Kentucky, Oregon Health Science University and Rochester University; virtual fireside chats are also being scheduled**



Scott informed the committee that the 2024 SMDP Biotech training session will be held June 1-6 in San Diego. He asked Dustie to provide an update on recruitment. Dustie noted that the applications went "live" last week for the 2024 programs. Dustie shared that she will be attending quite a few upcoming society meetings including NOBCChe, where she will speak as part of a luncheon, and SACNAS, where ICPD will host a SMDP booth. Dustie will also speak at a session titled "Making the Transition for Academia to Industry."

SHPE will be in Salt Lake City, Utah, at the AMRCMS conference there will be a SMDP booth. In addition to attending the society meetings, Dustie will be speaking at universities about SMDP, including Vanderbilt, the University of Kentucky, Oregon Health Science University and Rochester University. Scott added that he attended the NSBE Professionals Meeting in Dallas last week.

Bill Heath mentioned that there are universities that are not inclined to support diversity programming but he has been encouraging their students to apply to SMDP anyway and surround themselves with allies.

Sarah Moyle suggested that on the online application form SMDP should remove the part that requires the applicant to discuss attendance at SMDP with their PIs. Elisabeth responded saying that the application form asks for the details for an advisor, but ICPD rarely contacts the advisors. She stated that we could revisit the wording on the application and perhaps who the letters of recommendation come from. Scott made a note to discuss this more during the next meeting.

- **Venues - ICPD is seeking meeting space for 220 people all day Sunday on June 2nd and for a morning session on Monday, June 3rd, ICPD is also checking on university facilities**

ICPD is seeking meeting space for the 2024 SMDP Biotech program. Scott the committee that the group size will be around 220 with mentors and scholars. SMDP would require a main room for 220 and 2 smaller rooms that can accommodate 110 each. We are also looking into university facilities.

- **Group size - Will accept no more than 110 scholar/mentor pairs in 2024**

We aim to keep the group size to no more than 110 scholar/mentor pairs for the upcoming SMDP Biotech.

- **BIO International Convention - ICPD seeks to grow its partnership with the Biotechnology Industry Organization; ICPD's alliance with AdvaMed is robust for SMDP MedTech; ICPD requests that sponsors/partners provide introductions to key staff at BIO for Scott May**

ICPD is always looking to enhance our relationship with BIO. Scott mentioned that any introductions from sponsor companies to key staff at BIO would be welcomed.

Sponsor Updates

- SMDP related announcements
 - **Janssen Pharmaceuticals Open House will be 7-8 November 2023 in Springhouse, PA**
 - **Sarah Moyle shared that AstraZeneca will be hosting a session for the current cohort on overcoming imposter syndrome.**



- Diversity and inclusion activities

Other ICPD program updates:

- ELISA - Online tours and briefings about ELISA are available by contacting Scott May
- SMDP MedTech - 2023 SMDP MedTech training will be October 7-11, Anaheim, CA; **Celebration of Mentoring and Diversity Reception, Sunday, October 8, 6:30 - 9:30 pm, RSVP to Dustie Savage at dsavage@icpdprograms.org by September 15**

Scott invited the committee members and their colleagues to attend the SMDP MedTech Celebration of Mentoring & Diversity in Anaheim on Oct 8. RSVP to Dustie by September 8.

- **2024 SMDP MedTech will be October 13-17 in Toronto, Canada**
Scott shared that the 2024 SMDP MedTech training session will be held in Toronto Canada on October 13-17. Sarah mentioned that we may want to consider covering the cost of the passport for the scholars. Bill added that DACA students will NOT be able to cross the border into Canada. Dustie reminded everyone that applicants must NOT need a VISA to participate in the program. Sarah stated that for DACA students it can take 8 months to get approved to go into Canada and often requires an attorney. Scott stated that we will bring this up at the November MedTech O&P meeting.

Other & Action Items

Upcoming Calls:

Tuesday, November 7, 2023, 12:00 noon Eastern / 9:00 AM Pacific