



## Committee Call Notes

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

#### Conference Call

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

2:00PM Eastern / 11:00 AM Pacific

<https://icpdprograms-org.zoom.us/j/83927890145?pwd=UWlldDc3V3dYbGNFb3YvZjNHSVJLQT09>

Meeting ID: 839 2789 0145

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

- John Bullen, PhD., AstraZeneca
- Ashton Delauney, PhD., LLM, BMS
- Eileen Engelberg, Amgen
- Kevin Kenworthy, Incyte
- Scott May, ICPD
- Shakima Perez, Pfizer
- Bill Richards, PhD., 23andMe
- Janae Ruhl, IGM Biosciences
- Dustielyn Savage, ICPD
- Kamila Schmirlerova, Amgen
- Utpal Singh, PhD., Eli Lilly & Co.
- Courtney Tobin, Trinity Life Sciences
- 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 Scientist Mentoring and Diversity Program for Biotechnology (SMDP Biotech) Outreach & Planning Committee meeting. Scott mentioned the agenda was sent via email. Scott reminded the committee members they can 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.

#### **Debrief about the 2022 SMDP Biotech training program, June 11-15, San Diego**

- **Group size - although the committee has recommended ICPD conducting two concurrent sessions of 50 - 60 scholar mentor pairs, ICPD secured a unique venue that allowed for larger general sessions complemented with breakouts; In 2023, ICPD intends to pilot the concurrent session model**

Scott reminded the committee it was agreed that ICPD would conduct two concurrent sessions with 50-60 scholar/mentor pairs in each session. However, a venue was secured in San Diego that was large enough to accommodate the entire group for general sessions and then have breakout rooms for more personal discussions.



This venue was very unique and it is unlikely that a similar venue can be secured in Boston for the 2023 training session. Given the anticipated size of next year's program, ICPD will plan to conduct two concurrent sessions. Scott asked the committee for their thoughts. Bill thought that the larger sessions worked fine for some of the topics and there seemed to be plenty of interactions. John stated that he has experienced the training with smaller general sessions and agreed the San Diego venue was great but he heard comments from participants that there wasn't enough time to connect with each other. He felt when the group was smaller there was more time for greater connections and that the connections made with other mentors and scholars happened organically whereas when the group is so large, you need to be an extrovert to make connections. Elisabeth added that in past years ICPD sponsor companies shared that SMDP wasn't reaching enough students and executives, and now that the program has grown ICPD is working to ensure that we still provide time and forums for the scholars and mentors to interact. Elisabeth added that we have hired an SMDP Coordinator to assist Dustie in maintaining virtual connections with the scholar/mentor pairs. Scott recommended the committee continue this conversation during the next O&P meeting.

- **Travel reimbursement amount - ICPD is reviewing the \$350 Scholar travel allowance policy and recommends increasing it to \$500, assuming an increase in the sponsorship rate**

Scott reminded the committee that SMDP provides each scholar with a \$350 reimbursement for their travel expenses. That amount has not changed in over 12 years. ICPD recommends increasing the travel allowance to \$500. Eileen asked if the travel allowance is supposed to cover just airfare or is it all inclusive. Scott answered it's for airfare and any travel to and from airport. Bill asked if the students had commented about the airfare cost and Scott and Dustie both answered that many scholars had commented that the current allowance is not sufficient.

- **BIO International Convention - ICPD recommends adjusting the program so scholars stay through the end of BIO, an extra day, assuming increase in sponsorship rate.**

Scott shared that the BIO International Convention is a Monday through Thursday event. The SMDP MedTech program attends The MedTech Convention Monday through Wednesday. To keep the programs equal, SMDP Biotech students currently leave on Wednesday, a day before the end of BIO. ICPD proposes that the SMDP Biotech Scholars stay until Thursday so they can attend the entire BIO International Convention.

#### **Debrief about 2021 and 2020 SMDP Biotech Alumni program, June 12-15, San Diego: -**

- **Thank you to Eli Lilly for hosting the meeting, staff mixer and lunch to go**

Scott thanked Eli Lilly for hosting the alumni program with meeting space, a staff mixer and lunch to go.

- **115 alums attended**

We had 115 alums from the 2020 and 2021 programs attend the alumni program.

#### **Partner Support**

- **Sponsorship for a scholar/mentor pair has been \$10,000 (since the program's inception in 2001); ICPD recommends revising the sponsorship amount to \$11,000**

ICPD is proposing that the sponsorship rate be increased to \$11,000 per Scholar-Mentor pair per year. That rate has not increased in over 20 years, even though the costs for the program have increased. Scott stated that we would discuss this in greater detail during the November O&P Meeting. Elisabeth asked if anyone has specific concerns about this to email Scott May directly.



John Bullen stated that \$11,000 is a bargain for the sponsor companies. He suggested ICPD provide the sponsor companies with a breakdown of what all is included in the \$11,000.

- **This program has grown, and we understand the need to keep the program impactful and effective, but what should ICPD do about additional companies that want to partner on SMDP?** - Postponed until next meeting
- **Companies should only sponsor scholar/mentor pairs if their mentors (or a surrogate) will be able to attend the training session in-person** - Postponed until next meeting
- 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

#### **Virtual Programming - Postponed until next meeting**

- **SMDP Biotech Career Networking virtual meeting**
- Project pages; Smartphone app for the portal; SMDP Gateway membership program
- CONFABS/Webinars - update on CONFAB session; Contact Elisabeth Valerio to produce a confab or webinar featuring senior leaders from your company speaking on topics aligned with the SMDP mentoring curriculum

#### **The 2023 SMDP Biotech training will be June 3-7 in Boston**

#### **Sponsor Updates - Postponed until next meeting**

- SMDP related announcements
- Diversity and inclusion activities
  - **Janssen Scholars of Oncology Diversity Engagement Program (SODEP) - virtual Janssen Oncology Day will be September 14, 2022.**

#### **Other ICPD program updates: Postponed until next meeting**

- ELISA - **ELISA Scholars program will be April 18-21, Hwange, Zimbabwe;** Sponsorship opportunities available here; Online tours and briefings about ELISA are available by contacting Scott May
- SMDP MedTech - **Celebration of Mentoring and Diversity Reception, Sunday, October 23, 6-9pm, Boston, MA RSVP to Dustie Savage;** 2022 SMDP MedTech training will be October 22-26, Boston, MA

**Other & Action Items:** Scott and Elisabeth thanked everyone for their participation on the committee and reminded everyone that the next meeting will be Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at 2pm EST.

#### **Upcoming Calls:**

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