



iJOBS Career Panel: Life After Grad School

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

4:30-6pm

Rowan University

Stratford, NJ



Hao Wu, PhD

Technical Specialist

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Hao Wu joined Howson & Howson LLP in 2016. As a Technical Advisor, Hao provides support to partners and associates of the firm in domestic and foreign patent procurement as well as researching and drafting legal opinions for clients in the life science, biotechnology and pharmaceutical fields.

Prior to working at Howson & Howson, Hao gained 9-year experience of biological research and published 14 research articles in peer-reviewed journals. Through her research, Hao is well-versed in many areas, including the fields of biology (neuroscience, immunology, oncology, biomaterials, cell biology, molecular biology, and biochemistry), pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology. She also has specific expertise with neuronal degenerative disease, retinopathy and autoimmunity.

Hao received her Ph.D. degree in Molecular Biology at Rowan University (previously known as University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey) and her B.S. degree in Life Science at University of Science and Technology of China. She also serves as an Executive Committee in Sino-American Pharmaceutical Professionals Association – Greater Philadelphia (SAPA-GP).



Robert Connacher, PhD

Scientist II

Merck

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Robert Connacher currently works as a Scientist within Translational Molecular Biomarkers (TMB) at Merck. He develops and validates tissue-based Immunohistochemistry assays to support all therapeutic areas and phases of clinical development. Previously, he served as a contractor in TMB through Joule Scientific and also spent time as an adjunct professor for both Rowan and Rutgers University. Roberts PhD thesis focus was in Developmental Neuroscience examining how environmental and genetic factors alter neurogenesis of animal and human autism models.



Jillian Whidby, PhD
Medical Writer II
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Jillian completed her BS in Biology at Rowan University in 2004. After spending a couple of years researching HIV at University of Pennsylvania, she went on to pursue her PhD in Molecular Biology. She completed her PhD at Rutgers University in 2012 and began her career in medical writing in 2013 with Integrium, LLC in Tustin, CA. She has been with RRD International, LLC in Rockville, MD since March 2018.

Suggested resources for those interested in science writing:

- Coursera: Writing in the Sciences (Stanford University)
- Non-fiction book: The Sense of Style The Thinking Person's Guide to Writing in the 21st Century (S. Pinker)

And for those interested in Medical (regulatory) writing:

- Coursera: Understanding Clinical Research: Behind the Statistics (University of Cape Town)



Samir Tivari, PhD
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Dr. Tivari is currently a Senior Consultant in the Oncology Business Unit at SAI MedPartners. He has more than 10 years of experience in the healthcare industry in scientific research, both in academia and in the private sector.

Dr. Tivari's graduate dissertation focused on understanding mechanisms of dormancy, reactivation, and metastases of dormant disseminated breast cancer cells, as well as exploring the role of the microenvironment in the induction of tumor dormancy and reactivation.

Before his doctorate studies, Dr. Tivari had the opportunity to gain experience in both private sector research as well as the business side of scientific development. After a brief spell at Regeneron as a research associate in the analytical chemistry lab, he started working for CAD Sciences (a firm focused on developing software for the detection of cancer). His experience at CAD Sciences provided Dr. Tivari with an understanding of the interaction between ideas generated through scientific research, product development through software coding, commercialization through marketing and sales, and customer service.

Dr. Tivari received his PhD in biomedical sciences from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Rutgers University and he holds a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from Bard College.