



iJOBS Career Panel Series: How to Find and Apply for an Internship

Wednesday January 20, 2016

4:30-6:00pm

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine (CABM) Room 010

679 Hoes Lane West

Piscataway, NJ 08854

General Advice:

Use contacts from Rutgers and other people that you know to find out about internships and have them put in a good word for you.

Decide whether you want to work in a big or small company environment. They have very different cultures.

Be honest with your PI about the internship but present it as if you are asking for their support to do the internship rather than their permission. Explain to him/her how it will help you in your long-term career goals.

If you are an international student then you can apply for the Rutgers internship course through GSBS (#9000S) and start Curricular Practical Training by going to the international office and applying for CPT and a new F1. You are allowed 12 months of CPT without starting your OPT clock. You can do multiple CPT experiences and get a new F1 issued each time. CPT can be either paid or unpaid.

Most summer internships are 3 months and require a presentation at the end.

You can take a leave of absence from the lab during the internship so your PI does not have to pay you, especially if you are a US citizen and getting paid by the internship.

While you are at the company, make sure to attend as many meetings as possible to meet people and learn about the different areas that you may not be directly working in.

Keep in regular contact with the people that you get to know at the company after the internship and don't wait until you need a letter or help finding a job to reach out to them.

Use the internship not necessarily to help get a job in the same company or field, but to emphasize on your resume and in interviews what you gained during that internship that makes you different than other applicants.

Panelists:

Chenchao Gao

Federal Drug and Food Administration

gaochenchao@gmail.com

Summer 2014 was the first year this internship was offered at the FDA. An email was circulated from a Rutgers alumnus who posted the internship information for the Clinical Pharmacology division. During the internship he did a meta-analysis of drug safety for tyrosine kinase inhibitors. He was in Maryland for 3 months and took advantage by learning a lot about the FDA in general. In addition to his internship meetings, he also asked to sit in on internal regulatory meetings as well as patient meetings where the patients advocate for drugs to be released for use.

Christina Ramirez

Imclone/Eli Lilly

Institute Pasteur Korea

christina.n.ramirez@gmail.com

An email was circulated from a Rutgers alumnus who posted the Imclone/Eli Lilly internship information. She had phone interview. She was there for 3 months full time, was paid \$23/hr and gave a presentation at the end. During the internship she did qPCR on exosomes as biomarkers of efficacy and diagnosis.

She found out about the Institut Pasteur Korea through a former colleague from Sloan Kettering. They were looking for people to attend a workshop but she wanted the internship instead. They do not typically take non-Korean students for this internship so she was very lucky to have been selected. She had 2 Skype interviews. They paid for her housing but only \$360/month for living expenses. She worked very hard to make a good impression and accomplish as much as possible in the short time. She was working on exosomes and how a Hepatitis C compound affected the exosomes.

Eva Rubbio-Marrero

Scientist Mentoring Diversity Program

Eli Lilly

evanelly16@gmail.com

In the Scientist Mentoring Diversity Program you are matched with a mentor for 1 year and network with a lot of other people interested in pharmaceutical companies. It is primarily for diversity students including minorities and first-generation college. You meet with your mentor 1x/month but also get to know the other mentors. You also get to attend the BIO Conference International Convention and meet many influential people there.

For the Eli Lilly internship, she found out about it through another student and she asked her PI for his support in doing the internship. She was doing cell-based assays for

an oncology treatment. It was right after Imclone merged with Eli Lilly and they were a lot of employees who were not happy about the merger because they liked the small company feeling so it was interesting for her to see the pros and cons of different company styles.

Frank Kung

Rutgers Tech Transfer Internship in the Office of Commercialization

Frank.Kung@rutgers.edu

It is a one year internship but you can continue to volunteer in the tech transfer office. It is open to non-US citizens. It consists of a 1 hour lecture/week in the fall and weekly group assignments. It takes about 5-10 hours per week in total. Great experience for those interested in how new inventions get put out to market or patent law.

Jennifer Therkon

Rutgers Eagleton Institute

U.S. Dept of Homeland Security's Volunteer Scholars Program

jennifer.therkon@rutgers.edu

For the US Office of Health Affairs Volunteer Scholars program, there is a March 1 application deadline. She was part of the Biowatch program and had security clearance. She wanted to do this early on in her graduate school experience so she could tailor her research to a real world problem. This internship helped her have the leverage to successfully apply for an EPA Star Fellowship which is similar to an NSF fellowship for the environmental sciences.

The Rutgers Eagleton Institute Fellowship is 1 year with a stipend supplement of either \$6,000 or \$7,500. There is a discussion based seminar course in the fall and in the spring you spend 210 hours (~2 days/week) doing an internship in the place of your choosing. She worked for Homeland Security dealing with concepts of operations for a potential terrorist incident. She recommends doing this fellowship in the last year of graduate school since it is more time intensive.

Maria Qadri

Rutgers Pre-doctoral Development Leadership Institute

AAAS Workshop Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering

maria.qadri@gmail.com

The Rutgers PDLI allows you to learn what different academic leadership positions entail and the hierarchy at universities. You also learn a lot about the different units of Rutgers. It is a 2 year fellowship and is open to non-US citizens. There are 8 seminars per semester on Friday morning and in fall of your 2nd year, you shadow someone that you can request such as a dean. You have about 8-10 shadowing days with that person and also have about 4 half hour one-on-one meetings with them. You also do a Capstone project with a group of people in different disciplines.

For the AAAS Workshop you get to go to Washington DC for 3 days and get training and exposure on how to advocate for a policy change. You primarily meet with congressional staffers and hope to influence them and learn from them. There is a National Science Policy group at Rutgers that helps coordinate these efforts.

Sarah Misenko

Rutgers Biotech Training Program

Celgene Cellular Therapeutics

sarah.misenko@gmail.com

To be part of the Rutgers Biotech Training program, you can either apply or get selected. You usually have to be in the early stages of graduate school. It provides 2 years of funding plus a summer internship for 7-9 students per year. You also take 2 additional courses at night plus attend a seminar series throughout your time at Rutgers. For the internship, you can look through options and apply to the ones you are interested in. She applied to 3 and had 2 phone and 1 in person interview. There were grad students from other universities there as well at the same time. She was in a PK/PD lab and looked at how much compound remained in animal tissue after dosage.