



## **iJOBS Workshop: Non-Research Careers with a PhD**

Wednesday June 27, 2018

10-11:30am

Deans Conference Room 123

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Piscataway



### **Melissa VonDran, PhD**

Director of Scientific Services

National Disease Research Interchange

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Melissa VonDran, PhD, is the Director of Scientific Services for the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI), a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization located in Philadelphia, PA. NDRI distributes human biospecimens to investigators to advance biomedical research worldwide. Her responsibilities include overseeing all activities related to researcher recruitment, development and implementation of new research projects, as well as conducting ongoing educational training programs to support and improve NDRI's services to the biomedical community. Dr. VonDran obtained her PhD in Neuroscience and Cell Biology from UMDNJ and spent her research career evaluating the role neurotrophins or their precursors, proneurotrophins, play in neurodegenerative disease pathology using animal models.



### **Maryann Obiorah, PhD**

Senior Medical Writer

Vaniam Group

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Maryann Obiorah received her PhD in Neuroscience from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Rutgers University in New Jersey, where she studied the effects of the neurotoxicant methylmercury on rodent brain development. She entered the promotional medical communications field as a freelance medical writer for BGB New York and later as a biomedical writer for Phase Five Communications, where she gained extensive experience in hematologic malignancies

and solid tumors. In her current role with Vaniam Group as a Senior Medical Writer, Maryann works on publications and medical affairs. Her expertise includes myelodysplastic syndromes, iron overload, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, multiple myeloma, B-cell malignancies, and soft tissue sarcoma.



**Ana Hader, PhD**  
**Postdoctoral Scientist**  
**Johnson and Johnson**  
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My name is Anna Hader and I am a Postdoctoral Scientist in the BABY Innovation Platform at Johnson & Johnson Consumer Products. I am originally from Zielona Gora, Poland where I grew up and graduated from High School. I completed my undergraduate and graduate education at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and received my Ph.D. in Neuroscience in 2016. My research encompassed multiple fascinating topics in Neuroscience including electrophysiological characterization of neural progenitor cell lines and investigation of the Eph/ephrin protein signaling in the hippocampus. In my current role, at Johnson and Johnson, I am part of a global cross-functional team and I look for and evaluate new technologies for consumer products. I work in a very collaborative environment that is focused on innovation, and it gives me a lot of satisfaction that I can use my scientific background to improve lives of people around the world.



**Tanya Borsuk, PhD**  
**Director of Business Development**  
**Celgene**  
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A graduate of the Joint Molecular Bioscience Program at Rutgers University in 2007, Dr. Tanya Borsuk has spent over a decade helping companies in the Biotech and Pharmaceutical industries develop their technology and drug pipelines. Her roles in the Pharmaceutical industry have spanned from R&D consulting at a top global boutique consulting firm in NYC, to launch planning, and global business insights and competitive intelligence. She is currently a Director of Business Development at Celgene Corporation, where she is responsible for search and evaluation of new business opportunities for the Oncology franchise.



**Eric Prager, PhD**  
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Dr. Prager is the Editor-in-Chief for the *Journal of Neuroscience Research (JNR)* and the Developmental Editor for *Current Protocols in Neuroscience* and *Current Protocols in Toxicology*. Dr. Prager earned his Ph.D. from the Uniformed Services University in Neuroscience, where he investigated the long-term consequences of a nerve agent exposure. As an internal editor at Wiley, Dr. Prager's work consists of redeveloping *JNR* to increase awareness and improve the quality of research published, but also to work with other colleagues in developing best practice guides and workflows for improving research transparency. Dr. Prager's primary goals as a journal editor are to increase transparency and rigor in research submitted. This involves working closely with scientists from all over the world to ensure accurate and precise reporting of the experimental design and statistical approaches used. In addition to his duties as journal editor, Dr. Prager is on the executive leadership team of the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology's Preclinical Data Forum Network, where he actively engages with academic institutions and pharmaceutical companies to develop best practices for ensuring transparency, rigor and reproducibility in research.