iJOBS and SPaR Workshop: Science Policy Careers and How to Write a Brief
Friday, December 14, 2018
3-5:30pm
Rosemary Gellene Room
New Jersey Medical School
Newark

Megan Anderson Brooks, PhD
Vice President at CRD Associates
mbrooks@dc-crd.com

As a Vice President at CRD Associates, Megan focuses on science and regulatory policy related to basic and clinical scientific research, personalized medicine, federal oversight of diagnostics and biotech devices, and patient-specific issues related to access and patient-centered treatment development. On behalf of clients, she assists in the development and implementation of policy strategies; coordinates congressional briefings and public policy symposiums; organizes client advocacy days on Capitol Hill; and engages in direct lobbying. Megan was a scientist in the field of neuroscience for over 10 years and conducted research on brain health and the neural mechanisms of learning and memory. Megan previously worked for the Society for Neuroscience developing grassroots advocacy activities and on issues related to research replicability. Megan holds a PhD in neuroscience from Rutgers University and was awarded a fellowship from the Eagleton Institute of Politics.

Mike Fisher, PhD
Senior Fellow at the Federation of American Scientists
mafisher13@gmail.com

After serving as Field Director with the Welle for Congress campaign (2018, New Jersey Congressional District 4), Michael A. Fisher, PhD will begin work in January as a Senior Fellow with the Federation of American Scientists in Washington, DC. The core mission of the FAS is to engage with lawmakers and encourage them to make science-based policy decisions. With scientific training at Rutgers-NJMS, UC Berkeley, and Princeton, Mike has developed expertise in infectious disease research, biofuels, synthetic biology, protein engineering, and molecular biology. Mike also has experience in informal education as a STEM Educator with the Liberty Science Center, public-private partnership creation as a co-founder of the UC Berkeley Postdoc Industry Exploration Program in 2010, and community organizing. In 2012 Mike was a Fellow in

the inaugural Synthetic Biology Leadership Accelerator Program cohort and was an IGCC Public Policy and Biological Threats Training Program Fellow in 2008.

Trevan Locke, PhD
Scientific Program Administrator, Regulatory Science and Policy
American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)
trevan.locke@aacr.org
https://www.linkedin.com/in/trevanlocke/

Dr. Locke's role at the AACR is to facilitate discussion among academic, regulatory, industry, and advocate stakeholders to advance cancer research. Prior to joining the AACR, Trevan completed his PhD in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering at Rutgers University in Piscataway, NJ where his research focused on developing liposomal nanoparticles for chemotherapeutic drug delivery. Before that, he completed his B.E. degree in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN.

Stephanie Oh, PhD
MD/PhD Candidate Rutgers
seo28@gsbs.rutgers.edu

Steph is an MD/PhD candidate in the Rutgers-RWJMS/Princeton University Physician-Scientist Program in which she recently finished her PhD in Neuroscience and is in the process of completing her MD degree. Her thesis work focused on the neuroprotective role of novel coding mRNA and non-coding microRNAs in Parkinson's disease. She is a director of the local student-run free clinic called Promise Clinic in New Brunswick, NJ, leading efforts to provide free, longitudinal, primary medical care to uninsured patients in the community. Prior to her doctoral studies, Steph received her BSc in biological engineering at MIT and served as an AmeriCorps Highland Street Fellow at Mass Mentoring Partnership, a non-profit dedicated to improving mentoring programs and youth development organizations. As a 2018 Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Fellow at the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, Steph worked with the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, the Health and Medicine Division, and the National Academy of Medicine's 'Culture of Health' Program to kick start a consensus report focused on the 'Neurobiological and Socio-behavioral Science of Adolescent Development and Its Applications." Next, as a research fellow at Health and Human Services - Human Resources and Services Administration (HHS - HRSA), Steph worked with the Quality Division to produce a report on 'Clinical Quality Improvement in Colorectal Cancer Screening' and assisted with division's role in the NIH All Of Us research program.

Eileen Oni, PhD
AAAS Fellow
Directorate for Engineering
Division of Engineering Education Centers
Class of 2017-2019

Eileen Oni currently at the National Science Foundation (NSF) as a AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow in the Directorate for Engineering working in the division of Engineering Education Centers. She received her BS in Biological Sciences from Rowan University. Eileen received her Ph.D. in Cell and Developmental Biology from Rutgers University. Her thesis work focused on the underlying role of genetic variants in addiction behaviors, specifically the role of molecular and genetic variation. As a member of the Rutgers Chapter of the National Science Policy Group, organizing science policy informational meetings on university campus and traveling annually to Washington DC to communicate support for sustainable science research funding to local legislative offices. Eileen recently completed the Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Fellowship at the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine, where she worked with the Committee on Science, Technology, and Law on projects involving Dual Use Research of Concern in the Life Sciences and Future of Voting. As a AAAS Fellow at NSF, Eileen's roles involve various portfolio analysis and writing and editing for solicitations, creating content for outreach reports and materials, summarizing and synthesizing program meetings/events, and ensuring merit review standards for the portfolios of Broadening Participation in Engineering program and NSF's 10 Big Idea, NSF INCLUDES. Eileen's goals are to become an effective policy playmaker, combining technical and scientific expertise using program evaluation and strategic analysis to develop evidence-based, well-balanced polices that can enhance the effectiveness of STEM initiativ

Maria Qadri, PhD
Program Analyst/Project Coordinator for Ripple Effect Communications, Inc.
maria.qadri@gmail.com
Twitter @somebody_exotic

Maria Qadri holds a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering and Quantitative Biomedicine joint program from Rutgers University. Her dissertation research focused on innovative analytical techniques to improve intracranial pressure monitoring in the surgical intensive care unit of severe traumatic brain injury patients. Although she is a northern New Jersey native, Maria obtained a B.S.E. from the University of Hartford and a M.S. from the University of Connecticut. Maria has been with Ripple Effect Communications since August 2017 and has worked on all three focus areas: Program Management & Policy, Research & Evaluation, and Communications & Outreach. Her work includes clients such as the US Army, the National Institutes of

Health, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. In her spare time, Maria is interested in rock climbing, baking, and STEM diversity improvement activities.

Ken Shatzkes, Ph.D.
Associate Program Officer, Crohn's Disease Program, The Helmsley Charitable Trust
kshatzkes@helmsleytrust.org

Dr. Ken Shatzkes is an Associate Program Officer for the Helmsley Charitable Trust's Crohn's Disease Program. Ken helps to oversee the current research grant portfolio and identify new potential funding opportunities with a focus on improved diagnostics for individuals living with Crohn's disease. Prior to joining Helmsley, Ken was the Science Policy Advisor in the Office of the Governor of New Jersey where he provided scientifically-sound recommendations to Governor Chris Christie on issues related to the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis. Previously, he performed biomedical research in the areas of genomics, microbiome science, and infectious disease, at the J. Craig Venter Institute and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Ken earned his Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences (Immunology and Infectious Disease) from Rutgers University and his Bachelor of Science in Molecular Genetics and Development from McGill University. While completing his Ph.D. at Rutgers, Ken was a Politics and Government Fellow at the Eagleton Institute of Politics and held a policy fellowship in the Office of the Secretary at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, he is a passionate advocate for science communication and education, and volunteers with various science outreach programs in his community.