



iJOBS Career Panel: Bench positions in industry (panel 1)

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3:00 PM



Maryam Alapa, PhD

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Maryam graduated with her Ph.D. from Rutgers University, NJMS in 2019. There, she studied the role of thiol oxidation in regulating soluble guanylyl cyclase function. She then joined Celgene as a Translational Scientist working in Multiple Myeloma. She is currently a Senior Scientist with the same team, now BMS, working on myeloid diseases (acute myeloid leukemia and myelofibrosis) and studying company assets in the therapeutic areas.



Tapan A. Shah, PhD

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I am a Biomedical Scientist with 4 years of industry experience working on histopathology and spatial biology assays. My PhD thesis focused on characterizing gene regulatory mechanisms that control Bmp2 expression during cardiovascular disease and gene expression profiling for biomarker discovery (miRNAs). My first industry position (straight from my PhD) was as a Technical Support Scientist at Advanced Cell Diagnostics (RNAscope Technology) in Newark, CA. From there, I moved on to Atreca (Immuno-Oncology Company) located in San Carlos, CA as a Scientist II in the Translational Sciences Team where I focused on immune cell profiling using histopathology tissue-based assays for various preclinical efficiency and toxicology studies. My next position (starting end of this month), will be as a Senior Scientist, Translational Pathology at Merck (Kenilworth NJ site) where I will be a part of the group that provides clinical biomarker assay support for global oncology trials. Looking forward to being a part of the panel for the upcoming iJobs Pharma Research jobs session.



Eric Himelman, PhD

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A little over two years removed from graduating with his PhD in Biomedical Sciences, Eric is now a Scientist at Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical in Cambridge, MA. His current responsibilities include in vitro assay development, designing and overseeing in vivo pharmacology studies, and drug screening. He also manages two research associates

and actively participates in target discovery, strategy, and external collaborations. He is always happy to share his experiences and pay it forward to graduates and post-docs who want to transition into industry research positions.



Brandon Trainor, PhD

Senior Specialist
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I am a graduate of Rowan University with a doctorate in Cell and Molecular Biology. Currently I am a Senior Specialist in Quality Control Analytical Sciences and Technologies for Adaptimmune in South Philadelphia. Adaptimmune therapeutics focus is on developing novel CAR-T pipelines for solid tumors.



Edwardo Perez, PhD

Chief Scientific Officer
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Edwardo Perez is Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) of Signum Biosciences. Dr. Perez has 15+ years of R&D experience in the biotech and pharmaceutical industry with expertise in the fields of dermatological inflammatory disorders, consumer product (e.g. skin care) and nutritional supplement development and a firm knowledge of neurodegenerative diseases. As CSO, Dr. Perez guides cross-functional teams to select novel compounds and botanical extracts for dermatological drug development and cosmetic applications. In addition, under the direction of Edwardo, Signum has developed and out-licensed numerous dermatological technologies and which are now included in many different products globally. Additionally, as Signum's lead medical writer, Dr. Perez has successfully raised >\$10 million in funding from the NIAID, NIAMS and NIA. Prior to joining Signum, he received his PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ (UMDNJ) studying the role of reversible methylation in bacterial signaling systems. He received his BA in Biology from Rutgers University.