

BBSI 2006 Career Workshop
Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Panelists:

Judie Howrylak, MD

Current position: *Fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine*, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
MD, University of Michigan
BA, English Languages and Literature, University of Chicago

Shaun Mahony, PhD

Current position: *Research Associate*, Dept. of Computational Biology, University of Pittsburgh
PhD, Computational Biology, National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science, NUI, Galway
BE, Electronic and Computer Engineering, National University of Ireland, Galway

Indira Shrivastava, PhD

Current position: *Research Associate*, Dept. of Computational Biology, University of Pittsburgh
PhD, Quantum and Computational Chemistry, University of Pune, Department of Chemistry
MSc, Physical Chemistry, University of Pune
BSc, Chemistry, University of Pune

Megan Spence, PhD

Current position: *Assistant Professor*, Dept. of Chemistry, University of Pittsburgh
PhD, Physical Chemistry, University of California Berkeley
AB, Chemistry, Dartmouth College

Grazyna Szklarz, PhD

Current position: *Associate Professor*, Department of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Pharmacy, West Virginia University, Morgantown
PhD, Chemistry (Major: Biochemistry, Minor: Physical Chemistry), Clarkson University, Potsdam
MS, Biology (Specialty (major): Molecular Biology), Maria Curie-Sklodowska University, Lublin

Dan Zuckerman, PhD

Current position: *Assistant Professor*, Dept. of Computational Biology, University of Pittsburgh
PhD, Physics, University of Maryland, College Park
Doctoral Program, Physics, University of California, Los Angeles
AB, Comparative Study of Religion, Harvard University

C. Allen Black, Jr., PhD

Current position: *Associate, Patent Practice Group*, Kirkpatrick & Lockhart, L.L.P., Pittsburgh
JD, University of Pittsburgh, School of Law
PhD, Immunology, University of Newcastle, Newcastle, NSW, Australia
PhD Candidate, Immunology, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Jeff Fearn, PhD

Current position: *Product Manager - Life Sciences*, Fisher Scientific, Pittsburgh
PhD, Biological Chemistry, University of Illinois at Chicago
BS, Biochemistry, Cornell University

Questions:

1. What are the most important factors in picking a graduate school/program?
2. What are the costs vs. benefits of going directly to graduate school vs. going into the workforce after college?
3. How do you balance your career with your family? Is it possible to advance very far in one's career if one has a family?
4. What are your thoughts on the issue of gender bias in institutions of science?
5. How does one obtain skills for a non-traditional career when one is generally not taught those skills in graduate school? (e.g., how does one learn how to be a product manager while being trained to do research?)
6. What does scientific consulting entail? How does one get into it? Is scientific consulting more of a full-time occupation or a side project?