



BEST @ CORNELL

Events for August 2016

Deloitte Consulting - Recruiting | 15 August

Recruiting deadline for Ph.D. /first year postdoctoral fellows in consulting positions

Location: For application info, click [here](#). Hosted by CGCC.

ASBMB Webinar - Building Professional Relationships | 17 August

Second webinar on the ASBM-BEST series on building professional relationships

Location: *Online*. 1:00 – 2:00 PM. To access, please register in advance [here](#).

LinkedIn Photo Session | 18 August

Professional photo session for [head shots](#). Business attire recommended. Location:

G01 Biotech. 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Register starting Aug. 4 via Handshake.

BBS Symposium | 19 August THEME: [Connect](#). [Collaborate](#). [Create](#).

Keynote: Tobias Meyer (Stanford). BEST-Grad Career Services. Posters. Talks.

Location: *Stocking Hall*. 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Blitz career sessions 9am

For the complete set of events, make sure to check the

[BEST Events Section](#)

Perspectives on Silicon Valley

By Colin Jermain

The Silicon Valley Ph.D. entrepreneurial trek, sponsored by BEST and the College of Engineering, was an opportunity to both learn about the entrepreneurship scene in California and build relationships with founders, alumni, facilitators, and classmates. Prof. Michael Roach organized two days of meetings and events that encompassed all different aspects of starting a company, from the challenges of founding to working as an early start-up employee.

My favorite company to visit was Transcriptic. While there we were shown their facility by two Cornell PhD alumni, who shared with us their experiences in the hiring process and how they joined Transcriptic. They showed us their offices, prototyping area, and their working product, a robotic system for automating lab procedures. Our discussion helped me to better frame my own skills as a Ph.D.

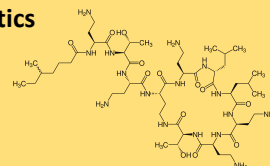
I enjoyed visiting the venture capital firm Canaan Partners, where we met with one of the firm's founders, Eric Young. Most interesting to our discussion related to current trends in startup fund-raising, which we discussed as he shared his data showing typical Seed, Series A, and Series B rounds. From this, I learned the role of the public markets in Series B rounds, shedding light on material discussed by Prof. Roach. Following this, at the Cornell Silicon Valley conference I had a chance to network with another variety of alumni, more than 500 attendees in total. I reconnected with previous acquaintances working in the area, giving me a perspective on living in Silicon Valley. I also talked with more industry veterans, who told me about their career paths and how to approach the workforce.

Overall, the Silicon Valley Ph.D. trek pulled together all of the essential elements for working in a start-up, and how that relates to having an advanced degree.

- *Colin Jermain is a graduate student in Applied Engineering & Physics. Other BEST participants included Jocelyn Wang, Immunology; Ezen Choo, Pharmacology; Harvey Tian, Poornima, Gadamsetty, and Tiffany St. Bernard, Biomedical Engineering; Mitchell Ishmael and Levon Atoyan, Material Science.*

SCIENCE NEWS CORNER

-The Return of Colistin: The Era of Last-Resort Antibiotics



The discovery of *mcr-1* in *Escherichia coli* plasmid DNA signals the beginning of new strains of bacteria capable of withstanding most human intervention. From Chinese cattle ranches to Walter Reed Army Institute of Research laboratories, the plasmid has proven successful against notorious colistin, a fact that has not escaped the president of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, Dr. Barbara Murray. "It's closing in on us, and you can just kind of feel it constricting" said Dr. Murray, pondering a future with widespread bacterial resistance against even colistin. Born out of unnecessary use of antibiotics in both hospitals and ranches, she now offers the following recommendation: scale back antibiotic use and continue the development of research initiatives like the GAIN Act. There's only so much time before hundreds of patients show up at hospitals to be administered the fading hope that is colistin.

Information taken from the original article published by JAMA, "Infectious Disease Expert Sees Threat from Colistin-Resistant Superbug", published 27 July 2016

Broadening
Experiences in
Scientific
Training



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