Rethinking training for Cornell STEM graduate students & postdoctoral scholars

Why?
Because a majority of us will end up working beyond academia. It’s time to rethink, retrain and be ready for tomorrow’s careers.

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A nationwide consortium
Sharing BEST practices

www.BEST.cornell.edu
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Cornell BEST Program

Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training

Cornell University

Mentoring
Communication
Science Policy
Industry, Entrepreneurship & Management
Governance, Risk & Compliance
Many of the skills you will acquire in the BEST program will also help you in an academic career of your choice. Science Communication and Management knowledge for instance can help you run your academic laboratory and convince funding agencies.

Opportunity pathways

Science Communication
*Scientific writing, editing and media skills*
- weekend science communication workshop
- coursework in journalism; intern with the Chronicle
- write a press release, develop a podcast or blog

Science policy
*Learn how policy is created*
- externship in Albany
- prepare and pitch a bill for congressional consideration
- take a course in science policy

Governance, Risk & Compliance
*Learn how to assess bio- or agroterrorism risk*
- externship with the FDA or CDC over spring break
- visit biocounterparts facilities & learn how they’re run
- workshops on quality assurance, good lab practices

Industry, Entrepreneurship & Management
- leadership & management courses
- invite and interact with industry speakers
- “BESTernship” with a life sciences startup

Academic Research:
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BEST Program
Flexible & Experiential
Trainees can opt for a single pathway (through workshops, courses, customized “BESTernships”) and/or sample each of the pathways in less detail (primarily through lectures). **Trainee initiated project experiences** are encouraged, subject to program staff approval and available funding.

Get Involved!
- Visit the [www.BEST.cornell.edu](http://www.BEST.cornell.edu) website
- Are You Eligible? See the weblink at About Us under FAQ: [connect with BEST via the survey/application](http://connect with BEST via the survey/application)
- Request to join our BEST LinkedIn Group
- Make an appointment with BEST Program staff
- Ask to be added to our BEST track-specific Listservs

Metrics for success
Points will be assigned for participation in each experience and an attestation certificate will be awarded to trainees who obtain sufficient points. Evaluation of the program will be extensive, to increase program effectiveness, and to gauge the effect on the scientific careers of trainees in the long and medium terms. Trainees participate in long-term impact studies.

LinkedIn: [Cornell BEST Program](http://Cornell BEST Program) Twitter: [@Cornell_BEST](http://@Cornell_BEST)