



BEST @ Cornell

Events for September 2017

Assay Validation for Clinical Diagnostics | 9-5-17, 1:00PM-2:00PM

Register for this webinar and hear Todd Graham, a clinical laboratory scientist for a large hospital system in the New York Tri-State Area as well as a scientific consultant for various Fortune 500 biotechnology firms, expound upon the steps necessary for the validation of your assay in a clinical diagnostics setting. Todd will cover key topics such as the differences between research and clinical assays, the process of adapting an assay for use by medical technologists, and how to find clinically relevant samples to with which to validate your assay.

Location: Webinar—registration REQUIRED (\$179.00)

Career Fair Days | 9-6-17 & 9-7-17, 10:00AM-3:00PM Both Days

The annual University Career Fair Days event provides an opportunity for Cornell students and postdocs to meet with representatives from organizations. A wide variety of employers attend, ranging from Fortune 500 to government and nonprofit employers. These organizations attend to increase campus visibility, to illustrate the benefits of employment in their organization, and to provide information to Cornell students about entry-level jobs, co-op opportunities, and internships.

Location: Barton Hall

NSF Short Courses | 9-15-17 to 9-29-17

Our partners at Cornell's Center for Regional Economic Advancement, site of the Upstate NY I-Corps Node, are offering a short course at Cornell, Sept. 15-29, to learn about the key steps to take a technology from lab to market. There's an in-person kick-off, 2 weeks of remote work with weekly check-ins, and an in-person wrap up that will connect you to the national innovation network of the NSF (which can lead to \$50k of support!). You can apply as a team lead, or to join a team. Either way, contact Bonnie Sanborn bes96@cornell.edu.

Exploring Careers Outside Academia | 9-21-17, 12:00PM-1:30PM

Are you contemplating a career outside of academia? Are you unsure about what transferable skills you have, or what careers are available to you? If so, you are invited to attend this free workshop to learn what strategies you can take in exploring a career outside of academia. Co-sponsored by Cornell Career Services and the Office of Postdoctoral Studies. Attendees are welcome to bring their own lunch during this session. Open to all graduate students and postdoctoral scholars.

Location: 102 Mann Library

Announcements | September 2017

BEST on twitter and LinkedIn

Step up your Twitter game! Follow and be followed by @Cornell_BEST.

Want to have meaningful conversations with other BESTies? Join the "Cornell BEST Program" group on LinkedIn.

Ethan Sanford, Editor
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Member Spotlight: Christa Heyward



For the month of September, we chose to spotlight Christa Heyward, a postdoctoral researcher Tracy Stokol's lab who is currently identifying potential antibody biomarkers for the detection of circulating feline tumor cells. Over the course of her career, Christa has broadly focused on the association of immune responses and disease. Before coming to Cornell, but after finishing her Ph.D., Christa worked for 18 months as an editorial assistant for the HIV clinical trials lab at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia under Dr. Steven Douglas. Dr. Douglas encouraged her to continue her research career, but also to seek out a new question, to diversify her training. Christa writes that "I think the best research projects come from taking knowledge gained in one area of expertise and marrying it with knowledge in a second area in order to gain insights that might not have been apparent otherwise." Furthermore, when asked to provide advice to graduate students at Cornell, Christa advises that "If you have the freedom to step outside your comfort zone, take a bit of a risk, be it in a research area or a career choice, you should give it a try because you never know what skills you might develop or what interests you might not have known you had." Well said, Christa!

**Broadening
Experiences in
Scientific
Training**



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