



Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology

1206 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801

Postdoc Career Development Workshop

Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology

Friday, November 6th, 2015

Get an overview of potential career paths after your PostDoc phase.
Learn what the requirements are for the different career paths.
Interact with former PostDocs who have chosen different career paths.
Develop your own Career Development Plan to prepare yourself for a certain career path.

1 PM	Welcome / Introduction
1:15 PM	Overview of different career paths Jennifer Kim , Assistant Director for Employer Outreach, Graduate College Career Development Office, UIUC <i>Presentation of different career options and the formal requirements needed to apply for these jobs</i>
1:45 PM	Panel Discussion <i>Ask the panelists questions about their careers...</i> Dr. Nathan T. Mortimer , Assistant Professor, School of Biological Sciences, Illinois State University, Normal, IL Dr. Patrick Brown , Assistant Professor, Department of Crop Sciences, UIUC, Urbana, IL Dr. Kelly Gillespie , Yield Traits Project Lead, Monsanto, St. Louis, MO Dr. RK Narayanan , Technology Manager, UIUC, Urbana, IL
2:45 PM	How to write a Career Development Plan (Postdoctoral Affairs Office, UIUC) <i>Learn how to write your own Career Development Plan</i>
3:15 PM	Coffee Break
3:30 PM	Create your Individual Career Development Plan <i>Work on your personal Career Development Plan in one of three separate sessions, focusing on a career in academia, industry or science related fields, with the help of the panelists and staff from the Postdoc Affairs Office.</i> <i>Leave with a plan that will help you reach your career goals!</i>
5 PM	Closing Remarks & Networking Event <i>Enjoy food & drinks and discuss your career plans with the other Postdocs and the panelists in a relaxed atmosphere.</i>

For more information contact Iris Köhler (ikoehler@illinois.edu) or Michael Carter (micscart@illinois.edu)

The Panelists



DR. NATHAN T. MORTIMER is an Assistant Professor of Cellular Immunology at Illinois State University. He completed his PhD in Genetics and Molecular Biology at Emory University, Atlanta, GA, where he also worked as a Postdoc. He then became an Assistant Professor at the University of Warwick, UK, and was Visiting Scholar at the University of Denver. He was appointed Assistant Professor at Illinois State University in 2015. His research focusses on understanding the cellular immune response, and the tricks that pathogens and parasites use to overcome it. For this research the *Drosophila melanogaster*-parasitoid wasp host-parasite system is used. His lab takes an integrative approach, using genetics, cell biology, ecology, and bioinformatics techniques to investigate the fruit fly-parasitoid wasp interaction.



DR. RK NARAYANAN is the Associate Technology Manager for the Office of Technology Management (OTM) at UIUC. He joined the OTM in October 2014, his portfolio focus is life sciences and healthcare. RK has more than 10 years of experience in life sciences research, with expertise in oncology, neuroscience, genomics, and genetics. He completed his PhD in Molecular and Cellular Biology at the University of Arizona, where his research focused on analysis of dynamin function in endocytosis in *Drosophila*. He worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory at MIT and then moved on to studying chemotherapy resistance mechanisms in glioblastoma as a Research Scientist at Harvard. Before taking his current position, he worked in Intellectual Property and Business Development at Partners HealthCare Innovation in Boston.



DR. KELLY GILLESPIE is the Soy Yield Portfolio Platform Lead in Monsanto's Technology organization. She received her PhD in Physiological and Molecular Plant Biology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where her research examined the antioxidant response of crops to climate change. She then was a post-doctoral scholar at the Donald Danforth Center. After joining Monsanto in 2011 as a Physiology Research Scientist, she has held roles with increasing responsibility over the years. She is now leading the cross-functional platform responsible for the discovery and development of biotech traits that will create a step-change improvement in soybean yield. She and her husband Josh, a software developer, reside in St. Louis, MO with their 10-year-old daughter.



DR. PAT BROWN is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Crop Sciences at the University of Illinois. He completed his PhD and postdoctoral training in plant breeding and genetics at Cornell University before joining the faculty at UIUC in 2010. His research focuses on phenotype-genotype association in crop plants, and current projects include ozone tolerance in maize and biomass production in sorghum. He teaches a graduate-level class in molecular marker data analysis. He and his wife Allison live in Champaign with their two sons.