

NIIMBL eXperience @ ACPHS Program Agenda

The **NIIMBL eXperience @ ACPHS** aims to tell the story of biotherapeutics to 15 Black, Latinx, and/or Native American individuals recruited from the diverse populations of upstate New York. Through collaboration of academic, small business and corporate partners, the program participants are exposed to the broad spectrum of career paths supporting the biopharma industry. The thematic focus of advanced biomanufacturing of mRNA vaccines and stem cell therapies are woven with regulatory and patient needs providing the unique opportunity to understand the biotherapeutic life cycle. Minority leaders serve as role models for success by guiding many of the sessions. By focusing this proposal on regional strengths, participants engage in a career support network that ensures continued mentoring and success.

Proposed Regional Partnerships and Program Design

Sunday, June 4 – Welcome

Participants arrive in Albany, NY, and check into the dormitories provided by Albany College of Pharmacy (ACPHS). The program outreach coordinator, ACPHS director of student engagement and wellness, CBET staff, and student ambassadors are among those welcoming the students.

Monday, June 5 –Therapies and Biomanufacturing Introductory Day

The day starts at CBET where students engage in a condensed version of the **CBET “Principles of Biomanufacturing”** industry course. The course provides a comprehensive overview of discovery, biomanufacturing and delivery of therapies including cell, gene and mRNA technologies.

Tuesday, June 6 – Academic Discovery Pathway and Networking

For the morning session, Dr. Andres Melendez (Interim Dean, College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering) and Dr. Susan Sharfstein (Professor of Nanoscience, Fullbright Global Scholar) welcome the students to **SUNY Polytechnic Institute** to learn about nanoparticles and nanomedicines. After lunch, students walk over to the **RNA Institute at the University at Albany** to learn about RNA science from Dr. Thomas Begley (Associate Director). Participants wrap up the day with a **peer networking event** hosted by graduate students and interns from the participating institutions who have identified biomanufacturing careers.

Wednesday, June 7 – Small Business/Entrepreneurship Pathway

On this day, participants will tour three local small businesses that highlight innovation and entrepreneurship. Hosts for the day are Mr. Ernesto Samuel (President) of **Biomed Innova**, Ian Glasgow (President) of **Next Advance, Inc** and Dr. Brigitte Arduini (Principal Investigator) **Neural Stem Cell Institute (NSCI)**.

Thursday, June 8 – Corporate Pathway and Networking

Curia Global, a global CDMO, hosts the cohort in their development and manufacturing site to describe scale-up and cGMP processes. **Cytiva**, a world-wide provider of technologies and services, hosts a panel discussion with minority leaders and scientist from the company sharing their personal success stories.

Friday, June 9- Delivering the Drug to the Patient and Brand Building

Jane Boyd, RPH, CDE and Teresa Kane, B.S., M.H.S.A. engage in hands-on-activities at the **ACPHS Pharmacy Practice Skills Laboratory and Compounding Laboratory** to learn how vaccines and infusion drugs are delivered to patients. In the afternoon, the students convene with a professional organization (TBD) to capitalize on the learning from the week and build individualized **branding plans**. The students participate

in a 360-degree feedback session and identify career pathways utilizing the network of resources discovered during this NIIMBL experience.

Saturday, June 10 -Closeout and Departure

Students complete closing procedures including surveys, testimonials, photographs and NIIMBL requirements, and depart ACPHS campus.