

I have had the opportunity to explore exciting hypotheses in fields spanning lung and cardiovascular physiology, immunology, bioengineering, and bacterial microbiology. I never fathomed that I would be so enthralled with such diverse disciplines and the opportunity to conduct high-impact science that draws on multiple disciplines is exhilarating. As a trainee I had amazing mentors - many of whom are female independent scientists - that helped me recognize my own potential for an impactful career in medical research. I am especially looking forward to working with and mentoring women from underrepresented racial backgrounds like myself. My training thus far has been excellent, I have been fortunate to contribute to an important area of cardiovascular physiology. I have shared my research in not only peer review publications but also at national conferences, where I have been able to meet leaders in the field. I aspire to become an influential scientist in biomedical science. In order to help prepare myself for a career in industrial biomedical science, it is imperative that I interact and obtain advice on career progression from current leaders in the field, hence why I would like to participate in the Summer School in Biomedical Research & Management Program.

I believe I am an excellent candidate to participate in the Summer School in Biomedical Research & Management Program. Cultural and gender diversity in science is essential because it allows for the inclusion of broader ideas and abilities towards problem solving. Furthermore, the field is very dynamic and rewarding but often difficult to conquer but this obstacle can be alleviated by having mentors in place by which students can identify amongst. As a scientist in the biomedical research field, I plan to focus on conducting cutting-edge immunology and cardiovascular research while I leverage my position as an independent scientist to create minority outreach and mentorship opportunities to prepare the next generation of scientists. Additionally, I am most interested in a scientific career outside of academia, yet most of my training and mentorship to date has been in academia. In order to reach my goals of working in Pharma, it would be advantageous for me to network and learn from scientists currently in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry. Having knowledge in drug discovery and development and clinical research with my background in basic research would help propel me towards my next career goal of becoming a scientist in industry. My participation in the Summer School Program will provide industry knowledge, resources, mentoring, and networking opportunities during a critical period in my career to ensure I can reach my future scientific and mentoring goals.