About Us

The Biomedical Research Education and Training (BRET) Office of Career Development provides career and professional development enrichment activities for Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and Vanderbilt University Medical Center graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. The office was recognized in 2013 for its commitment to career development for biomedical sciences PhD students and postdocs through a BEST award, a $1.2 million, 5-year grant from the NIH Common Fund. The ASPIRE Program subsequently was awarded two Burroughs Wellcome grants for a business module and a data science module.

Dr. Kathy Gould oversees the Office of Career Development ASPIRE Program, Dr. Kim Petrie is Assistant Dean of Biomedical Career Development, Dr. Ashley Brady is Assistant Dean of Biomedical Career Engagement and Strategic Partnerships, Kate Stuart is Assistant Director, and Angela Zito is Program Manager. Dr. Gould also oversees evaluation efforts and research training, including diversity initiatives. Dr. Abigail Brown conducts outcomes evaluation and research with the project efforts of Dr. Janani Varadarajan and Lindsay Meyers.

ASPIRE Program • Office of Career Development • Biomedical Research Education and Training 340 Light Hall • 2215 Garland Avenue • Nashville, Tennessee 37232-0301 bret.career.development@vanderbilt.edu • 615-875-8981

Our Scope

Trainee Professional Development
Alumni Relations, Outcomes, and Development
Career Exploration and Decision-Making
National Career Development Research and Best Practices
Employer Relations and Workforce Development

Trainees We Serve

The ASPIRE Program serves PhD students and postdoctoral fellows in the biomedical sciences. Although our events are open to the Vanderbilt community, ASPIRE activities and individual advising are tailored for BRET PhD graduate students and postdocs.

PHD PROGRAMS SERVED
Biochemistry
Biological Sciences
Biomedical Informatics
Biostatistics
Cancer Biology
Cell & Developmental Biology
Chemical & Physical Biology
Epidemiology
Hearing & Speech Sciences
Human Genetics
Interdisciplinary Graduate Program
Microbe-Host Interactions
Molecular Pathology & Immunology
Molecular Physiology & Biophysics
Neuroscience
Pharmacology
Quantitative & Chemical Biology Program

POSTDOCTORAL DEPARTMENTS SERVED
Anesthesiology
Cardiovascular Medicine
Cell and Developmental Biology
Clinical Pharmacology
Diabetes, Endocrinology, & Metabolism
Dermatology
Endocrinology
Genetic Medicine
Health Policy
Hearing and Speech Sciences
Hematology/Oncology
Infectious Disease
Kennedy Center
Mammalian Physiology & Biophysics
Neurology
Neurological Surgery
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences
Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation
Otolaryngology
Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology
Pediatric Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Infectious Disease, & Nephropathy
Pharmacology
Psychiatry
Radiology & Radiological Sciences
Rheumatology & Immunology
Surgery
Surgical Sciences

Graduate Students 670
US Citizens/Permanent Residents 87%
Postdoctoral Fellows 431
US Citizens/Permanent Residents 51%

Total 1,096

Trainees We Serve

The ASPIRE Program serves PhD students and postdoctoral fellows in the biomedical sciences. Although our events are open to the Vanderbilt community, ASPIRE activities and individual advising are tailored for BRET PhD graduate students and postdocs.

PHD PROGRAMS SERVED
Biochemistry
Biological Sciences
Biomedical Informatics
Biostatistics
Cancer Biology
Cell & Developmental Biology
Chemical & Physical Biology
Epidemiology
Hearing & Speech Sciences
Human Genetics
Interdisciplinary Graduate Program
Microbe-Host Interactions
Molecular Pathology & Immunology
Molecular Physiology & Biophysics
Neuroscience
Pharmacology
Quantitative & Chemical Biology Program

POSTDOCTORAL DEPARTMENTS SERVED
Anesthesiology
Cardiovascular Medicine
Cell and Developmental Biology
Clinical Pharmacology
Diabetes, Endocrinology, & Metabolism
Dermatology
Endocrinology
Genetic Medicine
Health Policy
Hearing and Speech Sciences
Hematology/Oncology
Infectious Disease
Kennedy Center
Mammalian Physiology & Biophysics
Neurology
Neurological Surgery
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences
Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation
Otolaryngology
Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology
Pediatric Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Infectious Disease, & Nephropathy
Pharmacology
Psychiatry
Radiology & Radiological Sciences
Rheumatology & Immunology
Surgery
Surgical Sciences

Graduate Students 670
US Citizens/Permanent Residents 87%
Postdoctoral Fellows 431
US Citizens/Permanent Residents 51%

Total 1,096

Trainees We Serve

The ASPIRE Program serves PhD students and postdoctoral fellows in the biomedical sciences. Although our events are open to the Vanderbilt community, ASPIRE activities and individual advising are tailored for BRET PhD graduate students and postdocs.

PHD PROGRAMS SERVED
Biochemistry
Biological Sciences
Biomedical Informatics
Biostatistics
Cancer Biology
Cell & Developmental Biology
Chemical & Physical Biology
Epidemiology
Hearing & Speech Sciences
Human Genetics
Interdisciplinary Graduate Program
Microbe-Host Interactions
Molecular Pathology & Immunology
Molecular Physiology & Biophysics
Neuroscience
Pharmacology
Quantitative & Chemical Biology Program

POSTDOCTORAL DEPARTMENTS SERVED
Anesthesiology
Cardiovascular Medicine
Cell and Developmental Biology
Clinical Pharmacology
Diabetes, Endocrinology, & Metabolism
Dermatology
Endocrinology
Genetic Medicine
Health Policy
Hearing and Speech Sciences
Hematology/Oncology
Infectious Disease
Kennedy Center
Mammalian Physiology & Biophysics
Neurology
Neurological Surgery
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences
Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation
Otolaryngology
Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology
Pediatric Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Infectious Disease, & Nephropathy
Pharmacology
Psychiatry
Radiology & Radiological Sciences
Rheumatology & Immunology
Surgery
Surgical Sciences

Graduate Students 670
US Citizens/Permanent Residents 87%
Postdoctoral Fellows 431
US Citizens/Permanent Residents 51%

Total 1,096

Trainees We Serve

The ASPIRE Program serves PhD students and postdoctoral fellows in the biomedical sciences. Although our events are open to the Vanderbilt community, ASPIRE activities and individual advising are tailored for BRET PhD graduate students and postdocs.

PHD PROGRAMS SERVED
Biochemistry
Biological Sciences
Biomedical Informatics
Biostatistics
Cancer Biology
Cell & Developmental Biology
Chemical & Physical Biology
Epidemiology
Hearing & Speech Sciences
Human Genetics
Interdisciplinary Graduate Program
Microbe-Host Interactions
Molecular Pathology & Immunology
Molecular Physiology & Biophysics
Neuroscience
Pharmacology
Quantitative & Chemical Biology Program

POSTDOCTORAL DEPARTMENTS SERVED
Anesthesiology
Cardiovascular Medicine
Cell and Developmental Biology
Clinical Pharmacology
Diabetes, Endocrinology, & Metabolism
Dermatology
Endocrinology
Genetic Medicine
Health Policy
Hearing and Speech Sciences
Hematology/Oncology
Infectious Disease
Kennedy Center
Mammalian Physiology & Biophysics
Neurology
Neurological Surgery
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences
Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation
Otolaryngology
Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology
Pediatric Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Infectious Disease, & Nephropathy
Pharmacology
Psychiatry
Radiology & Radiological Sciences
Rheumatology & Immunology
Surgery
Surgical Sciences

Graduate Students 670
US Citizens/Permanent Residents 87%
Postdoctoral Fellows 431
US Citizens/Permanent Residents 51%

Total 1,096

Trainees We Serve

The ASPIRE Program serves PhD students and postdoctoral fellows in the biomedical sciences. Although our events are open to the Vanderbilt community, ASPIRE activities and individual advising are tailored for BRET PhD graduate students and postdocs.

PHD PROGRAMS SERVED
Biochemistry
Biological Sciences
Biomedical Informatics
Biostatistics
Cancer Biology
Cell & Developmental Biology
Chemical & Physical Biology
Epidemiology
Hearing & Speech Sciences
Human Genetics
Interdisciplinary Graduate Program
Microbe-Host Interactions
Molecular Pathology & Immunology
Molecular Physiology & Biophysics
Neuroscience
Pharmacology
Quantitative & Chemical Biology Program

POSTDOCTORAL DEPARTMENTS SERVED
Anesthesiology
Cardiovascular Medicine
Cell and Developmental Biology
Clinical Pharmacology
Diabetes, Endocrinology, & Metabolism
Dermatology
Endocrinology
Genetic Medicine
Health Policy
Hearing and Speech Sciences
Hematology/Oncology
Infectious Disease
Kennedy Center
Mammalian Physiology & Biophysics
Neurology
Neurological Surgery
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences
Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation
Otolaryngology
Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology
Pediatric Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Infectious Disease, & Nephropathy
Pharmacology
Psychiatry
Radiology & Radiological Sciences
Rheumatology & Immunology
Surgery
Surgical Sciences
Providing opportunities to explore careers is paramount to the ASPIRE program. Many of the foundational activities of the office are aimed at instilling confidence and facilitating career decision-making.

The ASPIRE program was critical for my career development. They helped me identify career options best suited to my needs and provided me training and opportunities to develop the skills necessary for my success in a non-academic career.

I really appreciated the career seminars. I was able to narrow down what I wanted to do with my career. Additionally, the networking course gave me the skills to reach out to several people which led to many job opportunities.

I really appreciated the career seminars. I was able to narrow down what I wanted to do with my career. Additionally, the networking course gave me the skills to reach out to several people which led to many job opportunities.
Annual Symposium Virtual Again: Careers for the Citizen Scientist

The 2021 ASPIRE Annual Career Symposium was a day and a half full of learning, networking, and exploring. The title, “Careers for the Citizen Scientist,” encapsulated the program’s focus. Throughout the symposium, trainees learned about the many careers where they can fully use their communication skills in various ways. The evening keynote featured Vincent Racaniello, PhD, Columbia University faculty member and host of the “This Week in Virology (TWIV)” podcast. The next day featured 12 speakers at four panels: Advocating, Educating, Managing, and Writing. At noon, participants networked with alumni and speakers using the Toucan platform. The rotations of 15-minute sessions provided an opportunity for graduate students and postdocs to meet with 4 different alumni in virtual small groups. Despite the online setting, trainees were still able to make valuable connections, continuing the annual symposium tradition!

Note: With CV/ Resume Drop-In Clinic unavailable, the ASPIRE Team created a unique digital intake form for Individual Advising Appointments. The pivot was met with enthusiasm, and numbers exceeded expectations.

Sylvie Raver shares the skills she utilizes in her current role during her PhD Career Stories seminar.

The ASPIRE program, particularly the annual career symposium, opened my eyes to the variety of career paths that one can take following a PhD. Career exploration through ASPIRE has reinforced my interest in an academic career while keeping other options in mind.

Attending the ASPIRE annual symposium was a great experience to learn about academic and non-academic opportunities following the PhD. It was also useful to hear about the guests’ stories and how they got to where they are right now.

“...
Skill-building, networking, negotiating, and managing a professional image are important aspects of a trainee’s professional development. Our workshops, seminars, modules, and informal cafés help equip trainees for the next step in their career path.

The programs I used the most have been how to write a cover letter and how to navigate an academic career. The CV clinic has being fantastic. I learned so much from the one-on-one sessions, and every cover letter or CV they have looked at improved. My success rate in application to prizes and grants also increased. This resource should never go away! One thing I liked the most is that you could work with any of the four [ASPIRE team] members and learn something different from each of them.

The oral communication course was fantastic! I was a decent public speaker but learning to design slides properly and structure a talk better really helped me. I have been given a ton of compliments on my dissertation slides and structure of my talk which speaks highly to the course’s impact.

Very positive impact. Helped me in very diverse ways, including, but not limited to: improving my presentation skills, improving my ability to network, improving my programming skills, expanding career opportunities, and more. These have helped me throughout my thesis work and for securing a job after graduate school.

Left, Kim Petrie discusses resumes and industry CVs as part of the Job Search Series. Below, Kathy Gould shares how to negotiate your faculty compensation package to postdoctoral fellows at ASPIRE Cafe.

Above, Dr. Carl M. Cohen, PhD, discusses how to handle difficult conversations. Right, top, the ASPIRE team provides resources about professional development, Dr. Borden Lacy shares her input on the academic job process, and Abigail Brown explains K Awards.

The power of humor
- Change the mood
- Make others feel heard
- Promote healthy discussion
- Allow for humor
- Bridge cultural gaps
- Lighten the mood in tense situations

Attendees at ASPIRE Professional Development Programs
1,508
Attendees at ASPIRE Job Search Series
354
Participants in 10 Different Modules
156
Attendees at ASPIRE Bistro for Graduate Students
256
Attendees at ASPIRE Cafe for Postdoctoral Fellows
406
ASPIRE to Innovate Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

PhD to CEO: Entrepreneurial Transformation with the ASPIRE to Innovate Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Originally published on the School of Medicine Basic Sciences website Written by Ashley Brady

A new collaborative initiative from Vanderbilt University’s School of Medicine, Basic Sciences, the BRET Office of Career Development’s ASPIRE Program, and Vanderbilt’s Center for Technology Transfer and Commercialization (CTTC) will support a biomedical sciences postdoctoral fellow who will lead a start-up company to be formed by Vanderbilt. The goal of the program is to provide a biomedical PhD scientist with extensive training and experience in the development of a new technology and to help launch a company. Moreover, it will greatly enhance the entrepreneurial ecosystem within Vanderbilt. We are very optimistic about Dudek and are convinced she will do very well as the first fellow to participate in this important program.

The ASPIRE to Innovate Postdoctoral Fellowship program will provide funding for up to two years for Dudek to work full-time on turning this idea into a company. Moreover, she will have the opportunity to become a co-founder in the new venture. She will start her fellowship this summer by working in the CTTC to learn about intellectual property rights, licensing, startup companies, and market research. She will also work directly with Lippmann and his research team to gain familiarity with the technology and form an advisory board to help guide the business formation as well as to provide mentorship.

In the fall, she will take part in Vanderbilt’s Wond’ry’s Ideator program with the goal of applying to the National Science Foundation’s I-Corps Program. From there, she will participate in subsequent programming at the Wond’ry including the Builder and Founder programs over the following year and a half. There will be many opportunities for self-directed learning and growing her network of mentors and advisors. During this period, she will also be part of the team that decides when and how to start the company that will commercialize Lippmann’s technology.

Deliverables for this program include creating a market research and customer discovery presentation, developing a business plan and financial model, building a pitch deck for speaking to investors and delivering at various business pitch competitions, and submitting an application for a Launch TN microgrant and a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant to secure future funding.

“We are very excited to be able to launch this fellowship, not only as a training opportunity for a biomedical postdoc, but also to assist in stimulating an entrepreneurial culture in the basic sciences community. We are grateful to Dean Marnett, School of Medicine Basic Sciences, for his support in launching this outstanding program, as well as the CTTC, the Wond’ry and Dr. Lippmann for their support of this new initiative,” says Kathy Gould, PhD, Senior Associate Dean for Biomedical Research, Education and Training, Vanderbilt University BRET Office.

Karrie Dudek, PhD, is the inaugural ASPIRE to Innovate Postdoctoral Fellow.
Career and professional development trends and best practices are constantly evolving. To continue to provide outstanding services and remain at the forefront of graduate and postdoctoral career development, we cultivate partnerships and participate in professional organizations to share our work.

- National Science Foundation Reviewer
- Host Committee Member for Leadership Alliance 2021 Annual Career Development Workshop
- Governance Committee Member of Graduate Career Consortium

A Cross-Institutional Analysis of the Effects of Broadening Trainee Professional Development on Research Productivity

What is Resilience?
- The ability to:
  - adapt and grow through adversity
  - navigate difficult challenges with awareness, intention, and skill
  - find a constructive way forward during challenging times
- A set of attitudes and behaviors that can be learned and developed through education, self-reflection, and practice


The ASPIRE team discovered the many opportunities to learn from home while working from home! The team attended many different professional conferences, workshops, and training programs and earned extra certifications, all from the comforts of the home office. From resilience to leadership development to funding, the learning opportunities abounded! Where travel may have hindered opportunities previously, the increase in virtual options allowed the team to focus on expanding their knowledge base and adding to their toolbox of skills and content to share with trainees. The team enthusiastically embraced this shift in learning as a welcome change!
Employer Relations and Workforce Development

Partnerships with companies and organizations lead to exciting exploratory visits, internships, and externships for our trainees. Employer Relations and Workforce Development also includes:

- Meetings with potential and current employer contacts
- Hosting employer information sessions
- Speaking at conferences and giving invited talks
- Serving on committees to represent Vanderbilt biomedical trainees

Through the ASPIRE program, I have been able to make critical connections in the community and gain experience outside of the lab that has enhanced my career prospects. BRET leadership was also a great source for general advice and feedback.

38 Employer Partner Meetings
4 Employer Information Sessions
21 Trainees Participating in Internships
8 Employer Hosts for Internships

Since the Internship Program began in Fall 2015, the ASPIRE Program has had 146 trainees participate as interns — 99 (68%) graduate students, 47 (32%) postdocs — from a total of 299 applicants — 203 (68%) graduate students and 85 (32%) postdocs. Over this time, we have partnered with 37 different companies and non-profits that have hosted our trainees as interns. Despite the unconventional past year, we were still able to maintain robust program participation with exclusively remote opportunities for our trainees.

2020-2021 Internship Hosts at a Glance
American Heart Association of Middle Tennessee
BioCentury, Inc.
DADA2 Foundation
Decode Health/iQuity Labs
Nashville Biosciences
TCS Alliance
Vanderbilt School of Medicine Basic Sciences
VI4/PMI/VUMC
The BRET Office of Career Development strives to maintain partnerships with departments and programs across campus. We partner by providing presentations on a variety of professional and academic development topics and serving on university committees.

Campus Partners and Faculty Outreach

Campus Partnerships and Faculty Outreach

The BRET Office of Career Development strives to maintain partnerships with departments and programs across campus. We partner by providing presentations on a variety of professional and academic development topics and serving on university committees.

Campus Advisory Roles

The ASPIRE Team serves as Faculty or Staff Advisors to a number of campus organizations and initiatives:

- Dean’s Advisory Council for Mental Health and Wellness
- Cancer Education Advisory Committee, Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center
- Provost’s Women’s Initiative Subcommittee on Family Friendly Policies, Parental Leave, and Childcare at Vanderbilt
- Basic Sciences Board of Visitors Workforce Development Working Group and Reputation Consulting Group 2020-2021
- Professional Development Subcommittee, IGP Curriculum Review Committee
- Vanderbilt University Advanced Degree Consulting Club
- Vestigo Editorial Board
- Life Science Tennessee Academic Alliance
- Vanderbilt Science Policy Group

Invited Campus Talks and Presentations

- 14

Presentations to First-Year Graduate Student Groups

- 14

Campus Partners

Vanderbilt School of Medicine Basic Sciences Dean’s Office
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Vanderbilt Graduate School
Vanderbilt Career Center
Vanderbilt Center for Teaching
Vanderbilt Center for Tech Transfer & Commercialization
Training Grants in the Biomedical & Biological Sciences
Vanderbilt Corporate & Foundation Relations
Vanderbilt Creative Services
Vanderbilt Development & Alumni Relations
Vanderbilt Graduate Development Network
Vanderbilt Graduate Leadership Institute
Vanderbilt Institute for Infection, Immunology, & Inflammation (VI4)
Vanderbilt International Student & Scholar Services
Vanderbilt Managerial Studies Program
Vanderbilt Medical Scientist Training Program
Vanderbilt Office of Federal Relations
Vanderbilt Office of Public Affairs
Vanderbilt Office of Postdoctoral Affairs
Vanderbilt Postdoctoral Association
Vanderbilt Process & Solution Implementations
Vanderbilt Research Cores & Shared Resources
Vanderbilt School of Engineering
Vanderbilt University Advanced Degree Consulting Club
Vanderbilt Science Policy Group
Vanderbilt University Psychological & Counseling Center
The Vanderbilt Collaborative for STEM Education & Outreach (CSEO)
Vanderbilt Writing Studio
The Wond’ry
Outcomes Outlook

Employment Location and Sectors of Biomedical PhD Graduates
July 2020-June 2021 Defense Dates

Location of first position of biomedical PhD alumni who defended between July 2020 and June 2021. Alumni of our programs accepted postdoctoral fellowships and employment opportunities throughout the country and around the world.

Size of the circle represents the number of graduates employed in that location (n=55)

Employment Sector

- Academia: 59%
- For-Profit: 21%
- Non-Profit: 12%
- Government: 5%
- Still Negotiating Position: 5%

Employment Role

- Postdoctoral Fellow: 67%
- Research Staff or Technical Director: 10%
- Principal Investigator or Group Leader: 5%
- Data Science, Analytics, and Software Engineering: 5%
- Other**: 7%
- Still Negotiating Position: 5%

The Office of Career Development engages biomedical PhD and postdoctoral trainees once they complete their training. Alumni volunteer their time at career exploration and professional development events. The office also facilitates connections between alumni and current trainees. Our alumni network helps us better understand career outcomes, informs our career programming, and shapes our advice to current trainees.

Alumni Relations, Outcomes, and Development

The ASPIRE program was very important! I was part of the ASPIRE on the Road San Diego trip and it was critical for understanding industry research options for my career.

1,097 PhD Student Exit Surveys Administered to Date (2007 start)

1,669 Number of Alumni Tracked in Outcomes Database

1,127 LinkedIn Group Members
Vanderbilt University Biomedical Research Graduate and Postdoctoral Trainees & Alumni

Results & Discussion Newsletter

- Written by current trainees
- Features trainees, faculty, and alumni
- Distributed to alumni and Vanderbilt community

Results & Discussion Newsletter

• Written by current trainees
• Features trainees, faculty, and alumni
• Distributed to alumni and Vanderbilt community

LinkedIn Group Members
Vanderbilt University Biomedical Research Graduate and Postdoctoral Trainees & Alumni

Location of first position of biomedical PhD alumni who defended between July 2020 and June 2021. Alumni of our programs accepted postdoctoral fellowships and employment opportunities throughout the country and around the world.

Outcomes Outlook

Employment Location and Sectors of Biomedical PhD Graduates
July 2020-June 2021 Defense Dates

Location of first position of biomedical PhD alumni who defended between July 2020 and June 2021. Alumni of our programs accepted postdoctoral fellowships and employment opportunities throughout the country and around the world.

Data about first position after graduation is collected from our predoctoral exit survey.

The majority of our 2020-2021 graduates went on to postdoctoral fellowships in academia.

Other roles (denoted with **) include medical affairs, science or medical writing and communication, teaching faculty or staff, and continuing further education.

Results & Discussion Newsletter

• Written by current trainees
• Features trainees, faculty, and alumni
• Distributed to alumni and Vanderbilt community

LinkedIn Group Members
Vanderbilt University Biomedical Research Graduate and Postdoctoral Trainees & Alumni

Location of first position of biomedical PhD alumni who defended between July 2020 and June 2021. Alumni of our programs accepted postdoctoral fellowships and employment opportunities throughout the country and around the world.

Data about first position after graduation is collected from our predoctoral exit survey.

The majority of our 2020-2021 graduates went on to postdoctoral fellowships in academia.

Other roles (denoted with **) include medical affairs, science or medical writing and communication, teaching faculty or staff, and continuing further education.

Results & Discussion Newsletter

• Written by current trainees
• Features trainees, faculty, and alumni
• Distributed to alumni and Vanderbilt community
ASPIRE Annual Career Symposium
Networking Power Hour

Since this year’s annual tradition of the ASPIRE Career Symposium took place virtually, a great deal of creativity was needed in order to host networking opportunities for attendees with speakers and alumni. The Toucan platform was an ideal online opportunity for alumni to “sit” at their own virtual spot, and trainees could rotate through the web-based space. The success of the networking hour was met with praise by both attendees and alumni!

Outcomes Team
The ASPIRE Team works closely with the BRET Office of Outcomes Research to understand our alumni outcomes and disseminate our research.

KATHY GOULD, PHD
Senior Associate Dean, Biomedical Research Education and Training Development
Louise B. McGavock Chair Professor, Department of Cell and Developmental Biology
kathy.gould@vanderbilt.edu

ASHLEY BRADY, PHD
Assistant Dean for Biomedical Career Engagement and Strategic Partnerships
Assistant Professor of Medical Education and Administration
ashley.brady@vanderbilt.edu

ANGELA ZITO, M.ED.
Program Manager
BRET Office of Career Development
ASPIRE Program
angela.zito@vanderbilt.edu

ABBY BROWN, PHD
Director of Outcomes Research
Assistant Professor of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics
abigail.brown@vanderbilt.edu

JAN VARADARAJAN, PHD
Project Manager, Outcomes Research
janani.varadarajan@vanderbilt.edu

LINDSAY MEYERS, M.DIV.
Project Manager, BRET
lindsay.meyers@vanderbilt.edu

Meet the Team
Kim Petrie, PhD
Assistant Dean for Biomedical Career Development
Associate Professor of Medical Education and Administration
kim.petrie@vanderbilt.edu

Kate Stuart
Assistant Director
BRET Office of Career Development
ASPIRE Program
kate.stuart@vanderbilt.edu

Jan Varadarajan, PhD
Project Manager, Outcomes Research
janani.varadarajan@vanderbilt.edu

Abby Brown, PhD
Director of Outcomes Research
Assistant Professor of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics
abigail.brown@vanderbilt.edu

Lindsay Meyers, M.Div.
Project Manager, BRET
lindsay.meyers@vanderbilt.edu
Senior Associate Dean of Basic Sciences
Roger Chalkley Retires

Originally published on the School of Medicine Basic Sciences website
Written by Lorena Infante Lara, PhD

Roger Chalkley, professor of molecular physiology and biophysics and senior associate dean for biomedical research education and training, retired June 30, 2021.

Chalkley, who has been at Vanderbilt since 1986, is also a co-Pi of the Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity alongside his wife, Linda Sealy. Sealy, associate professor emerita of molecular physiology and biophysics and senior advisor to the dean for diversity, equity, and inclusion, retired last May, but remains involved with the IMSD.

"Roger leaves a legacy in graduate education that few individuals anywhere in the country can match," Larry Marnett, dean of basic sciences, said. "He is a visionary leader who transformed doctoral education in the biomedical sciences at Vanderbilt from a regional to a national program and established new paradigms for recruiting and training Ph.D. students."

Although Chalkley is known for his role in supporting graduate students who come in through Vanderbilt’s biomedical research umbrella programs—the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program and the Quantitative and Chemical Biology Program—and the IMSD, few of the current students realize that he himself was a prolific scientist.

"I worked in gene regulation," Chalkley said. "I was one of the very early people working on histone modifications when people didn’t really know about them." Histones are the proteins that the DNA wraps around so as to be compact enough to fit in a cell nucleus. Chalkley’s research group, which he started while a faculty member at the University of Iowa, was also the first to show that estradiol, the major female sex hormone, was one of the very earliest people working on estrogen receptors.

"I said to myself at the time, 'I've got to do something about graduate students. They were really not a strong part of Vanderbilt’s academic activity,'" Chalkley said.

"Most of the current members of the Vanderbilt community don’t realize that we didn’t always have the outstanding graduate programs that we have today. The programs were small, fragmented, and uneven," Marnett said.

Vanderbilt’s umbrella type program in biomedical sciences—the IGP—was conceived by Chalkley as a result of discussions with John Perkins, who was dean of the UT Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at the time. The IGP allowed all basic sciences departments to recruit together and to teach students a shared curriculum during their first year. Most importantly, it helped guarantee that the students’ tuition would be covered, in part through financial commitments from the School of Medicine and in part through the individual departments.

The redesign of the graduate training program improved the caliber of recruited students, which in turn improved the caliber of recruited faculty. It also helped with diversifying the student body. Prior to the IGP’s establishment in 1992, only one biomedical science Ph.D. had been granted to a Black student; three Black students were welcomed into the first IGP class. In time, Vanderbilt began recruiting more traditionally underserved students so that, at the time of writing, over 150 Ph.D.s have been granted to individuals from diverse backgrounds, thanks in large part to Chalkley’s involvement in the creation and management of the IMSD.

Today, between the IGP, IMSD, and QCB, which was established in the mid 2000s to serve students coming from a physical science or math background, Vanderbilt welcomes upward of 80 students each year—with a smaller than 5% attrition rate.

"It is hard to imagine Vanderbilt without Roger Chalkley directing graduate education through the BRET Office. His contributions are legendary not only at Vanderbilt but also nationally. We will miss him greatly but wish him the very best for the next chapter in his life," Marnett said.

Appendix

A1 Annual Career Symposium

Keynote

- Vincent Racaniello, PhD

Panel 1: ADVOCATING

- Denise Zannino Childree, PhD
- Julie E. Fischer, PhD
- Shobhana Gupta, MD, PhD

Panel 2: EDUCATING

- Emily Dilger, PhD
- Johnna Frierson, PhD
- Whitney Holden, PhD

Panel 3: MANAGING

- Zusi Andrews, PhD
- Tenris Palmer, PhD
- Sara Yin, PhD

Panel 4: WRITING

- Christopher Arnette, PhD
- Siri Carpenter, PhD
- Sadipta Chakraborty, PhD

Networking Power Hour (Toucan Platform) 18 Alumni, 42 Trainees

Panel 3: MANAGING

Zusi Andrews, PhD
- Biologist and Medical Writer, NIH/NIH

Trenis Palmer, PhD
- Senior Clinical Research Associate, Inhibrx, Inc

Sara Yin, PhD
- Senior Director of Access Marketing, Epizyme

Panel 4: WRITING

Christopher Arnette, PhD
- Developmental Editor for Current Protocols, Wiley

Siri Carpenter, PhD
- Editor-in-Chief, The Open Notebook

Sadipta Chakraborty, PhD
- Clinical Trial Transparency Manager, PRA Health Sciences

Other Career Exploration Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2020</td>
<td>Wednesdays with ASPIRE</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>ASPIRE Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 5, 2020</td>
<td>Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Awards at the Scientific Interface (CASI)</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Louis Muglia, MD, PhD, President and CEO of Burroughs Wellcome Fund, Kelly Rose, CASI Program Officer, Melanie Scott, Senior Program Associate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 5, 2020</td>
<td>AAAS Mass Media Fellowship Panel</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Lorena Infante Lara, PhD, Simon Morrow, PhD, and Natalya Ortolano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 10, 2020</td>
<td>Transitioning to a Career in Regulatory Affairs and FDA</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Linda Bowen, RAC, FRAPS, ScisGen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enhanced Career Exploration

### Course Title
- **Data Science Essentials**
  - Director: Mary van Valkenburg, Analytics and Data Science Program Manager, Instructor, Nashville Software School
  - Participants: 16
  - Frequency and Dates: August 2020-March 2021
- **Technology Commercialization**
  - Director: Michael Villalobos, PhD, Manager, Biotech Licensing, Vanderbilt Center for Technology Transfer and Commercialization
  - Participants: 12
  - Frequency and Dates: Sept 29-Nov 10, 2020
- **SciComm for All**
  - Director: Abby Olena, PhD, Alumna 2015, correspondent for The Scientist
  - Participants: 10 (capped)
  - Frequency and Dates: Sept 29-Dec 15, 2020
- **Clinical Microbiology: Applying Your PhD to Patient Care**
  - Director: Jonathan Schmitz, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology, VUMC
  - Participants: 2 (capped)
  - Frequency and Dates: Continued from 2020 Individual Rotations Jan-Feb 2021
- **Management and Business Principles for Scientists**
  - Director: Joe Rando, MBA, Associate Professor of the Practice, Managerial Studies, Vanderbilt University
  - Participants: 19
  - Frequency and Dates: Jan 14-Apr 14, 2021

### Essential Skill Building

| Networking Pacing | Ashley Brady, PhD, Assistant Dean for Biomedical Career Engagement and Strategic Partnerships | 11 | Sept 1-Oct 20, 2020 |
| Creating Effective Scientific Talks and Delivering Them with Confidence | Kathy Gould, PhD, Senior Associate Dean, BRET | 10 | Sept 28-Oct 12, 2020 |
| Maximizing Your Potential: Leading and Managing People, Projects, and Your Career | Kathy Gould, PhD, Senior Associate Dean, BRET | 21 | Sept 29-Dec 15, 2020 |
| Practical Strategies for Strong Writing | Beth Estes, PhD, Academic Support Coordinator, The Writing Studio, Vanderbilt University | 21 | Sept 29-Oct 13, 2020 (Fall Session) |
| EQ + IQ = Career Success | Kate Stuart, Assistant Director, BRET Office of Career Development | 11 | Oct 27-Dec 1, 2020 |

Beyond the Lab Podcast

### Season 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Alumnus Guest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 3, 2020</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>Ramya Chandrasakan, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 10, 2020</td>
<td>Government Administration</td>
<td>Ruben Baskir, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 17, 2020</td>
<td>Biotech</td>
<td>Jud Schneider, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1, 2020</td>
<td>Technical Support</td>
<td>Chris Jarrett, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8, 2020</td>
<td>Big Pharma</td>
<td>Renee Bailey Jacome, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 15, 2020</td>
<td>Grants Administration</td>
<td>Barbara Natalizzi, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 5, 2021</td>
<td>Patent Agent</td>
<td>Miranda Hallett, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 12, 2021</td>
<td>Academic Administration</td>
<td>Colleen Pierson, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 26, 2021</td>
<td>Academic Faculty of Government Institution</td>
<td>Kari Johnson, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 4, 2021</td>
<td>Genomics Laboratory Management</td>
<td>Ryan Bender, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 11, 2021</td>
<td>Diversity and Academic Success</td>
<td>JD'Anne Duncan, PhD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A3 PhD Career Stories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Speaker Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 14, 2020</td>
<td>Business Development</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Rachel Skelton, PhD, Director of Business Development for Pharma Partnerships, Leica Biosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 18, 2020</td>
<td>Freelance Medical Writing</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Karen Vieira, PhD, CEO, The Med Writers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 19, 2020</td>
<td>Science Policy: AAAS Science &amp; Technology Policy Fellows Panel</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Loren LaPointe, PhD, Environmental Protection Specialist, US Environmental Protection Agency, Stephanie DeLuca, PhD, Senior Legislative Aide, Office of Senator Bob Casey, Andrew Hastings, PhD, Public Health Analyst, NIH/ National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, Joe Rustick, PhD, Physical Scientist, US Environmental Protection Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6, 2020</td>
<td>Regulatory Affairs</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Patricia Costa-Giomi, PhD, Executive Director, International Regulatory Affairs, Ultragenyx Pharmaceuticals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 11, 2020</td>
<td>Research at a Research Institution</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Rachel Lippert, PhD, NeuroCare Junior Research Group Leader, Neurocircuit Development and Function (NDF), German Institute for Human Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 15, 2021</td>
<td>Technical Sales and Business Development</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>William Johnson, PhD, Technical Sales and Business Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 12, 2021</td>
<td>Think Tank</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sylvie Raver, PhD, Associate Director, Milken Institute Center for Strategic Philanthropy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26, 2021</td>
<td>Medical Science Liaison Panel</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Carl Darris, PhD, Allergen, Tammy Dobolik, PhD, G1 Therapeutics, Branden Stanley, PhD, Biogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 23, 2021</td>
<td>Data Science</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Tim Shaver, PhD, Computational Scientist, Inscripta, Inc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ASPIRE Bistro for PhD Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/3/20</td>
<td>Leverage LinkedIn</td>
<td>Ashley Brady, PhD</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/17/20</td>
<td>Preparing for a Teaching Demo</td>
<td>Cynthia Brane, PhD, Center for Teaching</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/22/20</td>
<td>Writing a Better Cover Letter</td>
<td>Kate Stuart</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/19/20</td>
<td>Resumes/Industry CVs</td>
<td>Kim Petrie, PhD</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/17/20</td>
<td>Informational Interviews</td>
<td>Ashley Brady, PhD</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/21/21</td>
<td>Interviewing 101</td>
<td>Ashley Brady, PhD</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/18/21</td>
<td>Behavioral Interviewing</td>
<td>Kim Petrie, PhD</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/22/21</td>
<td>Writing a Better Cover Letter</td>
<td>Kate Stuart</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/20/21</td>
<td>Resumes/Industry CVs</td>
<td>Kim Petrie, PhD</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ASPIRE Cafe for Postdoctoral Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/27/20</td>
<td>Orientation to BRET Career Development Resources for Postdocs</td>
<td>Ashley Brady, PhD</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10/20</td>
<td>Preparing a Faculty Position Application Package</td>
<td>Rafael Arrojo e Drigo, PhD, Nancy Carrasco, MD, Kathleen DelGiorno, PhD</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/15/20</td>
<td>What to Expect from a Faculty Interview</td>
<td>Nancy Carrasco, MD, Walter Chasin, PhD, Katherine L. Friedman, PhD</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/29/20</td>
<td>Grant Resources at Vanderbilt</td>
<td>Abby Brown, PhD</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/12/20</td>
<td>How to Give a Chalk Talk</td>
<td>Borden Lacy, PhD, Chris Wright, D. Phl., Elma Zagajnor, PhD</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/10/20</td>
<td>K Awards: Which One is Right for You?</td>
<td>Abby Brown, PhD</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/14/21</td>
<td>Negotiating Your Faculty Compensation and Start-Up Package</td>
<td>Kathy Gould, PhD</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/28/21</td>
<td>Orientation to BRET Career Development Resources for Postdocs</td>
<td>Ashley Brady, PhD</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/11/21</td>
<td>Exploring the Non-tenure Faculty Track</td>
<td>Kimberly Dahlman, PhD, Lourdes Estrada, PhD, Mark Woelkle, PhD</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/11/21</td>
<td>Developing Your Mentoring Style</td>
<td>Kathy Gould, PhD</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/25/21</td>
<td>Fellowships and F32 NRSAs</td>
<td>Kim Petrie, PhD</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/13/21</td>
<td>Setting Up and Running a New Lab</td>
<td>Kristopher Barkewitz, PhD, William Wan, PhD, Qiangjun Zhou, PhD</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/27/21</td>
<td>Exploring and Preparing for Faculty Careers</td>
<td>Kathy Gould, PhD</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Conference Poster Presentations

2020 "Tailoring an Individual Development Plan for Veterinary Residents" Jones CP, McCallum PK, Gould KL, and Petrie KA. Health Professionals Research and Education Day, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (December 2020)
In the Press

“Data-driven advice for grad school”
Abigail Brown
ScienceCareers (September 2020)

“Time well spent: tending to your career and professional development”
Kim Petrie
American Society for Cell Biology blog (November 2020)

“Maximizing Your Virtual Networking Potential”
Ashley Brady
American Society for Cell Biology blog (November 2020)

Professional Development Activities for ASPIRE Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 27, 2020</td>
<td>AAUW Start Smart Salary Negotiation Workshop</td>
<td>Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Summer 2020</td>
<td>The Science of Well-Being from Yale University Coursera</td>
<td>Ashley Brady, Kate Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27-28, 2020</td>
<td>LST-CON</td>
<td>Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>NIH Regional Seminar on Funding</td>
<td>Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 16, 2020</td>
<td>CIMER Facilitating Entering Mentorship Training</td>
<td>Ashley Brady, Kathy Gould</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 5-31, 2021</td>
<td>ONTE /NIGMS Resilience Training Program (BARS- Building a Resilient Scientist)</td>
<td>Ashley Brady, Kate Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 27, 2021</td>
<td>Coaching Conversations: Creating Space from the Graduate Career Consortium</td>
<td>Ashley Brady, Kim Petrie, Kate Stuart, Angela Zito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 18-19, 2021</td>
<td>Collaborative Communication Workshop led by MWI from The Graduate School Academic Life Coach</td>
<td>Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2, 2021</td>
<td>Graduate Career Consortium Southeast Regional Meeting: Challenges, Innovations, Futures: Serving Trainees in a Hybrid and Online Environment: Meeting Them Where They Are: Career Advising in the Virtual World</td>
<td>Ashley Brady, Kim Petrie, Kate Stuart, Angela Zito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10, 2021</td>
<td>Train-the-Trainer Workshop: Leadership and Management in Action Program</td>
<td>Kate Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 24-28, 2021</td>
<td>Gallup StrengthsFinder Training</td>
<td>Angela Zito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 23-25, 2021</td>
<td>Graduate Career Consortium National Meeting</td>
<td>Angela Zito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>“Emerging Scientists” Train the Trainers Conference on Professional Development, Responsible Conduct, and Inclusion</td>
<td>Kathy Gould, Kim Petrie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Invited National and Regional Talks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2020</td>
<td>&quot;How to Approach Relationship Building in Developing Strategic Partnerships&quot;</td>
<td>Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2021</td>
<td>&quot;Challenges, Innovations, Futures: Serving Trainees in a Hybrid and Online Environment&quot;</td>
<td>Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASPIRE Advisory Committee

The ASPIRE Program Advisory Committee consists of external advisors from various industries, as well as Vanderbilt faculty and trainees.

- ROB CARNAHAN, PHD (Vanderbilt University)
- MANNY ASCANO, PHD (Vanderbilt University)
- SAM DOOVEMA (Vanderbilt University)
- DALE EDGAR, PHD (El Lilly, retired)
- EFRAIN GARCIA, PHD (Health & Human Services)
- BRIAN LADEN, PHD (TriStar Technology Ventures)
- LORENA INFANTE LARA, PHD (Vanderbilt University)
- INES MACIAS-PEREZ, PHD (Cumberland Pharmaceuticals)
- ALAN MARNETT, PHD (Benify)
- RICHARD O'BRIEN, PHD (Vanderbilt University)
- MICHAEL R. OTTO, PHD (Quidel)
- MARGARET READ, PHD (Vanderbilt University)
- STEVE ROBERDS, PHD (TSC Alliance)
- ABBY TROTTER (Life Science Tennessee)
- LAURIE VANDERVEEN, PHD (Nektar Therapeutics)
- CHRIS WRIGHT, D.PHIL (Vanderbilt University)

Externships

Externships give trainees short-term, on-site job shadowing opportunities or support to travel to a specialized workshop or professional development event. ASPIRE travel scholarships help offset travel expenses that are associated with participating in an externship. The ongoing COVID pandemic and associated travel restrictions have significantly reduced demand for support of these kinds of activities. This past year, we provided support to one graduate student to attend the virtual American Society of Cell Biology/Keck Institute 2020 Summer Biotech Course.

Internships

ASPIRE internships provide hands-on experience with a project in a professional work environment. Internships are part-time and were conducted remotely this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Internship Host</th>
<th>Number of Trainees and Internship Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Heart Association of Middle Tennessee</td>
<td>5 Health Strategies Interns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BioCentury, Inc.</td>
<td>5 Data Analyst Interns, 1 Science Writer Intern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DADA2 Foundation</td>
<td>3 Patient Registry and Biobank Interns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decode Health/iQuity</td>
<td>1 Data Science Intern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashville Biosciences</td>
<td>2 Business Development Interns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance</td>
<td>1 Digital Communications Intern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt School of Medicine, Basic Sciences</td>
<td>1 Science Communication Intern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V14, PML, Vanderbilt University Medical Center</td>
<td>6 Science Communication Interns (3 Fall 2020, 3 Spring 2021)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### A18 Data Science Essentials Employer Case Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Company/Event</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Speaker/Host</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 1, 2021</td>
<td>Code for Nashville, Part 1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Code for Nashville Meet Up, New Member Welcome with Wesley Duffee-Braun, MS, and Timothy Eccleston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 3, 2021</td>
<td>Xoolis</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Xoolis with Jason King, PhD, Ryan Craven, PhD, and Glenna Dunn, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10, 2021</td>
<td>DeCode Health</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>DeCode Health with Chase Spurlock, PhD, Jamison Gray, Lakase Wyleninzski, PhD, and Cole Harris (intern)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 23, 2021</td>
<td>InScripta, Inc</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>InScripta, Inc, with Tim Shaver, PhD (PhD Career Stories seminar followed by additional time with Data Science module participants)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### A19 Employer Information Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Company/Event</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
<th>Guest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 4, 2020</td>
<td>Whitsell Innovations Employer Information Session</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Allie Fuller, Medical Writer and Consultant, Whitsell Innovations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 30, 2021</td>
<td>Cytiva Employer Information Session</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Sara Perlaky FitzGerald, PhD; Kaycee Palumbo, MBA; and Shivani Nadarajah, Cytiva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 4, 2021</td>
<td>Pfizer Informal Employer Information Session</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Larry Thompson, PhD, Pfizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 24, 2021</td>
<td>Poly-Med Employer Information Session</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Corey Seacrist, PhD, Account Manager; Seth McCullen, PhD, Client Delivery Manager</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### A20 New Postdoctoral Mentor Lunches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Number of Faculty Guests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 24, 2020</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 28, 2020</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 23, 2020</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 11, 2020</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 26, 2021</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26, 2021</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### A21 Invited Internal Presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 4, 2020</td>
<td>&quot;BRET Office of Career Development &amp; ASPIRE&quot; Simple Beginnings PhD Ceremony Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 5, 2020</td>
<td>&quot;Taking It to the Next Level: A Resume Workshop&quot; Data Science Masters Program Kate Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 20, 2020</td>
<td>&quot;BRET Career Development ASPIRE Program: Resources for Postdocs and Fellows&quot; Clinical Pharmacology Fellowship Program Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 22, 2020</td>
<td>&quot;CVs&quot; First-Year Grad Students Presentations (5 sessions) Kim Petrie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 28, 2020</td>
<td>&quot;Leveraging LinkedIn&quot; Masters of Public Health Career Development Series Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 29, 2020</td>
<td>&quot;BRET Career Development ASPIRE Program: Resources for Postdocs&quot; Vanderbilt University Postdoctoral Association Symposium Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 29, 2020</td>
<td>&quot;Understanding Your Strengths and StrengthsFinder 101&quot; Medical Scientist Training Program Leadership Retreat Kate Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 5, 2020</td>
<td>&quot;Building Your Biosketch&quot; First-Year Grad Students Presentations (4 sessions) Ashley Brady</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASPIRE really helped me learn about different careers and gain new skills. It is an excellent program.