Young Mass Spectrometrists

JUMPSTARTING YOUR CAREER: A CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Co-chairs
Dian Su and Bich Vu
TOPICS

1) Welcome
2) Introduction of the panelists
3) Discussion Topics:
   • Effective Career Planning in academia, Industry, and Government organizations
   • Industrial and corporate internships
   • Government fellowships
   • Scientific publishing and grant writing
   • Job search strategy, high impact resume, power interviewing
4) Number of attendees: ~ 150
# PANELISTS

1) **ACADEMIA**  
   - **Dr. Gary Patti**  
     Assistant Professor  
     Washington University in St. Louis

2) **INDUSTRY**  
   - **Dr. Kristin Wildsmith**  
     Associate Scientist  
     Genentech

3) **GOVERNMENT**  
   - **Dr. Weijun Qian**  
     Senior Scientist  
     PNNL

4) **RECRUITMENT**  
   - **Dr. David Jones**  
     Recruiter  
     Vantage Resourcing Solutions, LLC
Others

• Suggestions for the YMS Interest Group
• http://www.asms.org/member-center/interest-groups/young-mass-spectrometrists

Thank you!
Inside Tips on Identifying, Applying and Interviewing for Jobs

Dr David Jones

ASMS Tues 11 June 2013
Overview

- Where are Mass Spec (and related) jobs?

- How to secure a Mass Spec Role?
  - Bespoke Application(s) and/or CVs
  - Interview Technique
Where are Mass Spec & Related jobs?

- Mass Spec & Chromatography “theme”
  - Analytical Chemistry
  - Life Science
  - Sales and Marketing
  - Instrument Vendors
How to secure a Mass Spec role?

- Good understanding of the technology AND the underlying principles
- Genuine interest in the technique(s)
- Company details, personal details
- Understanding of the role AND why YOU would be a good fit – Enthusiasm!
- Flexible, reliable, self-motivated, organised
Addressing CV Requirements?

- Understand role – address needs - important!
- Tailored CV and/or covering letter – Academic/Industrial. 2 pages vs. 10!
- DO NOT send generic CV’s with no cover letter
- CV and letter – should (try to) match the requirements of the job description
- Why would you be good at the role? Substantiate claims!
Interview Prep #1

- Have a look at the company’s website – learn a few key facts!
- Products, turnover, locations, no. of employees etc,
- ‘Fail to prepare – Prepare to fail’
- Be 10/15mins early – relax and TRY to enjoy the interview – be you!
- Be honest when asked difficult technical questions – NO bull or fibs!
Interview Prep #2

- If you can’t answer say so - but try to have a go & ask the answer!
- Do not criticise current/previous companies or bosses!
- Always give POSITIVE reasons for moving on!
- Be prepared to talk about your CV - have a copy with you
- Don’t be modest - Inform them of your strengths – take list with eg:’s
Interview Prep #3

- Tell them what you think you can bring to the company/role
- Substantiate/give evidence to back-up claims
- Don’t mention weaknesses - discuss ONE if asked (not perfectionist)
- Make this an example of something you have overcome/a POSITIVE
- Try to identify ONE area where you have improved or are improving!
Interview Prep #4

- Think ... why you are looking to change jobs .... Make these positive!
- Tie this in if possible with what they are looking for!
- What other roles are you looking at? Must be similar re: role/focus!
- Career aspirations? Realistic 2/3 years before moving – ask them??
- Think about your answers – sometimes there is only ONE answer!
Interview Prep #5

- Understand the JD & interview structure/agenda – presentation/tests?
- Wear business attire – minimum shirt/tie – suit preferable!
- Good manners, eye contact, hand-shake, etc
- Prepare some questions about the role – bring these along
- Ask them what does a typical week involve?
Interview Prep #6

- Do not mention salary – ONLY discuss if invited to do so!
- Think whether this is the right opportunity for you, if so….
- Be **ENTHUSIASTIC**! Give the impression you want the job AND
- TELL them that you want the job OR a second interview!
- GOOD LUCK
Any Questions?

- [www.vrs-us.com](http://www.vrs-us.com) & [www.vrs-uk.net](http://www.vrs-uk.net)
- See us at Booth 137
- Help with CV writing, interviewing etc
- All our work for jobseekers is free!