

Biotechnology Advisory Committee Meeting
Friday, January 26, 2024
9:30am – 11:00am
Zoom

Industry Attendees:

Joy Adiletta – AGC Biologics
Arthur Castleton – AGC Biologics
Marc Cummings – Life Science Washington
Jim Dekloe – Solano
Adhanom Legesse – Lundbeck
Roshan Liyanage – Vaxcyte Inc. (Advisory Committee Chair)
Joshua Lopes – Bristol-Myers-Squibb (BMS)
Srikant Lyer – Life Science Washington
Richard Moran – Pfizer
Gina Nichols – Cytiva
Sandra Porter – Digital World Biology
Dmitry Serbzhinskiy – KBio
Todd Smith – Digital World Biology
Don Sodora – Seattle Children’s Research Institute
Ryan Takeya – Pfizer

Shoreline Community College Attendees:

Terri Bright-Hettinger – Associate Faculty (guest)
Orlando de Lange – Faculty
Diana Ensenat – Lab Support Tech
Kelly Griffin – Secretary Sr. (note taker)
Rachel Rawle – Faculty and Program Liaison
Vasudha Sundaravadan – Faculty
Reitha Weeks – Biotech Camp Program Coordinator

Committee Chair Roshan Liyanage welcomed everybody, facilitated introductions, reviewed the role of the advisory committee/committee members (see slide or check the Shoreline Community College website), and took the vote and approval of previous meeting minutes from the last two meetings held in October and May, with an edit for the October minutes to insert the word “not” before the words “good enough” in Point 5b.

Rachel: Overview of the Biotech Program

Rachel Rawle, Shoreline Faculty and Program Faculty Committee Liaison, shared out on initiatives, key updates, and challenges (see PowerPoint slide deck).

Programs for Adult Learners:

Biotech Lab Specialist – AAAS (two years, 92.5 credits)
Biotech Lab Specialist – Certificate (one year, 37 credits)

Programs to support High Schoolers:

Biomanufacturing Training Program – Certificate (one year, 9 credits)
Fred Hutch-SCC Lab Technician Certificate – Certificate (two years, 60 credits)
Project Biotech Summer Camp – program paused until summer 2024.
Biotech Kit Loan program and teacher professional development to support high school teachers – program paused.

Program Updates given by Rachel and Orlando

Update #1:

Project Biotech Summer Camps (5-day camp/summer) – Orlando reported about 2023 camps. There were three camps for 66 students that focused on hands-on lab skills; a trip to the Allen Center; and the experience of interacting with a career panel. The program is on pause until summer 2024 (See PowerPoint slide deck).

Update #2:

Pathways Project (two quarters) – for refugees and immigrants who want to pursue a STEM career or land a career in a stable field. The project partner is Refugee and Immigrant Services Northwest (two quarters) and recruiting students has begun.

Update #3:

Fred Hutch program for high school juniors who want to go into a STEM career. (certificate, 2.5 years) The program is a career launch model for students to get into a paid position after graduating from high school. College partners are Fred Hutch and WABS (Washington Association for Better Schools).

Terri Bright-Hettinger: Biology 250

Shoreline Associate Faculty Terri Bright-Hettinger gave an overview of Biology 250. She taught this Technical Writing/GMP (2-credit course, over 5-week period) at BMS in Bothell spring quarter 2023 for eight students. She also extended an invitation for the committee to offer the class to their employees. Terri could come to the employer work location and is flexible on when the course could be offered according to employer needs and employee schedules. It could be a combination of two companies (to have a minimum of 10-12 students), etc. Ryan and Joy expressed an interest. Rachel will help with connections. There was lively discussion and Rachel encouraged the committee to spread the word, expressing the hope to start in April.

Rachel: Biomanufacturing Sub-Committee

Rachel said Biomanufacturing is growing and is working on the creation of a sub-committee within the Biotech Advisory Committee. The sub-committee would help to create a focused consortium to strengthen and grow the pipeline supply of a skilled workforce in biomanufacturing in the greater Seattle area. It would be imbedded within the Biotech Committee to help with specific details of the program and help network with companies Shoreline isn't currently connected with. Rachel welcomes suggestions of people to invite. Involvement includes a sub-committee meeting once each quarter (fall, winter, and spring). Aims for the short term (2024-25) include establishing a sub-committee; increasing hands-on experience for students who are working on the Essentials of Biomanufacturing certificate (10-week program paired with Pfizer or BMS internship); and increase the number of students coming into the programs. One of the long-term aims is to create a mock GMP facility where a full bioprocessing run can occur to fully train students and provide a place where industry can send employees for training/qualification. Several company representations were listed, and some are in progress. Rachel said to contact her to express interest or if committee members think of people missing from the list who could help to inform Shoreline. Enthusiasm and names were shared out for Rachel and she thanked everybody for their informative feedback.

Roshan thanked everybody for attending and said to reach out to Rachel if there were additional questions and the meeting was dismissed close to 11:00am.