

**Professional Development Initiatives Summary:**  
**PhD Non-Academic Careers Innovation Program – Longer Term**

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**Key Collaborators**

n/a

**Short Description, Goals**

The goal of the program is to equip JHU Ph.D. graduates with business skills that will serve them well in non-academic career paths. The program will consist of a series of workshops, seminars, and or case study discussions. It will be offered to all Ph.D. students across JHU.

The intention is to provide 12-18 months of programming with one or two events per month, using a mix of onsite and online offerings. The focus will be on skill-building, networking, and preparation for a broad array of non-academic career options.

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**Lead Applicant:**

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**Short Description, Goals**

The Leadership through Effective Messaging Training Program will develop PhD students' abilities to communicate with broad audiences by conveying key information responsibly, effectively and truthfully. The skills students will acquire are essential, universal leadership qualities that will support their careers in all aspects of societal life and engagement. Structure: The Program will be offered through the JHSPH R3 Center for Innovation in Science Education (R3ISE) and consist of 6 workshops designed for a cohort of 18-20 doctoral students. Workshops will include instruction from communications and leadership training experts, hands-on practice and immediate feedback on topics ranging from how to create key communications messages to how to have a successful interview with a journalist.

### **Lead Applicant:**

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### **Short Description, Goals**

Our goal is to provide career exploration, skill building, network opportunities and internships for our non-laboratory science oriented PhDs. The majority of JHMI PhD career education activities target the lab based sciences. We will offer opportunities to those focusing on the population and social sciences, data science and policy.

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## Lead Applicant:

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## Short Description, Goals

The “Design Your Own Internship” program will provide JHU PhD students in the Humanities and Social Sciences with paid internships in non-academic organizations. There are currently no PhD level internship programs for JHU students in these fields of study. These internships will provide immersive learning opportunities for students to develop skills and first-hand experience in a non-academic organization that would not otherwise be available. Considering that a recent large-scale survey reported 37% of Social Sciences PhDs were working in non-tenure track positions 6 – 10 years post-graduation, it is important that opportunities to explore and prepare for these careers be supported at JHU (Nerad et al).

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## Lead Applicant:

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## Short Description, Goals

Our proposed program is a podcast tentatively named Hopkins Biotech Podcast that involves 30-60 minute interviews with a featured guest alumni/faculty/connection who (1) either works in or with at least one non-academic institution and (2) models a viable career pathway for life science PhDs. Each episode will illustrate our guest's personal and professional journey as they navigated through their own career path, with an emphasis on pivotal anecdotes that taught them constructive lessons along the way. As the episode concludes, guests will have the chance to market actionable opportunities (industry postdocs, internships, etc.) to our listenership. We believe these stories will expose students to a variety of career options that exist in the private sector (biotechnology, pharmaceutical, consultancy, venture capital, etc.) and in non-academic public sectors (NIH, FDA, HHS, etc.). Furthermore, these conversations will elucidate the skills, cultural values, and interests that are best suited to each career path in a way that makes otherwise unfamiliar institutions accessible to students, regardless of their background. We plan to generate one podcast per month at launch, though we are focused on building an operational infrastructure that is amenable to a higher output frequency.

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**Lead Applicant:**

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**Short Description, Goals**

The goals of our program are to: 1) provide hands-on experience with applied epidemiology and public health to PhD students with an interest in non-academic careers; and 2) develop and foster a hub of interaction between PhD students and epidemiologists working in applied practice – locally, nationally, and globally. We propose four major activities to support these goals. First, we will establish up to 5 “practiceships” with local, national, and international collaborators to provide students with training and mentorship in applied epidemiology. Second, we will increase networking opportunities for students through an invited seminar series (proposed to be co-funded by a short-proposal through this call). Third, we will provide support for PhD students to attend practice related conferences, to highlight their work and enhance their networking opportunities. Finally, we will take advantage of visiting practitioners to record interviews about their career in applied epidemiology, opportunities, and careers at their organizations, and post these publically. This program will last for 1.5 years, including start-up efforts, and is envisioned to support a minimum of 5 practiceships, although the final number will depend on the number of opportunities identified during the grant period. We will build upon existing Surveillance and Outbreak Response Team (SORT) infrastructure for this endeavor. SORT is comprised of PhD students from across JHSPH who are interested in learning more about and gaining experience with applied epidemiologic practice. We have existing relationships with the Maryland State Health Department, where students assist with specimen collection, data analysis, and development of communication materials, while learning about potential careers and networking with public health practitioners. We aim to expand this style of interaction to include national and international agencies, as well as more formal paid practiceships. We hope to strengthen students’ professional networks through invited seminars and financial support to attend practice related conferences and meetings.

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**Short Description, Goals**

This is a recurring series of non-credit short skills courses dedicated to PhD students. Developing practical professional skills will complement the academic acumen cultivated through doctoral research to make graduates more marketable in a wider variety of careers. PhD students often lack applied technical skills required for high-level initial placements in non-academic organizations. SAIS graduates need such seasoning even more than graduates from traditional disciplinary programs, because of their disadvantage in competing for academic positions.

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### **Lead Applicant:**

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### **Short Description, Goals**

This project will launch an interdisciplinary graduate certificate in Sustainable Design for PhD students in the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and the Whiting School of Engineering. The goal of this certificate program is to equip PhD students with skills and training for non-academic careers in diverse fields of environmental planning, practice, and policy. We aim to build students' capacity to think critically and ecologically in order to design sustainable interventions, through multiple modes of learning: (1) expert-guided methodological instruction, (2) interdisciplinary sustainable design theory, and (3) practical, real-world problem-solving with organizations working to improve social and ecological outcomes in the Baltimore area.

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### **Lead Applicant:**

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### **Short Description, Goals**

Preparing Future Technology Leaders (PTFL) is an integrated program specifically for underrepresented minority students that tracks and supplements their research experience to allow for readiness and success in industrial careers following a STEM Ph.D. It will be a 24-month program in which students develop the skills to succeed in industry in stages throughout their doctoral program. Within this program students will: 1) become aware of career directions through meeting professionals, mentors and advisors; 2) begin to develop a professional network, develop and practice skills that will allow them to find, interview for and then succeed in industry positions and also create a network for their job search in partnership with two mentors. Participants will also pursue internships or job shadowing opportunities; find jobs in close partnership with the PHutures office and HireHopkins and be part of a cohort that amplifies networking opportunities during the job search process and after graduation.

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