



AGENDA

Scholar Mentoring & Development Program for Biotechnology (SMDP Biotech) Outreach & Planning Committee

Video Conference Call: Tuesday, November 4, 2025, 12:00 noon Eastern | 9:00 AM Pacific
<https://icpdprograms-org.zoom.us/j/84465375266?pwd=13D12bblpPDL3asUnOmbuJ8jhgHFvk.1>

Meeting ID: 844 6537 5266

Passcode: 179368

- Welcome & Introductions - **BOLD ITEMS WILL BE COVERED DURING THE CALL;**
For a more in-depth briefing contact Scott May (smay@icpdprograms.org) or
+1 (202) 441-7370
- **Planning for the 2026 SMDP Biotech training program, June 20-25 in San Diego**
 - o **Scholars - Applications** are live here and applications are being accepted here: smdp.icpdprograms.org; **Recruitment at society meetings:** NOBCChE was **September 24-25 in Atlanta, ABRCMS will be November 19-22 in San Antonio; SMDP Informational Fireside Chat on December 5 at 11am Pacific; Mentors suggested that ICPD provide feedback to the mentors at the end of the year of mentoring**
 - o **Mentors - DISCUSSION ITEM - Advice on how the partner companies recruit and support their mentors to attend the in-person training**
 - o **Venues - Seek a site for the training program in San Diego, with approximately 200 participants, all day, Sunday, June 21, and 7am - 1 pm, Monday, June 22**
 - o Agenda and Speaker needs
 - o Annual Celebration of SMDP Biotech reception
- Partner Support
 - o **Scott May will send email asking how many scholar/mentor pairs your company is planning to support and schedule end-of-year debrief calls**
 - o The 2026 sponsorship rate will be \$12,000 per scholar/mentor pair
 - o Sponsorship information available here: icpdprograms.org/sponsorship
- Alumni program
 - o **Governance - SMDP Alumni Program Advisory Council (exists) and SMDP Alumni Program Steering Committee is being formed, and four key positions have been filled and an election will held next week for the remaining 3 positions**
 - o 2026 SMDP Alumni program to be held in-person and virtual, the event will occur on Saturday, June 20 in San Diego culminating with informal dinner
 - o Scholar alumni research reports for SMDP Biotech and SMDP MedTech have been published: <https://smdp.icpdprograms.org>
- 2025 SMDP Biotech training program, June 14-19, Boston
 - o Scholars - 99 scholars sponsored
 - o **Mentors - follow-up meetings as needed**



- Virtual programming
 - o **2024 SMDP MedTech Scholar Reunion Debrief, November 6**
 - o **Jobs Board - Demonstration of how to post opportunities, any member can post (you need to be logged into the portal); engage recruiters; portal Orientation for recruiters at partner companies, schedule with Scott May**
 - o App and interactive map live on portal
 - o Desire for Career Networking online event
 - o Weekly email summary - If you would like to feature any of your activities in this email publication, then email Elisabeth Valerio (evalerio@icpdprograms.org)
 - o Mentor Moments - Over 95 have been published
 - o Career Spotlights - 48 Career Spotlights published, featuring SMDP alumni
 - o Project pages; SMDP Gateway membership program
- SMDP enhancements
 - o **The acronym now represents Scholar Mentoring and Development Program**
 - o **Objective criteria now includes "disadvantaged backgrounds," as defined here: https://www.era.nih.gov/commons/disadvantaged_def.htm**
 - o **Objective criterion also includes: Is currently enrolled at or received a degree from an accredited United States of Puerto Rico based institution of higher education, and the applicants will be required to submit their most recent transcript and it should be no more than 3 years old**
- Sponsor Updates
- Other ICPD program updates:
 - o **SMDP Medtech - the 2026 SMDP MedTech Training Session will be held October 16-21 in Boston**
 - o **Enterprise, Leaders & Innovators Society for Africa (ELISA) - the 2026 ELISA Business Scholars Training Session and ELISA Business Summit will be held March 19-22 in Hwange, Zimbabwe (near Victoria Falls); to partner contact Scott May**
- Other/Action items

Upcoming SMDP Biotech O&P Committee calls:

2026 meeting dates will be sent as calendar requests in December