

**Careers in Biopharmaceutical Project Management:
Getting In,
Optimizing, and
Leveraging Your Professional Experience**

A panel discussion moderated by
Toby Beth Freedman, Ph.D.
Author, *Career Opportunities in Biotechnology and Drug Development* (2007, CSHL Press)
President, Synapsis Search

February 27, 2008, 6-9PM, Millbrae
(registration, directions, and other info available at www.projmgr.org)

The need for skilled project managers in the biotech, pharmaceutical, and medical device industries continues to increase as companies focus more on development and commercialization of research pipelines. This is evident by the increased interest in transitioning into a Project Management (PM) role on the part of bench-top scientists and others with a variety of R&D backgrounds, the increasing breadth of responsibilities of Project Managers, and the opportunities for Project Managers to move into senior positions.

A panel of PM professionals with a variety of starting points and experiences will therefore address with our moderator three aspects of working in the PM field:

1-Transitioning into a PM position. The key attributes often valued in those entering PM, and examples of ways to transition into PM from a variety of functional backgrounds starting with little to no PM experience. The value of PMP certification, the challenges of moving from academia and the how to approach PM from another discipline within industry are among the topics to be addressed.

2-Building and expanding upon your current PM experience. The roles and responsibilities of a Project Manager can vary tremendously depending upon a company's culture, technical foundation, involvement with corporate partners, as well as the approach of the individual Project Manager. This translates into a wealth of opportunities to expand one's experience in different technologies, therapeutic areas, and business models. The panel will address ways to inject growth and differentiation into your PM repertoire.

3-Leveraging your PM experience to excel in other professional roles. What other opportunities exist for those with PM experience who may be interested in exploring a greater, lesser, or just different leadership or management role in a related discipline? Positions in Finance, Business Development, Executive Recruiting, Consulting, Venture Capital, and in the C-Suite are just some of the potential moves open to experienced Project Managers. The panel will speak to these potential opportunities and how to position oneself to optimize the chances of success.

Our moderator, Toby Freedman, Ph.D., is an author and leading biotechnology recruiter who has facilitated many such discussions in the industry. She conducted over 200 interviews for her book, and the sample chapter on Project Management is available for download at no charge through her book's website (www.careersbiotech.com) and at the PMPharma website (www.projmgr.org). Toby will also have books available for purchase at a book signing during a portion of this PMPharma event.

Our panelists for the evening will be:

Joe Benson, P.M.P. Joe is currently a senior project manager within the R&D Project Management group at Amylin Pharmaceuticals in San Diego. He started his career as a bench scientist in protein purification, and moved into a drug development project management role at PDL Biopharma. Joe is PMP certified, and currently oversees global development programs in diabetes and obesity.

Susan Carino, M.B.A., M.S., P.M.P. Susan is a Project Manager with Integrated Project Management Company, Inc. IPM is an outsourced PM firm providing services to companies ranging from start-ups to top-tier corporations. She currently provides PM expertise for an early stage biopharmaceutical development program and has also supported technology management and business process optimization. She transitioned to PM from Research Informatics with 10 years of experience supporting scientific software applications in the Pharmaceutical industry.

Robert Judd, P.E., P.M.P. is CEO of RJA Management Consulting and Training, which provides services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies and educational institutions. He has a professional engineering license (PE), PMP certification, and Stanford Certified Project Manager (SCPM) designation. Rob first became involved in biopharma through PM consulting and training. He was Director of PM at Kosan Biosciences, and in the clinical operations group at Chiron. He has co-developed and instructs many Drug Information Association (DIA) Project Management courses.

Michele Livesey. Michele is a Global R&D Project Team Leader at Roche, Palo Alto, leading the early development of small molecules and mAbs. Michele started her career in QA and Regulatory at an in vitro diagnostics firm before transitioning to QC and then Project Management at Genentech. She then joined Barrier Therapeutics in Princeton, NJ, rising to VP of PM before returning to the Bay Area for her current position. Michele has 15 years of drug development experience, is a leader in the DIA Project Management community, and is currently pursuing an MBA at Golden Gate University.

Jay Vora, Ph.D. , M.B.A., Jay is a Principal in the Life Sciences Business Group at PRTM, an Operational Strategy Management Consultancy. He has helped biopharma, biotech, and medical device companies design and implement new operating models to enhance productivity, reduce costs, and shorten cycle-times. He has extensive experience in designing and implementing Quality systems to ensure compliance. Prior to PRTM, Jay was an Associate Director of PK and Drug Metabolism at Chiron Corp. and a project co-lead, and began his career at Parke-Davis. Jay is also an Adjunct Faculty member at University of Cincinnati and University of the Pacific.