The Academy for Future Science Faculty
Group II - Advanced Stage PhD Students

Get a BIG head-start on the next critical step toward an academic career!

The journey to a successful career as a biomedical scientist is full of exciting discoveries, new skills, new knowledge and new colleagues. It also includes many challenges, from solving scientific and technical problems, to becoming a skilled writer and oral communicator, and figuring out the roadmap to follow for career options. Research training relies largely on mentoring for guiding the development of young scientists. This has worked reasonably well, but it can lead to uneven opportunities for PhD students to acquire the skills essential for high levels of professional success.

We have launched a brand new approach to maximizing the development of young scientists called the Academy for Future Science Faculty. This Academy, supported by a grant from the NIH, uses sophisticated coaching techniques to supplement what you get from the mentors at your graduate school. Many of the secrets to success are not written down, easy to discover, or easy to translate into practice – especially if you are the first among your family and friends to go to graduate school. The Academy is specifically designed for students who have the long-term goal of becoming a faculty member. The Academy is predicated on the critical importance of diversity within the scientific community to maximally utilize scientific talent as well as broadly identify and creatively solve research questions. Academy Group I, started in July, 2011, focused on students beginning the PhD. Academy Group II focuses on students nearing the end of their PhD.

What will the Academy for Future Science Faculty provide?

- Guidance from Academic Career Coaches – faculty and leaders of research training from around the U.S.
- Insights on how to best prepare for an academic career as your prepare for the critical next step after your PhD
- Intensive (but fun!) summer events in downtown Chicago (July 21-23, 2012 and July 2013), including Academy students and Academic Career Coaches to maximally prepare you to excel – travel and program costs provided
- Ongoing guidance and networking with the Coaches and Academy peers throughout the 2012/13 academic year to complement and supplement what you receive through your PhD program
- An exceptionally diverse community of future faculty colleagues and collaborators from highly varied backgrounds

What will be required of you?

- Full attendance at the July, 2012 and 2013, meetings in Chicago
- Willingness to engage with Coaches and peers
- Willingness to provide feedback on your experiences in the Academy and graduate school through responses to a few surveys and confidential interviews

This is a true experiment. What does that mean?

- There is only space for 60 students in the Academy - not everyone will be able to participate
- This is a new approach so it is important to study it compared to students who are not part of the Academy
- Members of the Academy will be RANDOMLY selected from those who apply
- An equal number of students will be selected as part of a control group for comparison purposes
- Selection will NOT be based on academic or other typical selection criteria other than an equal balance across gender, race and ethnicity in the Academy

To apply you must satisfy all of these criteria:

- Be a U.S. citizen or have permanent residence status
- Currently within about 12-18 months of completing a biomedical PhD program
- Have a primary goal and intent to achieve an academic career as a faculty member
- Be able and willing to commit to the participation requirements

The application deadline is Monday, April 23, 2012. Those selected will be notified by May, 15, 2012.

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CLICK TO APPLY! https://nufsm.wufoo.com/forms/academy-for-future-science-faculty-group-ii/ Funded by NIH DP4 GM096807

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