

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF BIOENGINEERING

BioEngage Newsletter

Spring 2021



BIOENGAGE: CONNECTING UW BIOENGINEERING TO INDUSTRY

We connect biotechnology and medical technology industries with UW Bioengineering trainees and faculty in the following mutually beneficial impact areas:

- > Educating students on current industry landscape and technologies
- > Hiring students for jobs or internships
- > Facilitating industry-sponsored design projects for students
- > Collaborating with labs on research
- > Engaging faculty or students in consulting

We work closely with Industry Partners to build **meaningful, mutually beneficial, and sustainable relationships.**

CONNECT WITH US

EMAIL:

uwbioengage@uw.edu

WEBSITE:

<https://sites.uw.edu/uwbioengage/>

LINKEDIN:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/uwbioengage/>

TWITTER:

<https://twitter.com/UWBioEngage>

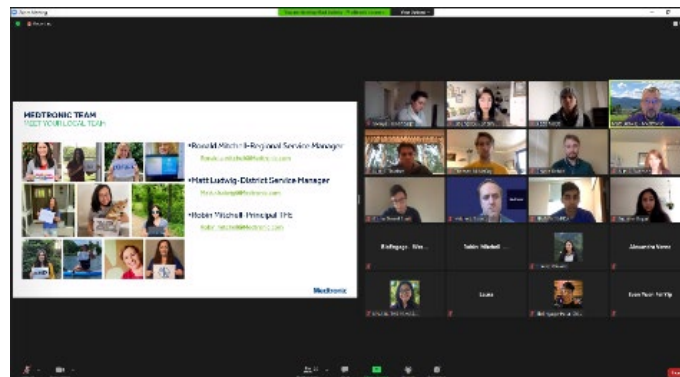
A Successful Virtual Year in Summary

What an incredible academic year it has been! In a year filled with uncertainty and change, BioEngage has held **twelve** successful events to serve our mission to engage the biotechnology and biomedical industries with UW Bioengineering trainees and faculty. We are so grateful to our industry partners, sponsors, and affiliates who have participated in and attended our events. Even with the move to a virtual platform, our events this year had excellent student attendance and involvement. As we look forward to next academic year, we are excited to build on the success of this year to transition back to in-person activities.

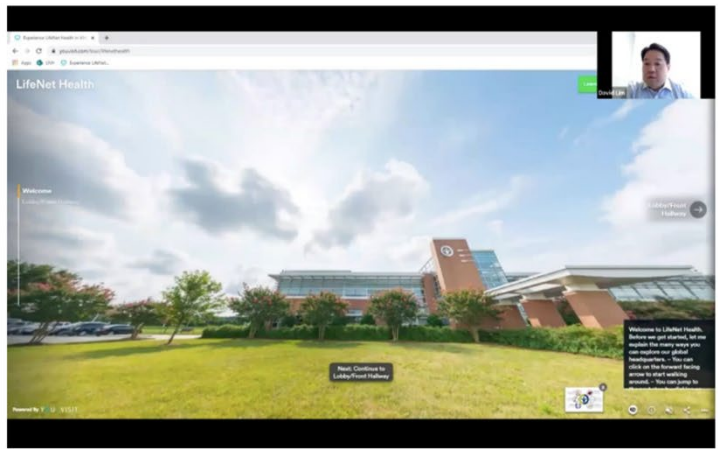
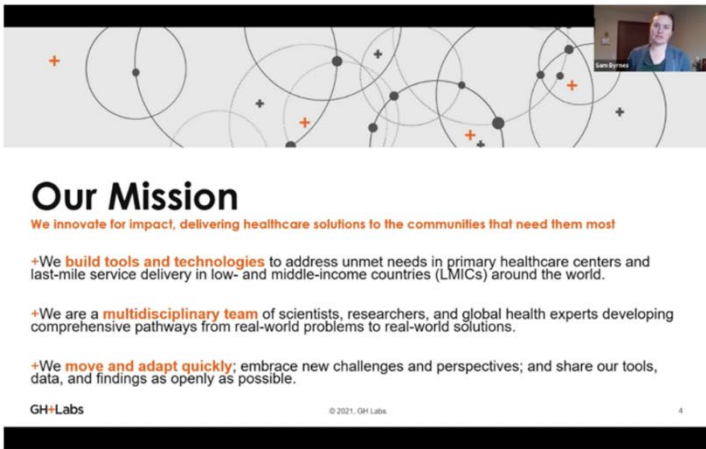
Virtual Industry Seminars

In our Winter and Spring quarters, we hosted a total of **six virtual industry seminars**, with an average attendance of 24 participants. These seminars attracted students from our bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs who were interested in learning about each company individually, discovering pathways to careers in each field, and asking questions directly to company representatives themselves. Several seminars were also attended by postdoctoral researchers, faculty, and staff, demonstrating our department's deep interest in industry engagement.

Thank you to **PATH, Abbott**, and our UW Bioengineering alumna, **Robyn Langevin** at Benchling for participating, and a special thank you to our event sponsors, **Medtronic, GH Labs**, and **LifeNet Health!** We hope you enjoyed interacting with our students and will continue to stay involved in BioEngage activities and engaging with the UW Bioengineering department.



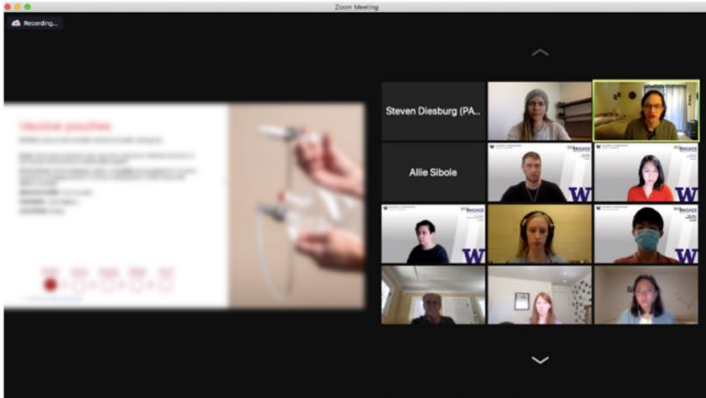
Medtronic highlighted their annual ACE summer internship program—a great way for undergraduate juniors to gain hands-on clinical experience.



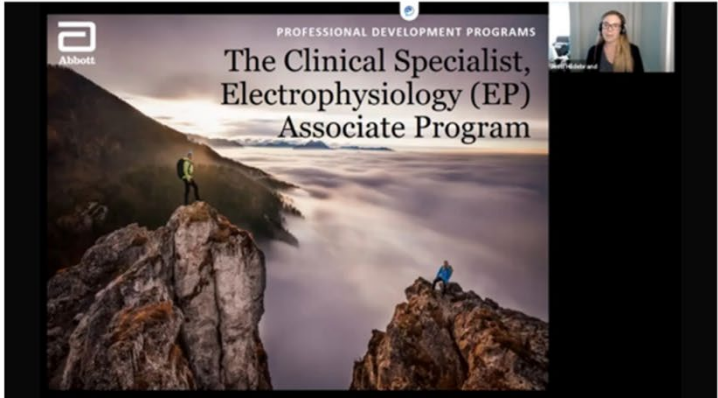
GH Labs, a nonprofit created in 2020 from Gates Ventures and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, shared their mission to develop medical technologies for low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).



LifeNet Health provided a virtual tour of their Renton tissue bank facility and shared how they are transforming the fields of tissue engineering, regenerative medicine, and organ donation.



PATH, an international nonprofit based in Seattle, shared one of their many technologies aimed at promoting global health equity. (Image blurred for protected information)



Abbott promoted their EP Clinical Specialist role for motivated graduating bioengineers in the cardiac technology space.

DEI in Biotechnology Industry Panel

To address the considerable interest of our student body in discussing systemic inequality, BioEngage collaborated with the Bioengineering department's Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee to host biotechnology industry leaders in the diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) space. We recognize and continue to learn about the many challenges and issues around creating a strong DEI culture and were eager to host this panel to better understand the current approaches that companies at the forefront of transforming workplace inclusivity are taking. We are so thankful to our four panelists for engaging in this discussion and are excited to see the changes taking place to promote DEI in the biotechnology and medical device industries.

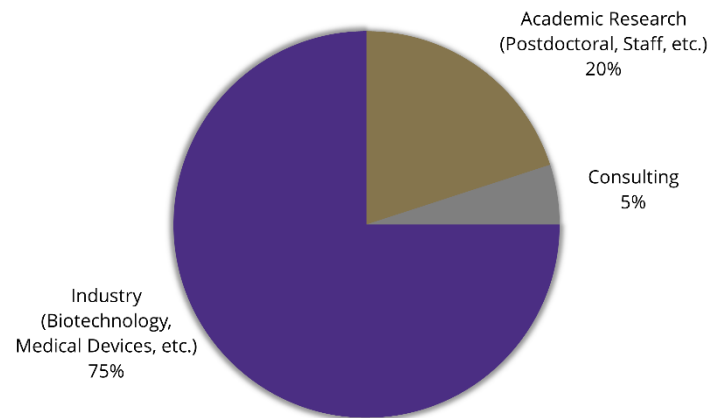
- > **Terrence Dickenson (WL Gore):** Talent Acquisition Recruiter, DEI Specialist
- > **Anna von Rossum (Zymeworks):** Discovery Research Scientist, Founder of the Women's Initiative at Zymeworks (WIZ)
- > **Evans Nguyen (NanoString):** Associate Director of Sustaining Engineering and ERG Leader, NanoString People of Color and Allies (nPOCA)
- > **Adam Harmon (Ginkgo Bioworks):** Director of Diversity & Inclusion



Student Impact

Our students have been extremely excited to attend BioEngage events and to connect with the participating companies. The majority of UW Bioengineering students are interested in a career in industry, with **88% of our graduate students securing an industry position after graduation**. In addition to educating our students about the specific companies and sectors presenting at our seminars, **20% of our graduating Master's and PhD students have stated that attending BioEngage events has helped them secure their position after graduation**. Connecting with BioEngage is a great way to recruit our talented bioengineers!

Post-Graduate School Next Steps for UW Bioengineers



Ways To Get Involved

Companies & Organizations: Our mission is to engage the biotechnology and biomedical industry with UW Bioengineering trainees and faculty in the following mutually beneficial impact areas:

- Educating students on the current industry landscape and technologies
- Hiring students for jobs or internships
- Contributing industry-sponsored design projects for students
- Collaborating with labs on research
- Engaging faculty or students in consulting

We work closely with Industry Partners to build meaningful relationships. If you are interested in connecting with us to engage UW Bioengineering in one of these areas, please do not hesitate to contact us (see pg. 1).

UW Bioengineering Students: BioEngage will be looking to bring on **2-3 new members** to our team next year! We will be sending out a call for applications later in the summer, but if you are interested in the meantime feel free to reach out for more information.

Finally, thank you to everyone who attended our virtual events for the Winter and Spring quarters. We look forward to BioEngaging with you next academic year!

Sincerely,

The BioEngage Team



2020-2021 Companies Portfolio

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of our Industry Partners:



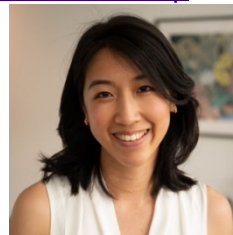
OUR TEAM

Executive Student Leadership



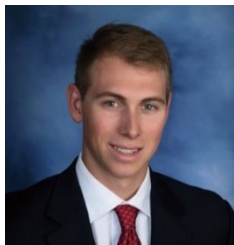
Abby Nagle, President

- Third year PhD student who engineers stem cell lines to study cardiomyocyte mechanics in the Regnier and Davis labs.
- Interested in the biotech industry as a more direct conduit to bring life changing therapies into the market.
- Hopes her work will help to strengthen the relationship between academia and industry, as well as prepare the next generation of bioengineers for careers in industry.



Sherry Liu, Vice President

- Fourth year PhD student at the Center for Dialysis Innovation (CDI) investigating blood-compatible materials in the B. Ratner lab.
- Interested in collaboration between academia and industry to catalyze discovery and innovation in the biomedical space.
- Hopes to facilitate mutually beneficial interactions that match UW BioE talent with organizations that best fulfill their desired career paths.



Wesley Fabyan, Graduate Lead

- Second year PhD student in the Stevens Laboratory whose research focuses on combining genetic modulation techniques with 3D bioprinting technologies to spatially control gene patterning within artificial liver tissue.
- Values industry research as being highly motivated to bring novel technologies and therapies from bench to bedside.
- Strives to foster a close collaboration between explorative academia research and outcome-driven industry work.



Peter (Shin-Tian) Chien, Graduate Lead

- Second year PhD student who designs and integrates electrospun fiber systems with polymeric prodrugs to combat HIV in the Woodrow Lab.
- Hopes to help connect students with companies to learn about available opportunities in the Greater Seattle Area.

Peter will be leaving our team after this academic year- we thank him for his support and wish him all the best!

Executive Leadership

Chris Neils, Ph.D.

Associate Teaching Professor
Dept. of Bioengineering

Soraya Bailey

Assistant Teaching Professor
Director of Master of Applied Bioengineering
Dept. of Bioengineering

Liz Young

Associate Director
Corporate & Foundation Relations
College of Engineering

Faculty Advisory Board

Barry Lutz, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Dept. of Bioengineering

Matt O'Donnell, Ph.D.

Professor
Dept. of Bioengineering

Buddy Ratner, Ph.D.

Professor
Dept. of Bioengineering &
Chemical Engineering

Valerie Daggett, Ph.D.

Professor
Dept. of Bioengineering