KGI SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Biopharmaceutical Industry Fellowship Program

KGI.EDU/FELLOWSHIPS

Founded in 2018, the Keck Graduate Institute (KGI) School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences fellowship program provides exceptional biopharmaceutical industry training for Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) graduates with a broad exposure to the areas fundamental to drug discovery, development, and commercialization.

This program prepares fellows for a career in the pharmaceutical industry by focusing on developing a deep understanding of how companies operate. Each position affords significant experience in a corporate setting, enabling fellows to hone their business and clinical skills. The program also fosters professional development; provides intensive, hands-on training; and exposes fellows to a variety of industry and academia-based opportunities.

What is an Industry Fellowship?

A structured one- or two-year work experience designed to provide hands-on training in functions fundamental to bringing innovative medical products through development and into commercialization.

An industry-based training program for individuals with a doctorate in pharmacy to further their experience in the biopharmaceutical industry through work experience and clinical research.

Fellowship Mission

To develop strong, confident, and competent biopharmaceutical industry leaders through the following:

- Professional development to promote learning agility, scholarship, enhance leadership, critical thinking, and team-building skills
- Networking to establish both personal and professional relationships among colleagues, alumni, industry professionals, and healthcare providers
- Community service to contribute and remain connected within the community

Academic Components

KGI provides a graduate academic environment to guide and support fellows towards building a successful career in the biopharmaceutical industry. KGI recognizes that solving practical, real world challenges—for physicians and pharmacists, as well as industry executives and entrepreneurs—requires close teamwork, creative and critical-thinking skills, and cross-functional fluency. KGI's interdisciplinary curricula integrate technology and management in an innovative and practical way. As a result, our students graduate with a thorough understanding of the results-oriented, collaborative culture in which scientists, doctors, engineers, and managers operate.

Education and Experience

A successful candidate must be a PharmD graduate from an ACPE accredited institution. Substantial background knowledge in a related field is a plus. All candidates must be authorized to work in the USA.

Existing KGI Fellowships

Medical Affairs | AbbVie

Fellows will develop and communicate appropriate, quality, and timely responses to Medical Affairs requests from healthcare providers and patients. They will support Medical Affairs by providing product and drug information expertise on a wide range of initiatives, including review of medical resources, staffing pipeline booth at scientific meetings and conferences, and consulting on cross-functional activities.

Fellows will develop strong literature searching skills and critically appraise published and unpublished clinical data regarding marketed and investigational products and/or therapeutic areas of interest. Finally, fellows will support the overall operational function of the medical affairs department by participating in process improvement initiatives and focusing on patient needs.

Medical Information | AveXis

The Medical Information Fellowship provides an opportunity to learn the skills and experiences necessary to excel as a pharmacist in scientific communication, a key function in any biopharmaceutical company. The fellowship will be based out of the AveXis offices in Bannockburn, IL (suburb of Chicago).

The core responsibility of Medical Information at AveXis is to generate and communicate clinical and scientific data as well as engage in scientific discussions with key stakeholders, including healthcare providers, patients, and payers. By doing so, the overarching Medical Affairs division actively supports the development and delivery of therapies to patients with a high unmet need.

Risk Management-Sourcing (Clinical Supply) | Gilead Sciences

This two-year Risk Management Sourcing (Supply Chain) Fellowship provides an opportunity to learn the skills and experiences necessary to excel as a pharmacist in the seamless supply of pharmaceutical product to customers, a key activity in any biopharmaceutical company. The fellowship will be based out of the Gilead offices in San Dimas/La Verne, CA.

Business continuity planning and management of risk are a key focus for the San Dimas/La Verne operations and warehouse teams. As the procurement, production, and distribution of activities migrate from the San Dimas to La Verne site, managing risk in our supply chain is critical to enable the seamless supply of product to customers. The chosen candidate will help establish our supply chain risk management program, and enable new technologies to pro-actively mitigate risks from our suppliers.

Fellowship Directors

Dr. Rob Pearson, US Field Director of Immunology/Gastroenterology | AbbVie

"AbbVie is committed to enhancing the scientific acumen of the biopharmaceutical industry, and as such, recognizes the privilege that we have of engaging and training future medical affairs leaders. With a singular focus on the patient, we know that with a diverse and talented workforce we will be able to address the therapeutic needs of those that we have the privilege of serving. We are seeking fellowship candidates who are driven to make a difference in all that they do."

Dr. Kome Okposo, Executive Director of Medical Information | AveXis

"The AveXis Fellowship Program offers fellows a unique opportunity to enhance their scientific knowledge and communication skills while gaining valuable insights into the pharmaceutical industry. If you have a desire to contribute to improving the lives of patients, consider applying to join our Fellowship Program."

Brian Hill, Director of Supply Chain | Gilead Sciences

"At the core of the Gilead culture is innovative science that saves lives every day. The fellowship opportunity at Gilead will provide our candidate exposure to the sourcing of material we use in the manufacture of our drug products that has a vital impact on the patients we serve every day. Additionally, they will gain insight on the manufacture, distribution, and commercialization of our products across the many markets we serve."

KGI Fellows

Edward Stoia | AbbVie

"The KGI-AbbVie Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowship Program is more than just a placement for work experience in industry; opportunities for research, leadership, program management, and cross-functional collaboration allow fellows to develop professional skills as well as garner valuable real-world experience. Guidance from experienced mentors, as well as a supportive learning environment, fosters personal and professional growth. I am confident that at the end of this fellowship, I will be more than sufficiently prepared for a successful and fruitful career in medical affairs and in the pharmaceutical industry."

Shijie (Jason) Mao | AveXis

"The fellowship at AveXis has provided me with the opportunity to learn about rare neurological disorders (spinal muscular atrophy) and gene therapy. This learning experience is invaluable to me as these topics were not focused upon in my pharmacy school curriculum. In addition, I am gifted with the opportunity to work hands-on with projects supporting the Medical Information team of AveXis, as well as engage with other areas of Medical Affairs that I am curious to learn more about. I am very thankful for this opportunity to work with AveXis and Keck Graduate Institute."

Ricardo Arechiga | Gilead Sciences

"The KGI-Gilead Fellowship provides me with in-depth exposure into clinical and commercial distribution activities within the pharmaceutical industry. I work with dedicated individuals on risk management plans and improve business processes to ensure patients receive their medications in a timely manner. With supply chain constantly evolving, I am confident this program will equip me with the necessary skills required to succeed in the 21st century."

Affiliated Companies

AbbVie

AbbVie is a global, research-driven biopharmaceutical company committed to developing innovative advanced therapies for some of the world's most complex and critical conditions. The company's mission is to use its expertise, dedicated to people and unique approach to innovation to markedly improve treatments across four primary therapeutic areas: immunology, oncology, virology, and neuroscience. In more than 75 countries, AbbVie employees are working every day to advance health solutions for people around the world.

AveXis/Novartis

AveXis, Inc. is a clinical-stage gene therapy company, dedicated to developing and commercializing novel treatments for patients suffering from rare and life-threatening neurological genetic diseases. Our initial product candidate, AVXS-101, is our proprietary gene therapy product candidate currently in development for the treatment of spinal muscular atrophy, or SMA, Type 1, the leading genetic cause of infant mortality, and for the treatment of SMA Type 2. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, has granted AVXS-101 Orphan Drug Designation for the treatment of all types of SMA and Breakthrough Therapy Designation, as well as Fast Track Designation for the treatment of SMA Type 1. In addition to developing AVXS-101 to treat SMA Type 1 and Type 2, we also plan to develop other novel treatments for rare neurological diseases, including Rett syndrome (RTT) and a genetic form of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) caused by mutations in the superoxide dismutase 1 (SOD1) gene.

Gilead Sciences

Gilead Sciences is a biopharmaceutical company that discovers, develops and commercializes innovative therapeutics in areas of unmet medical need. The company's mission is to advance the care of patients suffering from life-threatening diseases worldwide. Gilead has operations in more than 35 countries worldwide. Gilead's product portfolio includes complete treatment regimens for HIV and chronic hepatitis C virus infection. Additionally, the strategic acquisitions of Kite Pharma, Inc. and Cell Design Labs, Inc. moved Gilead into a leadership position in the field of cell therapy.

Fellows will spend 90% of their time on duties specific to the industry site and 10% of time on professional development activities with Keck Graduate Institute School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. All fellows will be eligible for adjunct faculty status.

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"Our fellowship program is the gateway for PharmD graduates to experience and explore the biopharmaceutical industry's diverse working environment. It is both exciting and challenging. Graduates of fellowship programs are highly desirable for their technical expertise; their interpersonal skills; and their understanding of how the business of drug discovery, development, and commercialization occurs on both a domestic and global scale."

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About KGI

In 1997, former Stanford University Professor and then Harvey Mudd College President Henry E. "Hank" Riggs conceived the idea of Keck Graduate Institute—The Claremont Colleges' first and only entry into graduate-level university application-based scientific research and education.

Today, KGI offers innovative postgraduate degrees and certificates that integrate life and health sciences, business, pharmacy, engineering, and genetics, with a focus on industry projects, hands-on industry experiences, and team collaborations. KGI employs an entrepreneurial approach and industry connections that provide pathways for students to become leaders within healthcare and the applied life sciences.

KGI consists of three schools:
Henry E. Riggs School of Applied Life Sciences, School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the Minerva Schools at KGI.

KGI

KECK GRADUATE INSTITUTE (KGI) WAS FOUNDED IN 1997 AS THE FIRST HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION IN THE UNITED STATES DEDICATED EXCLUSIVELY TO EDUCATION AND RESEARCH RELATED TO THE APPLIED LIFE SCIENCES. KGI OFFERS INNOVATIVE POSTGRADUATE DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES THAT INTEGRATE LIFE AND HEALTH SCIENCES, BUSINESS, PHARMACY, ENGINEERING, AND GENETICS, WITH A FOCUS ON INDUSTRY PROJECTS, HANDS-ON INDUSTRY EXPERIENCES, AND TEAM COLLABORATIONS.

A MEMBER OF THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES, KGI EMPLOYS AN ENTREPRENEURIAL APPROACH AND INDUSTRY CONNECTIONS THAT PROVIDE PATHWAYS FOR STUDENTS TO BECOME LEADERS WITHIN HEALTHCARE AND THE APPLIED LIFE SCIENCES. KGI CONSISTS OF THREE SCHOOLS: HENRY E. RIGGS SCHOOL OF APPLIED LIFE SCIENCES, SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES, AND THE MINERVA SCHOOLS AT KGI.

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