IDP 240: BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION

New Interterm Course, January 2016
M/Tu/W/Th/F, 9AM-5PM
January 11 – January 22, 2016

Organized around guest lectures, case studies, and group research, this experiential course will introduce students to the process of pharmaceutical drug development, with a focus on multiple sclerosis (MS) treatments as an example. Students will first explore the development of new therapeutic drugs in the treatment of MS and examine successfully licensed therapies. Students will learn about the business considerations of pharmaceutical development, including intellectual property, regulatory requirements, and funding pharmaceutical ventures. Students will select new target compounds for development, and develop a research and business plan to create and bring their new drug to clinical trials.

Prerequisite background: This course is targeted at upper level students who have completed life science related coursework at the 200-level or above. Students from a broad set of majors with connections to the life sciences are encouraged to register.

COURSE INSTRUCTORS

Jean Merrill, Ph.D., MBA, Smith College ‘69
Dr. Merrill received her B.A. in Biological Sciences from Smith College, a Ph.D. in Immunology, and an MBA in Marketing and Finance. She has pursued a career in both academic and industry settings to understand multiple sclerosis and bring new therapeutic treatments for MS to patients. She recently retired from her position as VP and Head of Neuroimmunology and Multiple Sclerosis Discovery in the Neurological Disease Division at EMD Serono/Merck Serono with research teams in Geneva and Boston.

Doug Munch, Ph.D.
Dr. Munch’s educational background includes studies in Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Biochemistry, Medicine, and Biomedical Engineering. He is currently the President and Founder of the consulting firm DFM, Ltd., which provides guidance for a variety of health care companies on strategic planning, business development, and market development. He has deep experience in the pharmaceutical, medical device, and biotechnology fields.

Sarah Moore, Ph.D.
Smith College Picker Engineering Program, and Biological Sciences
Dr. Moore’s research focuses on engineering proteins to understand, diagnose, and treat human disease. She teaches courses at Smith College at the intersection of engineering and biology.

Questions? Contact Sarah Moore at sjmoore@smith.edu.