

LSP Project Management Fellow – High Dimensional Imaging in Human Disease

The Project Management Fellows Program provides a mix of hands-on and curriculum-based training in facilitating complex research projects through active *project management* to train a cohort of post-doctoral scientists in the skills required for *multi-omic* approaches to biomedical research. Increasingly scientific coordinator roles are strongly preferred or required for NIH-funded Center grants, and are common in the biotech and pharma industries. This has created new career opportunities for skilled scientists who are interested in facilitating ambitious cross disciplinary research projects.

The Laboratory of Systems Pharmacology at Harvard Medical School

The Laboratory of Systems Pharmacology (LSP) at Harvard Medical School (<http://hits.harvard.edu/the-program/laboratory-of-systems-pharmacology/about/>) tackles difficult problems in translational biomedicine using systems biology approaches and by enabling collaborative interactions between individuals with very different sets of skills. In the LSP, experts in systems biology, pharmacology, cell biology, infectious disease ,clinical science, and statistical informatics work closely together to meet the goals of NIH Center and other grant programs. LSP projects typically require close communication between experimentalists and informatics and modeling groups. The multi-investigator projects are facilitated by LSP science administrators who help coordinate the development of robust pipelines for experimentation, reagent verification, and data analysis and management. They also help to manage content for project websites, write scientific papers, and coordinate reporting to grant programs.

The LSP is home to a group professional science project managers who collaborate with faculty, postdocs, students, and program officers to ensure the timely and responsible execution of large Center and Program grant programs. These Scientific Managers will provide guidance, peer support and mentorship to the Fellows through formal and informal interactions.

The Project Management Fellows Program

LPM Fellows will have the opportunity to acquire and refine the skills required for the effective coordination of large, grant-funded collaborative projects, and obtain Project Management Professional (PMP) certification, a designation required or strongly preferred by employers for research administrators in industry and government jobs.

Each LPM Fellow will gain hands-on experience in the coordination of complex research projects and learn the basics of grant management by supporting an NIH Center or Program Project research team within LSP. Fellows will also engage in a rigorous professional development program that draws directly on and supports their project management role in the LSP. Fellows will be expected to participate in LSP-based skills assessment and communication workshops, and will be expected to enroll in other Harvard University training short courses to complement their individual experience (e.g. “Research administration of sponsored awards”, “Difficult conversations”, “Introduction to management in research”, “Managing up”). The Fellow may independently prepare for the Project Management Exam using the Lynda preparatory courses and other resources. All expenses related to training and examination will be covered.

A successful LPM Fellow will, within 2-3 years:

- Demonstrate their ability to facilitate complex research projects,

- Hone their written and verbal communication skills,
- Develop a strong working relationship with an NIH program office,
- Engage a network of peers and mentors regionally,
- Independently become certified as a Project Management Professional.

The skills the Fellows will acquire can provide opportunities for several career paths, including:

- Managing a research program, center or other similar activity in academia, in partnership with a faculty leader.
- Project management for biotech or pharmaceutical industry laboratories.
- Research core administration in academe or industry

The CyCIF LPM Fellowship

This position will be embedded in the CyCIF team. CyCIF is a high-dimensional histology method that is being applied to understanding cancer, tuberculosis, and other diseases, and the cellular response to treatment. The method and its uses are illustrated at <https://www.cycif.org/>

In their research management role, the fellow will collaborate with LSP investigators to:

1. Play a prominent role within the LSP Imaging team and the curating and organizing experimental data.
2. Help to coordinate CyCIF data production, data annotation and outreach activities with the work of other LINCS centers.
3. Participate in realted consortium or collaborator activities, including regular calls and in-person meetings.
4. Communicate with the NCI and foundation representatives regarding required reports, data releases, outreach activities and metrics collection.
5. Attend and participate in LSP and Sorger lab group meetings and in the regular and ad hoc meetings involving PIs, postdocs, students and staff

The Fellow will be appointed as a postdoctoral researcher under the Center PI and LSP Director Peter Sorger, but will work closely with the other Center members and receive mentorship and guidance from the LSP Scientific Managers and Executive Director. This position will have a high degree of independence, and opportunities to present at regional and national scientific symposia and workshops.

Requirements:

- PhD in cell biology, biochemistry, molecular biology, pharmacology, systems biology or related field
- Demonstrated experience in research collaborations
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Strong organizational and interpersonal skills
- Interest in research coordination and project management

Applications should provide a CV, cover letter and 3 letters of recommendation.

Candidates will be required to provide samples of technical writing and will present a seminar in the LSP.