

Proposal for EMBC 2020 Special Session

Proposed by:

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Prof. Nitish V. Thakor - IEEE Life Fellow

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Title: *Early-Career Researcher Series: Transitioning from a Graduate Student to a Professional*

Theme: Biomedical Engineering Education and Society

Keywords: Early-career researchers; Young professionals; Academia; Industry; Career

Abstract— (Max 300 Words)

This session is specially designed for early-career researchers to make them future-ready and a career springboard to launch as a young PI, scientist in industry or entrepreneur. We target the burning topics which intrigue young scientists and fresh graduates while they transition from studentship to postdoc to a permanent position. The session will be fashioned to hold 4 talks by eminent personalities in Biomedical Engineering (TBD from EMBC2020 confirmed attendees list) and followed by a panel discussion format to answer Q&A from the floor. The workshop will conclude with a networking session. Join us at the IEEE EMBC Conference 2020, for this exciting *Early-Career Researcher Series* workshop and networking session.

Goals: The Workshop is designed to deliver a program that:

- Supports and nurtures the career of early-career researchers in finding and embracing their first real-world BME job by tackling career developmental topics.
- Provides a platform to encourage interdisciplinary networking
- Provides information about and decision checklists for successful post-graduate academic vs. industry BME careers.

The Early-Career Researcher Mentoring session in EMBC 2019 was well received with excellent feedback from the review panel. The session comprised of 4 speakers from various BME career paths and was attended by over 40 participants and followed by an active networking session. The speakers from EMBC 2019 were: Wenjin Wang, PhD, Scientist, Philips Research, Guest assistant professor, Eindhoven University of Technology “Academia or industry, or both?”; Ze’ev Bomzon, PhD, Director of Science, Novocure Ltd., Haifa, Israel “Interdisciplinary and inter-continental travel: reflections on career paths in a rapidly changing world”; Tan Mei Chee, PhD, Associate Professor, Singapore University for Technology and Design, Singapore “A Journey of Self Discovery and Evolving Expectations”; Daniel McDuff, PhD, Senior Researcher, Microsoft, USA “An Example of a Career in Interdisciplinary Research: Academia, Start-ups and Industry”.