Katherine Cintron-Lue

Associate Scientist, Biology (Oncology)
PTC Therapeutics

Katherine Cintron-Lue is an Associate Scientist and Associate Manager at PTC Therapeutics. She graduated magna cum laude from Pfeiffer University with a BS in Biology and a Chemistry minor. She went on to receive her MS in Biology with a minor in Business Administration at Seton Hall University. Her work at PTC Therapeutics includes drug discovery and mechanism-of-action studies in the field of oncology. She has experience in tumor studies, cell toxicity assays, and culturing cancer cell lines.

Christopher Day ’98

Manager of Microbiology
Bristol-Myers Squibb

Christopher Day graduated from Monmouth University in 1998 with a bachelor’s degree in Biology. He began his career as a microbiologist at Gibraltar Labs from 2000-2002. He then worked as a Quality Assurance Microbiologist at Immunomedics until 2005 when he joined Medarex as a Microbiology Quality Control Technician. Chris began working for Bristol-Myers Squibb in 2010 as a Quality Assurance Microbiologist. Currently, he is a Manager of Microbiology and a Senior Research Scientist at BMS.
Laura Muller  
*Veterinary Technician*  
Red Bank Veterinary Hospital

Laura Muller has been in the veterinary field for the last nine years, and working as a technician for the last seven. While previously employed in a private general practice, Laura has now shifted her focus to animal sheltering and emergency care. An active advocate of animal welfare, Laura especially enjoys working with the animals that can be rehabilitated after cruelty or neglect. She is a team member with New Leash on Life USA, a non-profit prison dog-training program that saves the lives of shelter dogs at risk of euthanasia and gives incarcerated inmates a chance for redemption. New Leash teaches inmates to train and socialize the dogs assigned to live with them 24/7, enabling these rejected animals to become highly desirable for adoption and creating real-world employment opportunities for the inmate participants upon parole. Laura divides her free time among pursuing her BS, hiking with her beloved pit bull, and getting dirty in her community garden. Aiming high, upon graduation from veterinary school Laura plans to devote her efforts to Philadelphia’s non-profit shelters and educating the community on responsible pet guardianship.

Jessica (Acevedo) O’Brien ’11  
*Associate Regulatory Specialist*  
Revlon

Jessica (Acevedo) O’Brien is a Monmouth University alumna who graduated in 2011 with a BS in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. In her first position Jessica worked as a Human Nutrition Quality/Regulatory Affairs Intern at BASF. She was then trained as a Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS) at Morristown Medical Center and later worked as an Associate Microbiologist at Catalent Pharma Solutions and as a MLS at Atlantic Health. Jessica is currently working at Revlon as an Associate Regulatory Specialist in Latin America Product Registration.
Christopher Varley ’97 ’99MBA
Executive Director, HCV Marketing
Bristol-Myers Squibb

Christopher Varley received his BS in Business Administration and his MBA from Monmouth University. He leads the US marketing team responsible for the product launch of DAKLINZA, for the treatment of patients with Hepatitis C. Prior to his time at BMS Chris held various positions of increasing responsibility at Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Roche Pharmaceuticals, and Merck in global marketing, new product development, strategic development, and sales management for both the Hepatitis C and HIV franchises. Chris is a veteran of 4 new product launches; in 2011 at Vertex he launched INCIVEK, a treatment for patients with Hepatitis C, which achieved sales of $1 billion in just seven months. Chris was appointed to the Monmouth University School of Science’s Advisory Council in 2015.
Marisa Bloom
*Information Architect*
DefinedLogic

Marisa is a User Experience Architect for full web and mobile projects. She is highly organized and creative with a knowledge of good user experience and design. She has two years of experience with information architecture and user experience design, working on multiple projects small and large. She can provide UX support from the start of a project through production. At DefinedLogic she has encountered many great learning experiences from project to project. She is always ready and willing to learn something new that will help her understanding of the IT business. For her, each day brings new challenges and new experiences, making her work even more exciting!

John Daly
*Production Manager*
IPKeys Gaming at IPKeys Technologies, LLC

John Daly is the Production Manager at IPKeys LVC in Eatontown, NJ, helping to build training games for the US Army, US Marine Corps, and US Navy SEALs. John started his career in games eight years ago as a 3D Artist doing modeling and character animation before moving into the team management role. John’s largest project to date has been I-GAME, which teaches US Army soldiers route clearance tactics and IED-related lessons at several training schools before their deployment. He is a graduate of Fairfield University (2008) with a BA in Film, and he is a Monmouth County native.
Ernest Kirstein ’14 ’15M
Software Engineer
Google

Ernest graduated from Monmouth University in 2014 with a dual degree in Software Engineering and Mathematics and earned his MS in Software Engineering from Monmouth University in 2015. After working for a local tech company, Discovery Data (now Ipreo), Ernest moved to his current position as a Software Engineer at Google, where he is currently creating systems to improve data review processes.

Jesse Mayer
Senior Cyber Security Engineer
First Data

Jesse Mayer is a Senior Cyber Security Engineer, Information Risk Analyst, and Cyber Incident Response Team lead. His history includes leading the Security Operations Center for Northrop Grumman, training enlisted cyber officers at USCYBERCOM, and now securing a major financial enterprise that owns mobile banking and over 40% of the global financial infrastructure. He is an Advanced Persistent Threat hunter who thrives in high-stress environments, and he now brings his experiences to the classroom here at Monmouth University.

Frank Oloriz
User Experience Architect
DefinedLogic

Frank Oloriz is an accomplished graphic designer and web developer. He graduated from the Art Institute of Philadelphia with a degree in Graphic Design and is currently a User Experience Architect at DefinedLogic. Frank has over eight years of experience within the field using cutting-edge technical skills and up-to-date industry knowledge and is well versed in all facets of computer artistry, as well as the fine arts. He has an impressive portfolio and experience in innovative marketing campaigns that immediately attract the right client. He is highly skilled in all aspects of web design and development that strengthen brand identities and his knowledge covers all avenues of print design, pre-flighting, and vectorized artwork.
Lisa Catanzaro ’11
Senior Associate
KPMG

Lisa Catanzaro’s current position is that of Senior Associate Credit Risk Advisor for KPMG. This role as a consultant allows her to work for a variety of clients. She finds the coolest part of this position to be the exposure she gets to different business models and projects within different industries. Her current engagement is at a large investment bank while her prior engagement was at a large car company. The client needs for each of these projects have been very different. Lisa has been involved with the entire model build process from the ground up, which includes assessing client needs, compiling data, preparing data, building and testing the model, and providing in-depth documentation. Being involved with such a variety of clients has given her the opportunity to learn and expand her skill set beyond what she could do if she was working for a single company. Being a consultant and working for different companies, she is able to work in a variety of settings (large investment banks, mid-size regional banks, car companies) and experience different office cultures and styles.

Lauren Dean ’06 ’11M
Vice President, Leveraged Finance
ZAIS Group, LLC

Lauren Dean serves as a vice-president of leveraged finance at ZAIS Group, LLC, an investment management company focusing on specialized credit strategies. Prior to joining the leveraged finance team in July of 2015, Lauren was a member of the client relations team, primarily responsible for managing and developing client relationships, coordinating on-site due diligence, and project management. Lauren earned a MS in Financial Mathematics and a BS in Mathematics and Secondary Education with a minor in Finance from Monmouth University, receiving both degrees summa cum laude. Lauren joined ZAIS in July of 2008 as an analyst and cross-trained in trade support and operations for Rumson Capital LLC, an investment advisor that engaged in a variety of global arbitrage strategies.
Lauren's responsibilities at ZAIS include responding to client inquiries and due diligence questionnaires, maintaining the investor database, and client reporting.

**Erin Humphries Knox ’09 ’11M**  
*Math Teacher*  
Woodbridge High School

Erin Knox graduated from Monmouth in 2009 with a BS in Mathematics and Education with Endorsement in Secondary Education in Mathematics. She continued her education at MU and graduated in 2011 with a master's degree in Education with a concentration in Curriculum Studies. Erin is currently in her sixth year of teaching at Woodbridge High School, Woodbridge, NJ. Her favorite subjects to teach are Algebra 2 and Precalculus.

**Colby Mueller ’10**  
*Statistician*  
Church and Dwight

Colby Mueller is a Statistician at Church and Dwight. There, he works with gummy vitamins to confirm the stability of the product and verify that analyte levels are above label claim. This involves creating graphs, statistics, building decay models, and writing detailed reports for the FDA.
Josette Hutcheson ’12
Laboratory Technician
New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

Josette Hutcheson graduated from Monmouth University with a bachelor’s degree in Marine and Environmental Biology and Policy. She received a master’s degree in Biology from the University of West Florida in 2015. Currently Josette is a laboratory technician in the Fish Pathology Laboratory with the NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife. She works on a variety of projects including hatchery health inspections as well as field and laboratory tasks associated with diseases affecting fish populations.

Sandra Meola ’12 ‘15M
Communications and Outreach
NY/NJ Baykeeper

Sandra Meola manages the legislative messaging, communications, and social media at NY/NJ Baykeeper, and is currently leading the Plastic Reduction Campaign. Sandra has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History and a Masters of Arts in Public Policy from Monmouth University. Prior to joining the Baykeeper team Sandra was an analyst at Luthin Associates, an energy consulting firm.

Matthew Poach, PhD
Marine Biogeochemist
NOAA/NMFS

Dr. Matthew Poach is a Connecticut native with a background in oceanography, water quality, and wetland chemistry. He obtained a BS in Biological Oceanography from Florida Institute of Technology in 1989 and a PhD in Oceanography and Coastal Sciences from Louisiana State University in 1999. For his doctoral dissertation Dr. Poach examined the soil phosphorus chemistry of created and natural wetlands in the
Atchafalaya Delta, LA. After graduation, he worked as a postdoctoral scientist for the USDA-Agricultural Research Service in Florence, SC where he studied the chemistry of constructed wetlands treating agricultural wastewater. When his postdoctoral tenure ended in 2005, he became an Environmental Analyst for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, where he spent his time examining the water quality of rivers and lakes throughout western Massachusetts and conducting bacteria source tracking. Returning to his marine roots, he joined NOAA in 2009 as a Marine Research Chemist. His current duties focus on monitoring the carbon and nutrient chemistry of ecosystems associated with the Mid-Atlantic Bight and on supporting experiments that investigate the effects of ocean acidification on commercially important fishes.

**Taylor Rodenberg ’15**  
*Staff Assessor*  
Partner Engineering and Science, Inc.

Taylor Rodenberg graduated from Monmouth University in 2015 with a bachelor’s degree, with honors, in Marine and Environmental Biology and Policy. She began work after graduation with the Monmouth County Mosquito Control Division as a field technician. She is currently working for Partner Engineering and Science, Inc. conducting Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) for commercial real estate transactions. Her position focuses on identifying potential environmental risks on a multitude of property types along the East Coast.

**Eric Wasnesky ’03 ’05M**  
*Science Teacher*  
Manasquan High School

After earning his Biology degree with a concentration in Marine and Environmental Biology and a minor in Chemistry from Monmouth University in 2003, Eric Wasnesky continued on to complete the Master of Arts in Teaching program in 2005. During that time and since he has worked for the NJDEP’s Endangered and Non-Game Species program and NJ Sea Grant Consortium, and he was a sea kayak guide in Alaska. He is currently a science teacher at Manasquan High School. For the last ten years he has been teaching Marine Science, Environmental Science, and a college-accredited Anatomy and Physiology course in the school’s Academy of Health Careers program. Eric also advises the Environmental and Photography Clubs and participates in a class that helps students transition into high school.
Jessica Avery, DVM
Veterinarian
Red Bank Veterinary Hospital

Jessica Avery, DVM earned her degree in biochemistry from Rutgers University in 2007 and her veterinary degree with honors from the University of Illinois in 2012. After graduating and practicing emergency medicine in Philadelphia, Dr. Avery quickly saw the need to provide all patients access to primary and preventative care. In 2013, Dr. Avery partnered in building Health in Home Veterinary Services, a small house call practice with big ideas on home care. Sharing the home care vision, in 2014 Red Bank Veterinary Hospital recruited Dr. Avery and her business partner to lead and develop RBVH At Home, a premier house call service that reaches patients across the NJ and Philadelphia areas. Dr. Avery’s unique and compassionate approach blends progressive veterinary medicine, parent education, and patient comfort. Her veterinary career interests include client communications, pain management, behavior, geriatric medicine, and hospice care.

Alexander Gorka, PhD ’08
Postdoctoral Fellow
National Cancer Institute

Dr. Alexander Gorka earned his BS in Chemistry from Monmouth University in 2008. Here, he performed research into synthetic methods to generate new G-quadruplex stabilizing agents under the direction of Professor Massimiliano Lamberto. He briefly served as a visiting researcher at the University of Miami, under the joint mentorship of Professor Lamberto and Professor Francisco Raymo. Alex went on to obtain a PhD in Chemistry in 2013 with Professor Paul Roepe at Georgetown University, where he studied drug pharmacology and resistance in Plasmodium falciparum malaria. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Martin Scherermann in the Chemical Biology Laboratory at the National Cancer Institute. His research interests are in developing and applying near-IR light-based uncaging strategies for drug delivery and control of gene expression. Alex
Matthew L. Johnston has co-authored numerous high-impact publications and been the recipient of several awards and honors. He hopes to further develop new theranostic approaches for cancer and malaria as an independent investigator.

Matthew L. Johnston
Senior Director, Research and Development
MILSPRAY™ Military Technologies

Matthew L. Johnston has over a decade of specialty polymer development for U.S. Military and commercial applications. Since joining MILSPRAY in 2010 he was promoted to the position of Director of Research and Development in 2014, and to Senior Director of Research and Development in 2015. Mr. Johnston is a Subject Matter Expert (SME) of Chemical Agent Resistant Coatings (CARC) and waterborne CARC coatings development.

During his career at MILSPRAY, Mr. Johnston has served as the Principal Investigator (PI) for the development of the Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Contract W911NF-09-02-0001 Multi-functional Stealth Coatings, PI for MILSPRAY’s Ballistic Resistant System™ (BRSTM) for police vehicles, PI for the development of energy-dissipative ballistic mitigation polymer systems, and PI for the development of optically clear Structural Fortification and energy-deflective Ballistic-Resistant Polymer systems. Mr. Johnston has also led the development of MILSPRAY’s innovative Craft & DIY paint product lines. He has gained multiple patents for MILSPRAY’s touch-up paint application systems as well as patents for developing a new category of touch-up paint application systems.

Mr. Johnston’s previous experience includes serving as the PI for the development of a multi-stage cured Radar Absorbing Material (RAM) for stealth aircrafts, development of direct-to-metal locomotive coatings, development of water-dispersed CARC coatings, development of protective coatings for vacuum vapor deposition solar mirrors, and formulations of industrial urethane and epoxy coatings. He served as an Assistant Scientist performing Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) examination and chemical characterization of dust and debris at Ground Zero following the 9/11 World Trade Center disaster, which is now known as World Trade Center Dust.
Robert Powoski ’08

*Analytical Chemist*

Advanced Biotech

Robert Powoski is a chemist who graduated from Monmouth University with a double major BS degree in Chemistry and Education. While at Monmouth, Rob engaged in summer research through the NSF-REU program at the University of North Texas. Following graduation he worked in the Quality Control lab at Church and Dwight Inc. for one year before earning his MS degree in Analytical Chemistry at the University of North Texas (UNT). His MS thesis examined molecular structure of acyl chloride hydrocarbons and their fluorinated counterparts using advanced FTMW spectroscopy instrumentation. After graduating from UNT he worked many years in a R&D/QC lab as a chemist testing crude oil and source water in the Microbial Enhanced Oil Recovery (MEOR) industry. Relocating back to the Northeast, he landed two short-term contract chemist positions, one for the Space Systems division of United Technologies supporting the NASA space suit and space technology, and another for the QC-Analytics division of Eli Lilly and Company. He is now employed as a chemist at Advanced Biotech, a supplier of flavor and fragrance raw materials that specializes in the natural organic markets. Throughout Rob’s career his main focus has been in analytical chemistry and instrumentation. He and his team rely heavily on Gas Chromatography (GC) and Gas Chromatography – Mass Spectrometry (GCMS) to insure that their products conform to their customers’ specifications and expectations. His favorite part of his work is applying and troubleshooting diverse instrumentation for important projects with talented subject matter experts (microbiologists, geologists, engineers, scientists, executives). He also values having worked during exciting times such as the first launch of the ORION space program, new biotherapy drug developments, and growth of a start-up company.

Lisa Salvemini ’07

*Chemist*

L’Oreal

Lisa Salvemini graduated from Monmouth University in 2007 with a bachelor’s degree in Chemistry and as part of the Italian Honors Society. In her senior year, she worked on BioDiesel (a research project geared toward developing diesel from cooking oils). Her first position was as a lab technician at Benjamin Moore & Co. There, she learned the ins and outs of quality testing of paints – making sure all of the plant batches of finished goods passed an array of testing prior to being released to the market.
After a year at Benjamin Moore & Co., she began work at L’Oreal USA, having been hired as an Associate Chemist in the Hair Color division and working primarily on patent-pending innovation projects. This was her first real glimpse into corporate life. It was also an opportunity to expand on many specific skills including formulating hair color bases and interacting with support groups (analytical, safety, microbiology, toxicology, patent attorneys, etc.).

In 2012 Lisa was promoted to Chemist and started working in development for Redken (a smaller company under L’Oreal USA in the professional division). Here she learned how to bridge taking care of business as usual while working very closely with other internal groups/labs. Another key part of the position was to learn hair color nomenclature (how to read color on models and swatches). Lisa has been recently promoted to Senior Chemist and is still working under the Redken brand with the addition of another professional brand - L’Oreal Technique. Some examples of products currently on the market that Lisa is responsible for: Redken Blonde Idol Hi Lift Color, Blonde Idol Base Breaker, and L’Oreal Technique Excellence Chroma.

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