2014 MDS Corporate Partners

The generosity of the 2014 UNC Chapel Hill MDS annual corporate donors provided student scholarships and educational resources for students and faculty. We are very excited about our partnerships with these leading companies in the molecular diagnostic science industry and are grateful for their support.

2014 Platinum Partners:

- Quest Diagnostics
- Nichols Institute
- HOLOGIC
- GEN-PROBE
- Roche

2014 Gold Partners:

- Abbott Molecular

2014 Silver Partner:

- LabCorp
- ZeptoMetrix Corporation
- SOLSTAS LAB PARTNERS

Thank you!

2015 Partner Benefits:

Platinum ($10,000 annual gift)

Named student award: Our Platinum Partners will have the exclusive opportunity to name a student project award that will be awarded based on merit annually at our Corporate Partners event. Students can use the monetary award to attend a national molecular diagnostic science professional conference or for other professional activities.

Special recognition: Platinum Partners will be prominently recognized on a plaque in the Division of Clinical Laboratory Science suite, the official Corporate Partners webpage, all MDS promotional brochures, and in the newsletter mailed nationally to more than 1,000 alumni.

Student mentorship opportunities: Interested Platinum Partners will be invited to serve as informal student mentors in the Molecular Diagnostic Science in the Corporate Setting course. The relationship with a Corporate Partner mentor can help students better understand future career opportunities, the development of new laboratory tests, and the challenges facing the industry.

Advanced recruitment opportunities: Platinum Partners will be provided with opportunities to network with our talented students who have been trained in molecular diagnostic science and will be able to post any job openings on the website.

Annual partner recognition event: Platinum Partners will receive special recognition at the 2015 annual corporate partners recognition event featuring updates on the MDS program.

GOLD ($5,000 annual gift)

Networking opportunities: Gold Partners will be provided with opportunities to network with our talented students.

Student mentorship opportunities: Interested Gold Partners will be invited to serve as informal student mentors in the Molecular Diagnostic Science in the Corporate Setting course. The relationship with a Corporate Partner mentor can help students better understand future career opportunities, the development of new laboratory tests, and the challenges facing the industry.

Recognition: Gold Partners will be recognized on a plaque, the official MDS Corporate Partners webpage, and in the biannual newsletter.

Annual partner recognition event: Gold Partners will receive special recognition at the 2015 annual corporate partner recognition ceremony on May 1, 2015 featuring updates on the MDS program, student awards, and presentations by the students completing the program.

SILVER ($2,500 annual gift)

Networking opportunities: Silver Partners will be provided with opportunities to network with our talented students.

Recognition: Silver Partners will be listed in the newsletter.

BRONZE ($1,250 annual gift)

Recognition: Bronze Partners will be listed in the newsletter.
Join the 2015 UNC-Chapel Hill Molecular Diagnostic Science Corporate Partners Program

The number of molecular-based laboratory tests is growing rapidly and the need for laboratory professionals who are experts in this area has never been greater. The Molecular Diagnostic Science (MDS) program provides professional education and training at the graduate level for laboratory scientists in the area of molecular diagnosis for acquired, inherited, and infectious diseases.

Partner impact

By supporting the MDS program with an annual gift, corporate partners will help recruit talented students, provide the financial support for students during the program, and provide resources for the educational program. Our corporate partners will make a major contribution to the health care needs of the public by increasing the number of laboratory professionals qualified to perform molecular-based tests in North Carolina and in the nation.

Degree program information

The UNC MDS Master’s Degree program prepares professionals who are competent in performing and interpreting molecular-based laboratory tests, explaining the appropriate use and meaning of molecular-based tests to other health care professionals, and establishing and validating new molecular methods in a clinical laboratory. The program uses web-based courses, laboratory courses, and a structured practical experience in a molecular diagnostic laboratory to prepare students for professional roles. Graduates will be qualified to take the national certification examinations in molecular biology from the ASCP-BOC.

Partner investment:

- Promotes the MDS program to potential students
- Provides three annual student scholarships
- Funds MDS course development and implementation
- Provides financial support for accreditation

Above: UNC MDS Class of 2015 at the 2014 Corporate Partners Recognition Event in Chapel Hill, NC.
Ryan Thomas Evans

Hometown: Mohrsville, Pennsylvania

Personal Statement: I have always been fascinated by the elegant power of molecular techniques to both uncover underlying genetics and to identify organisms and traits with the utmost sensitivity. This fascination initially pulled me into molecular biology basic research and ultimately into molecular diagnostics as my desire grew to have a greater translational impact and improve clinical outcomes. These interests, coupled with the rapid expansion and technological advancements occurring in the field, made molecular diagnostics both personally exciting and open for significant contribution. This led to my aspirations to oversee a molecular diagnostic laboratory and contribute to the field by serving patient needs, training new technologists, and directing the research and evaluation of new diagnostic techniques. Though I had a solid scientific and research background, I recognized that I required additional experience and training in order to reach my career goals. The Master’s in Molecular Diagnostics Science (MDS) program offers that training and gives me the knowledge to contribute scientifically in a clinical space. The MDS program and my career path require substantial personal commitment and the generous support of the Corporate Partners Scholarship both helps make that commitment possible and encourages me to continue following my goals.

Natasha Lopes Fischer

Hometown: Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Personal Statement: My interest in molecular biology was sparked in college, where I conducted research on the genetics behind hybridization in spadefoot toads. This experience taught me the basics of working in a laboratory and some molecular techniques, such as DNA extraction, PCR, and cloning. Additionally, I took a human genetics course that also influenced my professional aspirations. Learning about the mysteries of the human genome and the techniques that are used to explore it has incited me to pursue a career in molecular diagnostics. I am particularly interested in the area of research and development. I believe this area is important in the health care field because it allows faster and more reliable tests to be developed, which improves health care services by providing more efficient diagnostic tools. In the future, I hope to work in the industry, conducting research to develop better diagnostic tests. I would like to thank the Corporate Partners for the scholarship I received this year. I am extremely grateful and honored to be bestowed this award. Your generosity will help lessen my financial burden and allow me to focus more on my studies.

Canhong Cao

Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Personal Statement: I was born in China. In 2003, I came to the U.S. and obtained my PhD in Biomedical Sciences at UNM Albuquerque. After graduation, I worked as a post-doctoral researcher at UNC. Two years ago, I made a big career decision to move into the field of molecular diagnostic science. In this way, I am able to enjoy both scientific bench work and health care service. My goal is to provide patients with the best health care services in molecular diagnostics. To this end, it is very important that I receive an excellent academic and professional education. Undoubtedly, the MDS program at UNC Chapel Hill is helping me to achieve my career goal. I really enjoy studying in the learning community provided by the MDS program and the many generous sponsors who take this possible. It is a great honor to be the recipient of the MDS Corporate Partners Scholarship. This scholarship will help distinguish me from others in the competitive job market. It also encourages me to pursue my career aspirations.
2015 UNC-Chapel Hill Molecular Diagnostic Science Corporate Partners Program Registration Form

Company: ________________________________

Contact person: _________________________ Title: ____________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________

City: __________________ State: ______ Zip code: __________

Email: ____________________________ Phone #: _______________________

Step 1: Pledge corporate partner level:

Yes, we would like to make a commitment to become a MDS Corporate Partner with a tax-deductible contribution to the Medical Foundation of North Carolina, Inc:

_____ Platinum Partner ($10,000 per year for 3 years)

_____ Gold Partner ($5,000 per year for 3 years)

_____ Silver Partner ($2,500 per year for 3 years)

_____ Bronze Partner ($1,250 per year for 3 years)

Step 2: Choose your method of payment

☐ Check (Please make your check payable to the Medical Foundation of N.C., Inc. Indicate "CLS Advancement Fund ( #348801)" on the memo line.

☐ Credit Card

Please charge my gift of $_________  ☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard

Exp. date

☐ American Express

Please enter your credit card number in the above boxes

Signature __________________________ Date ___________

Please email, fax or mail to:

Kyle Gray, Director of Development, Department of Allied Health Sciences, Bondurant Hall, Room #2085, UNC at Chapel Hill, CB # 7120, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7120, Fax: 919.966.8384, Phone: 919.966.3352, Cell: 919.923-4908, Email: kyle_gray@med.unc.edu