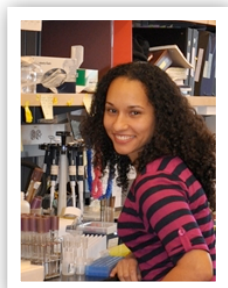
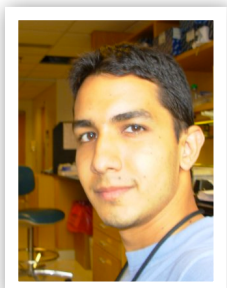


# The Graduate School Experience: *How is it like School? How is it like a Job?*

You are invited to attend  
TUFTS SPEAKERS FOR UMASS BOSTON CAREER PANEL ON GRADUATE SCHOOL  
Co-sponsors: IMSD Program @ UMass Boston & TEACRS Program @ Tufts

**When? Friday, October 14, 2011, 1:15-2:30**

**Where? McCormack, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, room 318**



**Mara Shainheit:** My research background is in Immunology and Infectious disease. I earned my PhD in the lab of Dr. Miguel Stadecker at Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences at Tufts University where I studied how the host immune response governs the development of either mild or fatal forms of disease following infection with the parasitic worm, *Schistosoma mansoni*. Currently, I am investigating the factors that may allow the bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae* to progress from a relatively harmless commensal to a potentially lethal, invasive pathogen.

**Daniel Ram:** After completing my high school education in Queen's College, Guyana I came to the US to study at Concordia College in Moorhead MN. I graduated with a bachelor's in Biology and a bachelor's in Chemistry in 2009. During my time in college I worked part-time in various biological fields doing research in field ecology, molecular plant physiology and parasitology at both Concordia College and in the USDA. I was also able to participate in a virology internship at the Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard. I am now beginning my 3rd year as an Immunology Graduate student at Tufts University.

**Dennise A. de Jesus:** I was born and raised in Puerto Rico where I earn a B.S. degree from the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey in Biology. After graduating magna cum laude in 2005, I participated in the Post-baccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP) at Tufts University. Currently, I'm a graduate student in the Molecular Microbiology Program at Tufts University School of Medicine in the laboratory of Dr. Ralph Isberg.

**Eydith Comenencia-Ortiz:** Eydith earned her BS in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico - Cayey. She is currently a PhD student in Neuroscience at the Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences in the lab of Dr. Stephen Moss. Her research focuses on the role of protein kinase C (PKC) phosphorylation in neurosteroid-mediated modulation of extrasynaptic GABAA receptors.

**Selena Ahmed:** I earned a BA in Economics, MSc in Anthropology and PhD in Biology. Currently, I am a postdoctoral fellow in the TEACRS program at Tufts University carrying out research in the lab of Dr. Colin Orians in the Department of Biology. I am examining the impact of climate change on tea (*Camellia sinensis* (L.) O. Kuntze; Theaceae) secondary metabolite chemistry and bioactivity in field studies and controlled experiments.

