

## STEM Job Search Panel

### Panelist Information

Diona Duvall



Ms. Diona Duvall is a Technical Recruiter, Talent Acquisition, in Human Resources. In this role, Diona mainly focuses on the Research Participant Program, which is an internship program for undergraduate and graduate students, at NREL. In addition, Diona assists across the lab hiring early career professionals. Prior to NREL, Diona was a Recruiter at the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR). Diona holds a BA in Business Administration from the Northern Arizona University.

Jerome Ford



Jerome Ford enlisted in the USAF in September 1989 in Baltimore, Maryland. He completed his military career at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station and Peterson AFB Colorado, serving 4 years with NORAD USNORTHCOM, Command and Control of Rescue Operations, where he retired in 2014. He currently works as an Administrative Officer and an Intern & Fellows Coordinator for U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 6. His volunteer career includes 17 years as a youth basketball coach, 15 years as a Deacon, 7 years as a biblical instructor, 4 years as a Literacy Program Volunteer, 1 year as an Executive Assistant to the President of the NAACP, ACT-SO Chairman of the NAACP and currently on the Board of Directors for the Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition. He earned his Master of Administration in Management and Leadership from Webster University and multiple credentials from the Community College of the Air Force including Professional Managers Certification, Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management/Human Resource Management, Management Air University and Information Systems Technology.

## Nathan Frank



Nathan (Nate) Frank is a Laboratory Scientist 4 at TerumoBCT. Nate has more than a decade of experience optimizing parameters for cell and gene therapy production and scale-up. He has specialized expertise in hollow fiber bioreactor process development for a range of cell types aimed at various applications in regenerative medicine and immunotherapy. He is a two-time National Science Foundation fellow and has a passion for teaching and communicating science to a wide range of audiences from established professionals to middle and high school students who are just beginning their scientific journey. He is a native of Colorado and enjoys backpacking in the backcountry in all four seasons and spending time with his family. Nate earned his BS degree in Biology at CU Denver and his MS in Integrative Biology also from CU Denver. Professional affiliations, awards and recognitions include National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Fellow, 2010 and 2011, International Society of Stem Cell Researchers (ISSCR), International Society of Cell and Gene Therapy (ISCT), North American Veterinary Regenerative Medicine Association (NAVARMA)

## Srinivas Ramachandran



Srinivas Ramachandran obtained a technology Bachelor degree in Industrial Biotechnology at Anna University, Chennai, India in 2006. He then went on to UNC Chapel Hill, where he conducted his graduate research from 2006 to 2011 in Biochemistry and Biophysics. He then was a postdoctoral fellow at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center for a postdoc from 2012 to 2017. He started as an Assistant Professor in University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus in January 2018. His research lab is interested in how a cell's identity is established and maintained, and in developing blood-based diagnostics for predicting treatment response in cancer.

## Waleska Rivera-Shon



Waleska is the Experiential Learning Program Manager at MSU Denver's Classroom to Career Hub. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Universidad Metropolitana, San Juan, Puerto Rico and her master's in science at The University of Texas at El Paso. Waleska studied Environmental Science for her bachelor's degree and Environmental Science and Engineering for her master's work. Professional affiliations and recognitions include Gates Millennium Scholar and SOARS Program Alumna. In terms of what was important in launching her career, Waleska states, "Experiential learning changed my life. I was able to do research at the National Center for Atmospheric Research as an undergraduate and expand my professional horizons that way. Critical thinking and problem solving are skills that can be applied to any field of work, and I attribute these to my science education."