

> IUBMB TI – Your Monthly Minutes

Your favorite monthly newsletter



It is a pleasure to see you again!

Hopefully, we recovered from the tragic news last week – to reignite spirits, we will slowly work on rebuilding the old momentum! Today, we do so together with Jessie Wong Ling Ai and discover how science and entrepreneurship can overlap. Enjoy everyone:

> *Who Jessie is*

Grew up in Singapore



Working on her PhD



Volunteer in multiple scientific endeavors



Successful in various Tournaments & Competitions



I am currently doing my PhD at the Duke-NUS Medical School, Singapore. My prior research, for my final project of my ungraduate studies, involved finding FDA-approved drug combinations to cause autophagy-mediated cell death in RAS mutant colorectal cancer.



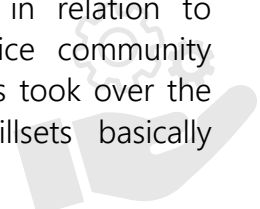
For my PhD, I focus on the role of MAPK signaling in Breast Cancer Brain Metastasis (BCBM). Currently, there isn't much research on the role of MAPK in BCBM. Despite that, we managed to find a role of fatty acid metabolism in its signaling, which prompted my current research topic.



When I was young, my dream was to learn something new every day. And science is the perfect field to make this aspiration come true. Another goal of mine is to combine entrepreneurship with science. As such, I have dabbled a bit in the start-up ecosystem.

Jessie, I saw that you co-founded a company on services for pets, is that right?

Yes, that is indeed correct. I always wanted to do something in relation to entrepreneurship. We founded "PORO" a peer-to-peer pet service community platform with some seed funding we have secured. While the others took over the coding, I was working on the business development. Our skillsets basically complemented each other.



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Venture Experiences

The engagement in entrepreneurship can be very valuable. It teaches you various soft-skills and especially improves one's ability in networking. Networking is a skill that is highly valuable, and unbelievable useful in the scientific setting as well. *(According to my humble opinion [Patrick], embracing a fundamentally different perspective will also enable you to see new aspects within your research as well as opportunities outside your current career path.)*



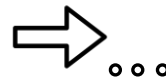
Another Social Media

I came up with the idea to start a Telegram channel as part of a new "initiative". Telegram offers a convenient way for IUBMB TI to reach out to science trainees. This is because Telegram has features such as announcement channels, polling and bots which i believe IUBMB TI can make full use of. *(Personally, I like this idea because Telegram channels transmit a more intimate feeling of connection. And still, they are not limited in size if we successfully grow it.)*



Hidden Synergies

As we may know, doing science is a long process. It requires months, if not years to actually get a manuscript out. In comparison, business or entrepreneurship has a shorter runway and provides refreshing insights from different perspectives which may help in critical thinking and providing an alternative point of view to solve a problem, be it scientific or not.



Our Future

My biggest hope for IUBMB TI is that we can hopefully increase our reach to more scientific trainees around the world! This is also partly the reason why I am in the social media team, where I can help to make a difference. Moreover, I really hope that IUBMB TI develops further so that the IUBMB TI members can meet each other face-to-face too.

> *The value of connection*

One advice from me would be to put some effort into networking and to be open-minded. Although this might be difficult for introverts like myself, the benefits eventually outweighs the cons. We might be able to meet interesting people along the way that may be able to help you in your scientific career :)

Short, quick and digestible for

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Trainee Initiative

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a big menu coming in October!