

# Vanguel Trapkov

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# Magistere de Genetique golden years

Licence 3 to Master 2 from 2008 to 2011

### **During my time at the Magistere**

Science is one of the greatest international disciplines, bridging people and uplifting humanity across nations by transcending all borders. Without the Magistere I would have never had the privilege of having the international scientific exposure which greatly enriched my personal and intellectual journey. My L3 internship was at the University of Cambridge, Dr David Summers' lab working with E Coli. The following year my M1 internship took me to the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Dr. Bob Eisenman's lab, working on understanding cMyc activity. For my M2 thesis, I had the privilege of studying at the Pasteur Institute in Dr. Ken McElreavey and Dr. Anu Bashamboo's Human Genetics lab, working to understand the genetic causes of Disorders of Sex Development.

## **Academic journey post Magistere**

After completing the Magistere, I joined the NYU School of Medicine for my PhD in the lab of Dr. Matthias Stadtfeld, and my research focused on the genetic engineering of adult and pluripotent stem cells towards a hematopoietic stem cell fate.

# **Professional journey post Academia**

After my PhD, I was very curious to understand how innovations happening in the lab ultimately reach patients in need, so I joined IQVIA Strategy Consulting Services in NYC, which focuses exclusively on healthcare with a very wide range of solution areas spanning from Strategy & Portfolio Analysis to Pricing & Market Access and Brand & Commercial Strategy, among others. This allowed me to get broad exposure to the process of drug development and commercialization, and I was working as much as possible on my favorite paradigm – Cell and Gene Therapies. I had the opportunity to further focus exclusively in the Cell Therapy space after joining the BMS Strategic Options & Assessment Team in 2021 where I was responsible for the development of the Cell Therapy arm of the Team.

#### **Current role**

In my current position, I lead a Team that is responsible for providing insights on the value and the strategic tradeoffs of different development paths for each of our internal pipeline assets, across the BMS Hematology, Oncology & Cell Therapy portfolio.

#### What I'm most grateful to the Magistere for

The Magistere provided me with a deep sense of community, exposing me to some of the brightest professors, peers and original thinkers I have ever met. Further, it gave me a very solid, well-rounded scientific training with specific focus of genetics and the ability to explore very different facets of science in phenomenal labs across several countries. Finally, after Dr. Vladimir Manchev gave me the bug through numerous successful brainwashing sessions – it gave me a sense of purpose to actively contribute to the development of Cell and Gene Therapies. There's no therapy like CAGT Therapy! Go CAGTs!