**TIBBS Career Blitz Career Profile Questionnaire**

1. Please provide your name and employer:

Jennifer Schiller, BioAgilytix

1. What is your current title and how long have you worked in your current job?

Scientist II - I’ve been a BioAgilytix for over 2 years and a Scientist II for 1 year.

1. Where did you get your PhD and what discipline was it in?

UNC Chapel Hill in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Eshelman School of Pharmacy - Division of Pharmacoengineering and Molecular Pharmaceutics

1. Did you do a postdoc?

No

1. What are your main daily responsibilities?

I serve as the lead for two of my group’s five clients. I meet with clients to keep them apprised of developments. I write experiments and analyze data for their assays. I run many of these experiments, but some of the experiments I write are performed by others in my group. I also consult with others in my group on their clients as needed and serve as a secondary for them.

1. What are the keys to success in your career field?

Communication - If anything goes wrong, my manager needs to know ASAP. Sometimes we can fix it. Sometimes we need to figure out how to tell the client. Additionally, we often need to work across several groups and departments to complete a project, so keeping everyone abreast of developments is essential.

1. What were the most important factors in choosing your career path and current employer?

I wanted an ethical employer - I didn’t want to feel pressured into manipulating data to push a drug to market, which in turn could jeopardize safety. At BAL, we market our integrity and neutrality, among other things, which means our focus is on producing and presenting high-quality data.

1. What activities (if any) did you participate in that helped you be successful in obtaining your job?

I used all the TIBBS careers resources and had many, many meetings with them my last year.

1. What 1 or 2 pieces of advice do you have for people who want to land a job like yours?

Keep your resume short (2 pages max), highlighting skills relevant to the job description.

Talk to people who work at the company. They may know more about the company’s current needs than the hiring website, and they may be willing to refer you.

1. How is the work/life balance in your career field and how much of a factor was that in your career choice?

My work/life balance is great. I leave work at work and my manager regularly makes it clear that our health and our families should be our priorities. That was definitely a factor in my career choice - I was feeling burnt out at the end of my PhD. Now I have clear boundaries and less stress.