Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Are interns paid?** NexGeneGirl interns are paid a $4000 stipend for participating in the summer program (based on minimum wage in San Francisco). Where possible, we ask internship hosts to pick up all or some of the stipend, however, we are also prepared to cover the cost of interns where this is not possible.

2. **What is the internship schedule for the NexGeneGirls intern?** All NexGeneGirls interns are expected to participate in their in-person research internships with their mentors on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for 5-6 hours/day.

3. **Why can we only work together on those 3 days?** The NexGeneGirls summer program includes a leadership development program focused on career exploration and college prep twice per week -- Mondays and Fridays. Activities include sharing lab/research notebooks, presenting findings; skill-building workshops on topics such as public speaking and financial literacy; STEM career panels and networking and mapping additional academic and career goals. One morning per week, NexGeneGirls lead hands-on science labs with elementary- and middle-school students of color, reinforcing their learning while allowing them to serve as role models for the next generation of females.

4. **What should I discuss in my weekly meetings with the NexGeneGirls intern?** The weekly meetings provide interns opportunities to ask questions about the project you have assigned and learn more about your work.
   a. **Some examples of discussion topics:**
      i. Review learning objectives and provide suggestions and support for helping the intern meet them.
      ii. Identify journal articles for the intern to read in support of a research project.
      iii. Help the intern analyze the journal articles for better understanding.

5. **How will the NexGeneGirls interns demonstrate that they have achieved the learning objectives?** Each intern is required to create a scientific poster on her summer research project. The scientific poster will help provide evidence of accomplishing the learning objectives. Interns will present their posters at the NexGeneGirls Summer Gala event on Friday, August 5, to which internship mentors are invited and encouraged to attend!

6. **Does the research project I have in mind for the NexGeneGirls interns need to be related to my current research, or can it be something else?** Yes, it can be something else. However, this is a great opportunity to expose interns to work that is
being conducted in your lab, or department, so that they can better understand the research and its application in an industry setting.

7. **What are the types of research projects that the NexGeneGirls interns have conducted?**
   
   a. Developing CRISPRi system to knockdown genes involved in oncogenesis of Ewing Sarcoma at University of California, San Francisco
   
   b. Generation of a fluorescent fusion protein to visualize filopodia to study WNT transportation at San Francisco State University
   
   c. Dendritic Spine development in 16p11.1 CNV carrier-derived neurons at University of California, San Francisco
   
   d. Recreating K7Q mutation in Human iPSCs at Gladstone Institutes
   
   e. Effect of shRNA knockdown of 16p11.2 CNV genes on development of iPSC-derived neurons at University of California, San Francisco
   
   f. Understanding the interactions of cardiac transcription factors ISL1 and NKK2.5 on DNA at Gladstone Institutes
   
   g. *Protein-Excipient Interactions Applied to the Protein Formulation Development* - Abiene Larkin, NGG and Trusha Parikh, AbbVie
   
   h. *Analysis of DMIS-derivatized Estradiol (E2) in Human Serum Using HPLC-MS/MS Technology* - Aneesa Mustafa, NGG and Purvi Jejurkar, AbbVie
   
   i. *Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the 2020-2021 Influenza Season* - Isabella DeLoa, NGG and Jill Walker and Mike Smith, Horizon Therapeutics
   
   j. *STK11 Characterization in Lung Adenocarcinoma Patients in cBioPortal* - Emily Rodriguez, NGG and Silvia Orozco, AbbVie
   
   k. *Investigating Markers of Macrophage Subsets in Renal Cancer Patients Using Single Cell RNA Sequence* - Ja’Lani Foster, NGG and Sarah Kongpachith, AbbVie
   
   l. *Molecule to Market: How TEPEZZA was FDA Approved* - Jamilla Key, NGG and Kelly Hogan, Horizon Therapeutics
   
   m. *Identifying Biomarkers to Evaluate Desensitization Following Multiple Treatments of rhIL-15* - Jaqueline Chavarria, NGG and Wildaliz Nieves, Nektar
   
   n. *Targeted Protein Degradation: The Structure and Effect of a Proteolysis Targeting Chimera (PROTAC)* - Meyajanelle Redmond, NGG and Paramasivam Natarajan, AbbVie
   
   o. *Investigating the Steps of Drug Development Through the Understanding of YUPELRI (Revenfencain) Inhalation Solution Approval* - Vanesa Velasquez, NGG and Asma Lat and Mariko Motohashi, Theravance Biopharma
   
   p. *Clinical Management Gaps in Urea Cycle Disorders and Newborn Screening* - Victoria Duran-Valero, NGG and Abigail Hata, Horizon Therapeutics

8. **Am I expected to support my intern in the development and presentation of her final poster?** Yes, you are expected to support the development of the intern’s poster and provide opportunities for presentation practice. Past examples include interns presenting at lab meetings.

9. **So what does a typical week look like for the NexGeneGirls intern?**
   
   a. Mondays: Conduct science workshops for elementary and middle school girls.
   
   b. **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays: Work in internships.**
c. Fridays: Participate in leadership development seminars focusing on college and career readiness.

10. What are NexGeneGirls Organizational Goals?
   a. Developing participant self-confidence, motivation, and ambition by teaching foundational skills in science, innovative thinking, and leadership
   b. Increasing exposure to women mentors and role models in STEM fields to dispel stereotypical notions that “girls aren’t good at math” and demonstrating that girls can be scientists and engineers
   c. Promoting a positive sense of identity in science through role models leading to high engagement in STEM education
   d. Strengthening and supporting higher education aspirations and economic empowerment for young women of color

More questions? Contact NexGeneGirls@califesciences.org