



Galina Petkova, MBA, MS

Senior Business Operations Lead

Academic Partnerships External
Innovation at Novartis.

Leads Global Sponsorships for Novartis
Biomedical Research and Early Career
Investigator Program

Education - MBA, MS – University
of Massachusetts Boston
Bachelor of Arts in Economy of
Tourism, Bulgaria

What keeps me energized: **Travel** – I love
experiencing different cultures, i.e. the
combination of languages, food, music,
dance and art. I have been to Japan and
India and my next dream destination is
Singapore.



Raf E. Luna, PhD, MBA

Head, Biomedical Education & Innovation
Academic Partnerships External Innovation at
Novartis

Education –
MBA—Boston College
PhD— Louisiana State University (Biological
Sciences)
BS—Southern University (Biological Sciences)

What keeps me energized: **Stories** –
complex ones with a plot twist and
unpredictable endings are the best. Good
Will Hunting and Kung Fu Panda are my
favorite movies, while 100 Years of Solitude
is my favorite book by Gabriel Garcia
Marquez. I love salsa dancing and pilates.

Summer Internships and Postbaccalaureate Internships



Commitment to **equity** along the entire **STEM** career path



Community Exploration & Learning Lab (CELL)

STEM programs for local youth
(800 – 1000 middle and high school students each year)



Summer and Postbac Internships

Research training for college students who plan to attend graduate school
(30 summer interns and 8 postbac interns each year)

Postdoctoral Training Program

Cutting-edge research opportunities
(80-90 postdoctoral fellows each year)



Early Career Investigator Program



Connecting academic innovators to NBR drug hunting expertise
(US based)

Early Career Investigator Program

- Work alongside a Novartis Scientist
- Develop drug hunting skills
- Expand networks within the Boston/Cambridge biomedical ecosystem

Investigator Profile

- PhD, MD, or MD-PhD degree
- Conduct research in a biomedical science field related to Novartis' areas of interest

