



“Being on the management side of a biotech company, I see the immediate benefits of Biotech Partners—you are crafting your own workforce. This program is a great source of human capital for any organization.”

Damian Kirkland,
Senior Production Planner, Global Supply
Chain, BioMarin Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Biotech Partners Graduate, 1997

Biotech Partners

BAYBIO EDUCATION PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Build Your Biotech Workforce, Transform Lives - Invest Now

The story of Damian Kirkland, accepting tonight's Educator of the Year Award on behalf of Biotech Partners, shows the power of this innovative program.

Since 2007, Damian has been principal production planner for two commercial products at BioMarin. Previously, he worked at Genentech for nearly 10 years, most recently as senior supervisor of an 11-member lab developing five different cancer drugs with a \$14 million budget. Genentech initially hired Damian as an entry-level technician to help start up a new \$300 million manufacturing plant in Vacaville.

Damian completed his Master's Certificate in Supply Chain Management from the University of San Francisco and earned a BS degree in economics from San Francisco State. He is currently cross-training in corporate finance with the goal of shifting his career focus to the business side of biotech.

Damian credits Biotech Partners with his success. With no planned career path, he enrolled in Berkeley High School's Biotech Academy. Based on the experience, he then enrolled in Biotech Partners at Laney College. "I knew biotech was a cutting-edge industry, and I wanted to be part of it. I knew the best path after high school was continuing in Biotech Partners and getting that experience directly with companies like Bayer, where I completed my internship."

"A lot of what I have in my life and what I've obtained as far as work skills, life skills and education is due to Biotech Partners. This program changes people's lives."