



## Scholars Introduced to Industry at NJIT



Ryan Blackmore of Janssen leading a professional skills workshop.



Janssen's Brenda Sarokhan talks about her career.



Jonathan Gabel of BD showing medical devices he engineers.

The Governor's STEM Scholars held their Industry and STEM Conference at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. This conference gave the scholars a thorough introduction to STEM opportunities in the state's private sector.

The day began with a presentation by Ryan Blackmore, worldwide director of human resources at Janssen Pharmaceuticals. Blackmore gave an informative and high energy overview on how to network, write a great resume, and make the most of an interview. In particular, he emphasized the importance of taking every opportunity to make a positive impression.

Following Blackmore's presentation, the scholars had the chance to put his lessons to work in a unique professional setting called STEM Speed Networking. During this session, the scholars circulated around the room meeting with professionals from some of the state's top STEM companies, including BD, BMS, Celgene, Janssen, PSEG, and South Jersey Industries. Each professional spoke about

their own professional journeys and life within their companies. In addition, they all were able to guide interested scholars to potential internship opportunities with their employers.

After a lunch break where the students worked on their STEM research projects, the scholars split into two groups where they toured the innovation laboratories at NJIT. At the first laboratory, the Swarm Labs, they met Dr. Simon

Garnier, who spoke to the students about his work studying the mechanisms of swarm intelligence in natural and artificial systems. At the Center for Injury Biomechanics, the scholars got a firsthand look at research into head traumas funded by the Department of Defense.

Feedback from the conference was overwhelmingly positive with many of the scholars enthusing that this was the best event of the year. After seeing their fellow scholars starting internships in the New Jersey State Assembly and the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, the number of students interested in having a STEM internship experience in New Jersey markedly increased.



NJIT's Dr. Simon Garnier introduces students to his work on swarm intelligence.

## In the News...

**The Star-Ledger**  
NJ.COM  
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**The humble pioneer**  
With the silicon transistor, Morris Tanenbaum helped usher in the computer age

ALICE KORNBLAU/STAR-LEDGER  
Morris Tanenbaum, pictured in his Short Hills home, developed the world's first silicon transistor while working at Bell Laboratories. At right, a photo comparing the silicon transistor, left, with a germanium one. The coin is there to give a sense of size.

By Alexi Friedman  
STAR-LEDGER STAFF

**L**ong before there was Steve Jobs of Apple, Bill Gates of Microsoft or Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook, there was Morris Tanenbaum of Bell Laboratories. Tanenbaum, a former research scientist, is considered a founding father of the digital age, someone who paved the way for modern technology.

TOP: GUY LAWRENCE/GETTY IMAGES

- R&D Council holds STEM event at NJIT, NJBIZ, February 8
- College Scholars Meet Bell Labs Silicon Transistor Inventor Morris Tanenbaum, February 20 (pictured)
- Edison Laboratories Talk and Tour, March 2
- STEM Week at the State Capitol, March 14
- Department of Environmental Protection, April 9
- STEM in New Jersey Conference, May 14

[www.govstemscholars.com](http://www.govstemscholars.com)



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