## BIOTECHNOLOGY/BIOMEDICAL/BIOPHARMACEUTICALS

exposed to many opportunities and, most often, when I was not actively seeking them," she remarks.

Success in engineering comes from understanding you don't have all the answers, according to Washington.

"Engineering teaches us to break down complex systems and understand the dependencies," she says. "By honing this skill, it allows us to take a

holistic approach to finding solutions. This requires asking questions of specialty experts to enhance the appreciation of the dependencies."

Inspect illumina.com/company/careers.html for Illumina job possibilities. Connect on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter.

## ENGINEERING IS THE IDEAL FIT FOR NOVO NORDISK'S EMANUEL

Mina Emanuel believes her career "chose" her. Today she's a project manager for Novo Nordisk's pharmaceutical manufacturing site in Clayton, NC, overseeing highly technical process automation projects for the company's manufacturing IT systems.

But, initially, Emanuel pursued engineering not as a destination, but as a stepping stone to a medical degree.



Nina Emanuel and engineering go together like a hand and glove. Though originally a chemical engineering major with aspirations of medical school, she found her calling in engineering after completing a professional internship during her senior year of college. Today she's a project manager for Novo Nordisk who's constantly expanding her skills.



## Novo Nordisk's Bio

Novo Nordisk is a global healthcare company with more than 90 years of innovation and leadership in diabetes care. It also tackles other serious chronic conditions such as rare bleeding disorders, growth hormone-related disorders and obesity.

Know more at novonordisk-us.com and novonordisk.com.

have tackled projects of increasing responsibility and coordination. In the end I would say that my career chose me," she explains.

She particularly loves that her job is never the same. "Each project is different, and each project team is unique. As a project manager, I have one of the most diverse job functions, and I'm able to interact with dynamic, cross-

functional teams."

With the company for nearly two years, Novo Nordisk - whose U.S. headquarters is in Plainsboro, NJ and global headquarters is in Bagsvaerd, Denmark - was attractive to Emanuel for several reasons, including the company's commitment to balancing work with personal life. Professional flexibility is another benefit.

"Our employees are constantly 'on the move.' By providing people with diverse opportunities, individual contributors are able to bring different perspectives to each new role. This enrichment and professional development strategy is often mutually beneficial to both the employee and the company," she says.

While networking is key in all industries, it's especially important in smaller ones such as the pharmaceutical industry, contends Emanuel.

## "MAINTAINING

FOR CAREER CHANGES AND PROFESSIONAL MENTORSHIP."

"Be sure to stay connected with neighbors, friends from college and colleagues from previous jobs by sending emails or catching up for lunch. The pharmaceutical industry, like many others, is relatively small. You will often encounter some of the same people again at a new location, in a new role. Maintaining relationships will open doors for career changes and professional mentorship."

She notes mentorship is important in all stages of one's career and may not be limited to a single person.

"Look to your college professors, your previous managers and coworkers. Don't forget you, too, can provide mentorship early in your career, perhaps to aspiring high school or college students," Emanuel encourages.

Navigate novonordisk-us.com/careers.html and novonordisk.com/careers.html for Novo Nordisk jobs.

Connect on LinkedIn,

Facebook,

Twitter, YouTube,

Instagram and Pinterest.

"I initially majored in chemical engineering as it appeared to be a good fit for developing the analytical mindset needed for medical school. Along the way, life and love changed my mind," elaborates Emanuel.

Having completed a professional internship during her senior year, Emanuel was well-prepared to join the pharmaceutical industry after college. She received a full-time job offer for a position as a validation engineer immediately upon graduating as a prestigious Park Scholar from North Carolina State University.

Later, moving to a position in engineering project management became an "easy fit" for her personality, education and skill set.

"For the last seven years, I've been adding 'tools to my toolbox' and