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Profile

The IT graduate Shaun

Junior SAP Functional
Consultant, IT,
age 25



Up to \$1bn

the amount it can cost to bring a new
medicine to market

Q: What is your role at GSK?

My position is within a new graduate programme that is helping to build SAP IT capability in GSK.

Q: SAP? What's that?

SAP is a widely used business management software system. My work activities concentrate on the supply chain aspect of the business. We want to ensure that we successfully integrate technologies with the suppliers who manage our medicine stocks. The SAP IT system I am helping to construct supports this activity and allows us as a company to be quicker, and smarter, in the way we provide medicines to people around the world.

Q: What does your typical day involve?

I regularly meet GSK employees who are based in different countries, to understand what the SAP IT system needs to do to support their daily business operation. The gathering of this information is a fun yet challenging process, but in order to be successful, you have to very clear and fully understand how each business operates. Once understood, we then map this into the SAP IT.

Q: How does the graduate scheme work?

The graduate scheme I am enrolled on is three years in length and has enrolled 10 graduates. As part of the scheme I study a postgraduate MTech in Information and Communication Technology in Business from Brunel University, and SAP certification. My undergraduate degree is in IT and Business Management. I have always naturally been interested in the technical make-up of the technology I have managed to get my hands on, be it a mobile phone or a computer. I have carried this interest into what is now the start of my career.

Profile

The biologist

Hitesh

Senior Scientist,
Safety Assessment;
age 33



It gives me tremendous satisfaction that my work is really important in drug development.



Q: What is your role at GSK?

My current role is in the pathology unit, conducting studies in the lab on potential new treatments we are investigating. Pathology at GSK has two main parts – clinical pathology and histotechnology. Clinical pathology carries out tests on biological fluids like blood and urine. Histotechnology – my department – performs tests on tissues and organs.

Q: What qualifications do you have?

I graduated from Gujarat University, India with an honours degree in zoology and then completed my masters in physiology and endocrinology. I received MSB, CBiol (Chartered Biologist) status from the Society of Biology.

I am now studying for a work-based MSc in applied toxicology at the University of Surrey.

Q: Why did you become a scientist?

I was interested in biology and physiology from my school days, and I always had questions in my mind. How does the body work? How do medicines work? I carried this interest into my education and then into my work life.

Q: What does your typical day involve?

I am primarily involved in selecting and preparing tissue samples onto glass slides to go under a microscope. By looking at these samples we can detect whether the experimental medicines we are researching could cause any changes to a body or its systems. So if we are researching a potential new treatment for kidney disease, we will look at the effect the compound has on kidney tissue.

This is a really important step in the search for a new medicine as compounds we investigate can show promise in treating a disease, but might have other effects in the body that mean they are not suitable to develop as a medicine.

It gives tremendous satisfaction to me that my work is really important in drug development.

Resume + job posting
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