



April Stanley, MS, MBA

Life Sciences Associate

Echo Investment Capital

April Stanley leads diligence for life sciences investments at Echo Global, which is a venture firm focused on early-stage life science and biotech companies. She originally joined the Echo family as one of the founding employees of Wheeler Bio, an Echo-incubated portfolio company. She has 11 years' experience at Cytovance Biologics, where she began working at the bench building E. coli strains for GMP manufacturing and later led multiple groups. She led the launch of three new services for the company, which now account for most of their annual revenue.

During her time there she was the technical liaison for the sales team and interacted daily with the many VC-backed clients and potential clients who were seeking contract services. This led to an interest in the business and funding side of drug development and propelled her to return to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for an MBA. Throughout her tenure at Cytovance she worked closely with the Business Development and Corporate Strategy teams. She also has a BS Zoology from Texas A&M-College Station and a MS Microbiology from UIUC.

She has previously worked at Dow Biopharma, now Pfenex, and Charlesson, an OKC-based drug discovery company. She has also taught various undergraduate and graduate-level classes at San Diego State University, University of Central Oklahoma, and UIUC.