

Transitioning from Academia to a Cryo-EM CRO

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Emily Armbruster is a Senior Scientist at NanoImaging Services (NIS), a contract research organization (CRO) offering cryo-electron microscopy (cryo-EM) services to the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. She obtained a BS from Hope College with a major in Biology and Chemistry in 2013. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Missouri in 2019, where she investigated the structural conformations of the 70S ribosome using multiple biophysical techniques as a member of Peter Cornish's lab. As part of her graduate work, she spent 2017-2019 at Oak Ridge National Laboratory performing small-angle neutron scattering studies. She then served as a postdoctoral researcher in Amedee des Georges' lab at the CUNY Advanced Science Research Center from 2019-2022, where she employed cryo-EM to investigate a variety of molecular machinery ranging from small kinases to large vesicles and viruses. Her current role at NIS is in the Target Structural Enablement group, where she uses cryo-EM to enable structure-based drug design projects in the hopes of helping NIS's clients produce life-changing therapeutics.