

Syeda Islwyn

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EDUCATION

Duke University, Durham, NC

Anticipated Graduation May 2017

Bachelor of Science in Biology and Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

GPA: 3.48, Dean's List Fall 2015

Relevant Coursework: Molecular Biology, Genetics and Evolution, General Chemistry I, Organic Chemistry I, Physics I

HONORS AND AWARDS

Independent Study Grant, Duke Undergraduate Research Support Office

Fall 2015 and Spring 2016

National Merit Scholarship

May 2013

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Research Associate, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC February 2013-Present

Project: Protein X Regulation of Protein Y localization for antiviral innate immunity

How does the localization of protein Y, a central innate immune adaptor, impact its function and its role in the antiviral response?

- Developed and implemented strategy to address research question in collaboration with PI and graduate supervisor
- Optimized project-specific protocols for qRT-PCR, PCR, siRNA Knockouts, Western Blots, Luciferase Assays,
- Immunofluorescence, and Microscopy
- Compiled and analyzed all data output in STATA to evaluate significance of experimental results; developed
- comprehensive lab reports summarizing protocol and findings to support future research
- Applied for and received Undergraduate Research Grant from Duke University in support of this project
- Presented project updates and data at weekly lab meetings and independently conducted a lab meeting
- Participated in biweekly lab journal club to stay updated on the current literature regarding innate immunity

Supervisor – Dr. Charlie Example, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology

Laboratory Skills

Cell Culture

Western Blot

Northern Blot

Agarose Gel Electrophoresis

PCR/ qRT-PCR

Bacterial Transformation

Plasmid and siRNA transfection

Virus Infections and Maintenance

Confocal Microscopy (Zeiss 710 formal training)

Fluorescent Microscopy

DNA/RNA Extraction and Purification

Protein Harvest and Quantification

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Shadowing Physicians, Boston, MA

May 2014-Present

- Observed 75 hours of surgical procedures, patient consultations, and medical staff meetings to build first-hand
- understanding of successful patient care; developed a strong interest and foundation in the biomedical field

Tufts University Summer Program at the School of Medicine, Medford, MA

Summer 2012

- Received thorough instruction on anatomy via lectures, 3D interactive experiences, and the anatomy lab

National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine, Boston, MA

Summer 2011

- Engaged with peers and professionals to learn about career opportunities in healthcare and effective medical practice
- Researched current healthcare topics and prepared content; participated in two debates on U.S. healthcare reform

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Volunteer, GANO (Gente Aprendiendo para Nuevas Oportunidades), Duke University Fall 2013-Present

- Meet with local Spanish-speaking immigrants and their families twice weekly to improve English language skills

Private Tutoring, Boston, MA and Durham, NC 2010-Present

- Tutored over 30 students ages 5-19 in math, science, Spanish, and in preparation for the SAT to promote stronger comprehension of subject concepts and test-taking skills

Volunteer, Boston Homeless Shelters and Services, Boston, MA 2010-2012

- Identified prospective donor corporations and represented the organization at community events to fundraise \$5,000
- Organized office files and assisted clients with obtaining missing documents such as medical records and court files

SKILLS

Languages: Fluent in Spanish

Computer: Microsoft Office Suite, STATA, Photoshop, Illustrator, FIJI, GraphPad Prism