

Jordan Thomas Best

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Home Address

2103 Natchez Trace, Apt B
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EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University Nashville, TN 37235 PhD Student, Biological Sciences GPA: 3.778	2014-Present
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Chapel Hill, NC 27599 B.A., Biology	2008-2012
New Bern High School New Bern, NC 28562 Graduated with Honors	2004-2008

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Laboratory of Dr. Todd Graham, Vanderbilt University May 2015-Present

- Investigating the role of membrane fluidity in trafficking events, the cellular mechanisms involved in sensing membrane fluidity, and mechanisms of membrane fluidity homeostasis.

Laboratory of Dr. Mara Duncan, University of Michigan Oct. 2013-June 2014

- Worked to understand role of uncharacterized endosomal proteins, gvp36 and ypr148c using a variety of genetic, microscopy, and biochemical techniques.

Laboratory of Dr. Mara Duncan, University of North Carolina July 2012-Sept 2013

- Worked to understand the activation mechanism of yeast protein kinase Snf1 in the context of nutrient depletion and its regulation in the context of increasing cellular energy levels.
- Generated a large quantity of yeast strains through transformations and genetic crosses for use in a variety of on-going projects within the lab.
- Purified a selection of proteins and antibodies to be used in experiments around the lab.

Laboratory of Dr. Ralph Baric, University of North Carolina Aug 2011-May 2012

- Created a recombinant NL63 coronavirus with a receptor protein from a murine hepatitis virus.
- Used a variety of lab techniques, including transfections, transformations, prepping plasmids, and cell culturing.

JOB EXPERIENCE

Research Technician/Lab Manager-Dr. Mara Duncan's Lab, UofM 09/2013-06/2014

- Continuing former post-doc's work studying roles of endosomal proteins, gvp36 and ypr148c using molecular biology, microscopy, and biochemical techniques.
- Acting as lab manager, responsible for all ordering/inventory tasks
- Played a major role in setting up a new lab space at UofM when the lab moved from UNC-CH.

Research Technician/Lab Manager- Dr. Mara Duncan's Lab, UNC-CH 06/2012-09/2013

- Conducted experiments and generated strains for a variety of on-going projects within the lab.
- Handled all ordering/inventory, scheduled and supervised undergraduate workers, and ensured compliance with OSHA and other safety standards.

Undergrad Researcher- Dr. Ralph Baric's Epidemiology Lab, UNC-CH 06/2011-05/2012

- Created a recombinant Coronavirus to compare growth and infectivity to wild-type.

Sales Lead- ALDO Shoes, Durham, NC 02/2011-12/2012

- Worked on the sales floor and was a shift leader.
- Closed/Opened the store and dealt with daily accounting.

SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES

- Electron microscopy, confocal microscopy, transformations (bacteria and yeast), DNA/plasmid preparation, transfections (with lipofectamine and electroporation), yeast genetics, protein purification, antibody purification, biochemical assays (ex. luciferase luminescence assay), western blotting, immunoprecipitation, molecular biology techniques, pcr-based genotyping, data analysis using ImageJ and assorted plug-ins, cofractionation using gel filtration (FPLC), fluorescence microscopy (BiFC, FRET, FRAP), FM4-64 based trafficking/recycling/uptake assays, rapamycin-capture assay, cell culture, basic Python coding

LEADERSHIP

Secretary - Club Wrestling Team - UNC-CH 2008-2010

- Coordinated events and handled organizational needs

Assistant Wrestling Coach at HJ MacDonald Middle School 2007-2008

- Conducted practices and provided coaching at matches

Secretary - National Honor Society, NBHS 2007-2008

- Directed and coordinated membership events

- Vice-President* of Teen Democrats 2007-2008
- Directed outreach initiative and strategies to recruit new members.

HONORS

- Cellular, Biochemical, and Molecular Science Training Grant Recipient 2015-Present
- New Bern Historical Society Harriet Marks Scholar 2008-2012
- Regional Science Olympiad Silver Medalist in Biology 2007-2008
- Dean's List at UNC-Chapel Hill (two semesters) 2008-2012
- AAAS Member 2014-Present

REFERENCES

- Dr. Todd Graham
Professor, Biological Sciences
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, TN 37235
tr.graham@vanderbilt.edu
- Dr. Mara Duncan
Assistant Professor, Cell and Developmental Biology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
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- Dr. Ralph Baric
Professor, Epidemiology
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
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- Dr. Mark Peifer
Hooker Distinguished Professor, Biology
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- Dr. Vineet Menachery

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