

Kazu Okamoto

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

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Goals:

My experience in academia has allowed me to refine my academic and professional goals. I intend to obtain a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and become a primary investigator. I am currently finishing my first year as a graduate student at the University of New Hampshire. I have chosen to work with Dr. Stacia Sower in the field of Molecular Neuroendocrinology.

Extracurricular

I am an avid rock climber and have been so for the last four years. I have been kayaking for two seasons. I have been snowboarding for the last sixteen years and was a professional snowboarder for five years. I have also surfed for most of my life. Recently in the past 5 years I have been avidly pursuing the sport of four wheeling, which has led to me to develop auto mechanical skills, as well as, computer hacking skills, num chuck skills, bow staff skills and tight rope walking skills.

Education:

I hold an Associate degree in Ceramic Arts and a Bachelors degree in Biochemistry with a minor in Chemistry. I am currently working towards my Doctorate degree in Biochemistry.

Experience:

I have been working in a gene expression laboratory for two years. During my tenure I have learned many techniques with emphasis in molecular cloning, cell culture, and western blot analysis. Projects I have completed are; The Effects of Anisomycin on Phosphoenolpyruvate Carboxykinase and Glutminase Expression, pH Response of Upstream Elements of Phosphoenolpyruvate Carboxykinase, and Characterization of the pH Responsive Element in Phosphoenolpyruvate Carboxykinase. (Abstracts can be obtained upon request.)

Scholarship programs completed:

McNair Scholarship Program 2002-2003

The McNair program is a summer program that offers graduate school preparation and funding for summer research.

PEAKS Scholarship 2003-2004

The Peaks program is held in conjunction with the McNair program and also awards funding for summer research.

Conferences attended:

McNair Conference, Summer 2002 – Poster presentation

CSU Undergraduates in Science, Fall 2003 – Poster presentation

Peaks/McNair Conference, Fall 2003 – Poster presentation

LSLAMP Integrated Technology, Fall 2003 – Poster presentation

References:

University of New Hampshire

Dr. Stacia Sower- Primary investigator, Advisor and professor.
(603) 862-2103

Colorado State University

Dr. Norman Curthoys – Primary investigator, Professor and department head.
(970) 491-5566

Lynn Taylor – Research associate and supervisor.
(970) 491-0583

Dr. Mary Robinson – Post doctorate research assistant.
(970) 491-0583

Dr. Cathy Radebaugh – Associate professor and research associate.
(970) 491-0576