BMSC 8219
Feb 22 2021

The Biosketch is *not* your CV

SMHS [APT CV required](#) guidelines
The Biosketch tells your story

1. The NIH Biosketch is an overview used by funders
2. Your biosketch should be tuned for each application
3. Contains 4 sections:
   - Personal Statement
   - Positions & Honors
   - Contributions to Science
   - Research Support
4. “New” Biosketch 2021
   - no more D other support, but highlight funding added year by year support documentation
Use NIH Biosketch instructions and forms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form Name</th>
<th>Biographical Sketch Format Page (fellowship)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Prepare biographical sketches for applications and progress reports for fellowship applications and awards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Access</td>
<td>Fellowship Biosketch (blank format page, Word)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructions</td>
<td>Instructions for Biographical Sketch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Additional Information | • Predoctoral Fellowship biosketch sample (Word)  
                          • Postdoctoral Fellowship biosketch sample (Word)  
                          Try SciENcv to help you develop your biosketch and automatically format it according to NIH requirements. |
| Updated Date       | March 2020 |

Use the correct SF 424 forms for your biosketch (check date)
Your Curriculum Vitae is not your NIH Biosketch

Manage your biosketch online with SciENCV

Anyone with a MyNCBI account can use SciENcv
Address Review Criteria in Biosketch

Candidate

· Does the candidate have the potential to develop as an independent researcher?
· Are the candidate's prior training and research experience appropriate for this award?
· Is the candidate's academic, clinical, and research record of high quality?
· Is there evidence of the candidate's commitment to become an independent investigator in research?
Your Biosketch Contains

- Lead application
- eRA Commons
- Proposal Goal
- Long term goals
- Education, training
- Leadership
- Past funding
- Need the grant

- Employment
- Memberships
- Honors
- Licensure

- Courses and grades
- Funded grants

- Early career
- Graduate & postdoc
- ORCID
- My NCBI

Personal Statement

Position & Honors

Research Support & Scholastic Performance

Contributions to Science
Personal Statement

- Lead application
- eRA Commons
- Proposal Goal
- Long term goals
- Education, training
- Leadership
- Past funding

Modify for each grant application

Why you are suited for your role
Name names/grant

Long term research goals
Relevant training or technical expertise
- Past funding awards
- Career motivation
- Collaborators/environment

Can briefly describe any impediments
- Family care, illness, active military service

Add up to 4 publications or “research products”
A. Personal Statement

My long term research interests involve the development of a comprehensive understanding of key developmental pathways and how alterations in gene expression contribute to human disease. My academic training and research experience to date have provided me with an excellent background in molecular biology and microbiology. While in high school I was awarded an NIH Diversity Supplement award to work as a research technician for two summers in Dr. Indira Creative’s lab at the University of Hawaii. As an undergraduate at Swarthmore College, I conducted research with Dr. Xavier Factor on the mechanisms of action of a new class of antibiotics. This resulted in a co-authorship publication, as well as an invitation to present a poster at the annual Antibiotics meeting in Denver, Colorado. For my graduate training at UC San Diego, I have moved into the fields of genetics and biochemistry by studying the regulation of transcription in yeast, under Dr. Tanti Auguri. Dr. Auguri is an internationally recognized leader in the field of yeast genetics and has an extensive record for training predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows. Along with giving me new conceptual and technical training, the proposed training plan outlines a set of career development activities and workshops – e.g., public speaking, literature analysis, biomedical ethics, and career options. For my initial project I am currently developing a novel protocol for the purification for components of large transcription complexes which I hope to submit as a first author publication in the next few months. As a native Hawaiian, I am the first in my family to graduate from college so I am excited to keep pushing forward with my education. Overall, I feel that my choice of sponsor, research project, and the training I will get from this fellowship will give me a solid foundation for my long-term goal to become an academic researcher.

1. Robertson-Chang L, Factor X. Testing the ability of antibiotic Gen Y to kill Gram-negative bacteria. Antibiotics annual meeting; 2011 September; Denver, CO.
Example of Personal Statement

I am an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) and the Principal Investigator of this Career Development Award. The focus of my K23 is to develop and test a behavioral intervention for chronic pain in HIV-infected patients. My long-term goal is to become a successful independent investigator focusing on improving pain, physical, and emotional function in HIV-infected patients with chronic pain, and to develop and test behavioral interventions in this area, including conducting behavioral clinical trials. This is an important emerging field in which there is limited knowledge.

I have completed a Center for Clinical and Translational Science pilot grant, and 18 months of a two year institutional K12 Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Career Development Award. During this time, I have investigated the relationship of pain and outcomes in HIV-infected patients, adapted and tested a Brief Chronic Pain Screening Tool in HIV-infected patients, and conducted qualitative interviews to understand the chronic pain experience in HIV-infected patients. I have also received targeted mentorship in psychometrics and qualitative research, and taken corresponding courses at the UAB School of Public Health, in addition to the core quantitative coursework series that I am currently completing.

My pilot grant and K12 have provided me with the opportunity to receive initial research training, conduct investigations that will serve as the foundation for the work I propose in my K23 application, and write first author manuscripts that have been accepted by peer-reviewed journals. I have also achieved national recognition in my field. I received an American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Young Investigator Award; developed a module on HIV and chronic pain for the NIH Pain Consortium Center of Excellence in Pain Education; serve on the Infectious Diseases Society of America’s HIV and Pain Guidelines Panel; and am a Core Faculty member of the IAS-USA, in which I lecture on HIV and chronic pain. However, in order to complete the project described here, achieve my long-term career goals, and become an independent investigator, I need additional training in health psychology/mental health and chronic pain-behavioral intervention development and testing. I have selected an excellent mentorship team, led by Dr. Michael Saag, with co-mentors Drs. Mallory Johnson and Robert Kerns. My mentors have extensive and complementary areas of expertise in health psychology/mental health (Johnson), chronic pain behavioral intervention development and testing (Kerns), and behavioral clinical trials within cohorts such as CNICS (Saag), plus a strong track record of mentoring junior investigators.

In sum, the proposed career development award will provide critical support for my transition to a career as an independent physician-investigator, focusing on developing and testing behavioral interventions for chronic pain in HIV-infected patients.

Mention the grant
Long term goal
Your strengths
You need grant
Merlin K23
Positions and Honors

Experience

Employment -- resident, fellow

Honors-- describe

Professional Societies

Licensure
Example of Positions & Honors

**Employment**
- 2005-2008: Resident in Internal Medicine, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- 2008-2010: Fellow in Infectious Diseases, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- 2010-2011: Fellow in Palliative Medicine, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, NY, NY
- August 2011-: Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Divisions of Infectious Diseases and Gerontology, Geriatrics, and Palliative Care, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL

**Honors**
- 2000: Phi Beta Kappa
- 2001: Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship
- 2003: Norman V. Weschler Fellowship for MBA Studies
- 2008: College of Palliative Care Scholarship Award
- 2008: Mary E. Groff Fellowship in Clinical Research Methods, Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of Pennsylvania
- 2010: Penn Pearls Teaching Award, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
- 2010: Infectious Diseases Society of America Conference Travel Grant
- 2010: Certificate in Clinical Epidemiology, Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of Pennsylvania
- 2011: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Young Investigator Award
- 2011: International Association of Hospice and Palliative Care Travel Grant for travel to Vietnam
- 2011: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Mentorship Program award
- 2011: Advanced Illness and Multimorbidity (AIM) Scholar, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- 2013: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Research Scholar
- 2014: Tinsley Harrison Teaching Scholar
- 2014: Research Supplement Award based on the UAB Department of Medicine Research Metrics Survey (includes grant funding, publications, and external lectures given)
- 2014: Faculty participant, Chief Resident Immersion Training Program in Addiction Medicine, Boston University

**Professional Societies and Committees**
- 2010-present: Infectious Diseases Society of America
- 2010-present: Infectious Diseases Society of America HIV and Pain Guidelines Panel
- 2008-present: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
- 2010-2011: International Association of Hospice and Palliative Care
Contributions to Science - can feel tricky

Up to 5 contributions to science, each with
- Background of problem
- Central findings
- Influence of findings
- Role in the work
- up to 4 citations

Reflect periods of research or project
- early career-postbac IRTA
- medical/ grad research
- research in residency
- fellowship research

Link to complete contributions
- ORCID and MyNCBI

• Early career
• Graduate & postdoc
• ORCID
• My NCBI
Contributions can be lots of products

Journal articles, book chapters
Audio or video products,
patents, databases and research materials,
educational curricula, instruments or equipment, models, protocols, software or netware

URLS are not permitted in biosketch or application!!
(can put “non-standard” items in My NCBI bibliography)

3. Throughout my training, I have been productive and my research has been inspired by the patients I care for at my HIV clinic. This manuscript presented 2 cases where fecal microbiota transplant was used to successfully treat refractory infection in patients who were immunocompromised. It provided insight into a relatively new technique of therapy for this patient population, potentially impacting the care patients may receive in the future with this condition.
After Contribution to Science, add link to complete bibliography

Complete List of Published Work in My Bibliography:

ORCID digital identifier that distinguishes you from every other researcher, links to manuscript and grant submissions (free registration). https://orcid.org/

Mandatory as of Jan 2020

https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1825-0097
### Positions and Employment

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007 - 2008</td>
<td>Lab Technician, University of Hawaii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Graduate Student Research Assistant, UC San Diego</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other Experience and Professional Memberships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Member, Association for Women in Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 -</td>
<td>Member, Sigma Xi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Honors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Honor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007 - 2008</td>
<td>Diversity Supplement, National Institutes of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Scholarship, Daughters of Hawaii Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 - 2012</td>
<td>Scholarship, National Merit Scholarship Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Paula F. Laufenberg award for best senior project in the Biology Department, Swarthmore College</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
C. Contribution to Science

1. **High School Research:** I spent two summers doing research in the laboratory of Dr. Indira M. Creative at University of Hawaii, funded by a NIH Diversity Supplement award. Dr. Creative has developed several new anti-fungal drugs that might protect against skin infections. Over the course of two summers I set up in vitro cultures of skin cell lines and conducted a wide range of toxicity assays. We were excited to find that one of the new agents showed almost no toxicity, even at fairly high doses. Dr. Creative is now testing the drug in animals exposed to different types of fungal infections, including *Candida albicans*.
   

2. **Undergraduate Research:** I was part of a project in the laboratory of Dr. Xavier Factor at Swarthmore College. Dr. Factor’s laboratory studies the mechanisms of action of antibiotics. During my time in his lab I was looking at how a new antibiotic, Gen Y, is able to unravel bacterial DNA. My contributions to this work were included in a publication recently accepted in Cellular and Molecular Biology. The work was particularly exciting because it looks like the mechanism used by Factor Y might be completely novel, making it a potential candidate for treating patients infected with antibiotic resistant organisms. Dr. Factor was recently awarded a patent for this new drug.
   
   
   b. Robertson-Chang L, Factor X. Testing the ability of antibiotic Gen Y to kill Gram-negative bacteria. Antibiotica annual meeting; 2011 September; Denver, CO.

3. **Graduate Research:** My ongoing predoc research is focused on transcriptional gene regulation in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. I believe the results from my research will likely be highly relevant to human health as they will provide new details into the workings of complex biological systems, which will allow for further extrapolations into the development of certain diseases and their progression. I am currently developing a novel protocol for the purification of components of large transcription complexes which I hope to submit as a first author publication in the next few months.
Examples of Contributions to Science

1. My research has identified the importance of disclosure of HIV infection status for patients establishing HIV care. This research first looked at predictors of HIV disclosure and highlighted that persons presenting with more advanced disease and who were black were more likely to report nondisclosure of their HIV status. Then, following this cohort 12 months after establishing care, we found that those who reported nondisclosure upon entering care were more likely to have poor retention in care. This work highlighted how the support, whether social, physical or mental, received by patients when entering care can effect HIV outcomes that have been linked to increased morbidity and mortality.
   a. Van Wagoner N, Elopre L, Westfall AO, Mugavero MJ, Turan J, Hook EW. Reported Church Attendance at the Time of Entry into HIV Care is Associated with Viral Load

3. Intervention development, implementation and evaluation across the HIV care continuum: Our research team has made extensive contributions to the field in generating evidence-informed interventions to enhance HIV care engagement, including linkage, retention and re-engagement in care. I am senior author of the first intervention proven efficacious to enhance retention in care via a multi-site randomized clinical trial (3b). I also served as interventions sections chair for evidence-based recommendations for engagement in care and ART adherence, leading a systematic review and synthesis of the literature (3c).

“This project resulted in 10 peer reviewed articles, 2 national presentations, 4 international presentations.”
### D. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance

#### Scholastic Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Cellular and Molecular Biology</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Foundations of Chemical Principles</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Organismal and Population Biology</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Omics</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>First Year Seminar: Nation and Migration</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Statistics, Probability, and Reliability</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Calculus I</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>General Physics I</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Introductory Chemistry</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>American Literature</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>General Physics II</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry II</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Microbial Pathogenesis and the Immune Response</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Introduction to Cognitive Science</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Biological Chemistry</td>
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<td>2011</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>Disease, Culture, and Society in the Modern World</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Statistics for the Life Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Ethics in Biological Research</td>
<td>CRE</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Seminar in Physiology and Behavior</td>
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</table>

Except for the scientific ethics course, UC San Diego graduate courses are graded P (pass) or F (fail). Passing is C plus or better. The scientific ethics course is graded CRE (credit) or NC (no credit). Students must attend at least seven of the eight presentation/discussion sessions for credit.
Research Support

List ongoing and completed research from last three years
  • Indicate overall goal of the project and your role
    • Do not indicate person months
    • Do not indicate direct costs
    • Do not confuse with “other support”

• Courses and grades
• Funded grants
<table>
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<th>NIH Biosketch (Fellowship) Rubric</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Personal Statement</strong>- why are you well suited for this project?**</td>
<td>2 pts</td>
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<td>Previous training, research, technical expertise, collaborators or current environment, Highlight up to four publications or research products Address any factors that may have affected your past productivity</td>
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<td>List any relevant academic and professional achievements/honors</td>
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<td><strong>Contributions to Science</strong></td>
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<td>Describe up to 5 most significant contributions to science.</td>
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<td><strong>additional information</strong></td>
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See Sample Successful Applications

University of Alabama Birmingham Grants Library
https://www.uab.edu/ccts/research-commons/grant-help/proposal-development/grant-library

Samples
- NIH/AHRQ Rigor and Transparency Requirements
- Biosketches
- FORMS-E
- Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP)
- Private/Nonprofit Funding Organizations
- Institutional Resources/Facilities Pages

Federal Grant Series
- National Institutes of Health: F
- National Institutes of Health: K
- National Institutes of Health: R
- National Institutes of Health: T32
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
You can’t win the game if you don’t know the rules

NIH Biosketch instructions
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm

ORCID
https://orcid.org/

My Bibliography
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK53595/

eRA Commons account
• CRI contact Stephanie Bair sbair@childrensnational.org
• GW contact Kai-Kong Chan kkchan@email.gwu.edu

Edits
• GW Alison Hall akhall@gwu.edu
• CNH / GEP Stephan Ladish sladisch@childrensnational.org
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