

May 2009

Karla B. Almaraz

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EDUCATION

B.S., Biology, Minor in Chemistry, Expected May 2010, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM
GPA: 3.2

HONORS AND AWARDS

Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) Scholar, 2009-Present. New Mexico State University, Las Cruces NM
Undergraduate Research and Creative Arts Symposium (URCAS) participant 2009. New Mexico State University, Las Cruces NM
Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) Scholar, 2008-Present New Mexico State University, Las Cruces NM
Medicinal Plant Program Award Recipient, New Mexico State University, Summer 2008.
Crimson Scholar, 2007-2009, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces NM.
Reagents Scholarship Recipient 2006-Present, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces NM.
Byron Crandell Scholarship Recipient 2006., New Mexico State University, Las Cruces NM

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Neurobiology Research Assistant, New Mexico State University, 2008-Present, Elba Serrano Ph D., Supervisor

-Assist in the research of cellular processes by using tissue culture techniques with the amphibian *Xenopus* animal cells. Techniques include thawing the cells, preparing media for cells, freezing the cells and scientific writing. This semester I am beginning a small independent project. I will compare two transient transfection methods: lipid-mediated Lipofectamine TM 2000, Transfection Reagent and viral Cellular Lights TM Tubulin-RFP. I will use these two methods to introduce GFP-tubulin fusion proteins into A6 cells and CHO cells. Fixed samples will be counterlabeled with Hoechst and Alexa 568. I will learn to use epifluorescence microscopy to evaluate transfection efficiencies and cell morphology.

RISE Medicinal Plants of the Southwest Workshop, New Mexico State University, Summer 2008, Mary O'Connel, Ph D., Supervisor.

-Participated in the experimental research of the effects of heat and light on Lycopene in Tomato Fruit
Techniques include; mass spectrometry, thin layer chromatography, nuclear magnetic magnetic resonance scans (proton and carbon), bioassays, reflux, extractions, scientific writing and public speaking.

Tutor, Adult Basic Education (ABE), Dona Ana Branch Community College (DABCC), Las Cruces NM. Lora Ross, Supervisor

-Tasks include, tutoring in basic math, algebra and English, greeting incoming people to the program, answering phone calls, documenting, small group GED orientations and workshops.

TRAINING & WORKSHOPS

Institutional Animal Care of Use Committee (IACUC) Education Seminar, October 2008.- Seminar covered all aspects of the ethical use of animal research.

Biosafety class, September 2008*

Bloodborne pathogens class, September 2008*

Employee & Hazard Communication Safety class, June 2008*

Hazardous Waste Management class, September 2008*

Employee Lab Standard class, October 2008*

Fire Extinguisher operation/use class, September 2008*

RISE Applicant Preparation Workshop, Fall 2008

RISE Scholar Portfolio Preparation Workshop, Fall 2008

*Courses instructed through the New Mexico State University Environmental Health & Safety Offices in regulation with OSHA and EPA standards.