Arpi Siyahian

Education:

University of California – Los Angeles
Biological Chemistry
PhD, June 2009

University of California - Riverside
Major: Biochemistry, Minor: Women's Studies
Bachelor's of Science, June 2003

Research Experience:

July 2009-Present - Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Dept. of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Pediatric Cardiac Surgery Research Laboratory

- Study the molecular basis of congenital cardiac defects in pediatric patients.
- Design experiments to investigate the role of FHL5, a transcriptional regulator, in cardiac vessel stenosis. Techniques include: Primary cell culture, microarray, mRNA and microRNA gene expression and other molecular biology tools.
- Investigate the molecular biology of valve development *in vitro.*

Feb 2010-Present - Bioresearch Informationist
Lane Medical Library, Stanford U. School of Medicine

- Responsible for curating the bioresearch portal on the Lane Library's LaneConnex website
- Collaborate with the knowledge management team to share concepts, strategies, techniques & tools.
- Develop classes and other instructional materials to assist the research community at Stanford with its bioresearch informatics/information needs.
- Consult with basic and clinical researchers to help with experimental planning and locating resources.

2004-2009 - Dissertation Research
UCLA School of Dentistry, Laboratory of Dr. Sotirios Tetradis
Dissertation Title: **PTH and Nurr1 Mediated Gene Expression in Osteoblasts**

- Carried out research in bone biology with implications for osteoporosis therapy.
- Trained and mentored undergraduate students in various laboratory techniques.
- Conducted gene expression studies using Microarrays, quanitative real-time PCR, Lentiviruses, Adenoviruses, Western Blots, ELISAs, DNA Cloning, and Mammalian Cell Culture.
- Prepared research presentation for small as well as large groups of audiences.

2002-2003 - Undergraduate Research
UC Riverside, Division of Biomedical Sciences Laboratory of Dr. Daniel Straus

- Performed experiments in cancer biology with therapeutic potential for breast cancer.

2000-2003 - Independent Research
UC Riverside, Women's Studies Department, Mentor: Dr. Christine W. Gailey

- Examined gender disparity in medical research with specific focus on cardiovascular disease.
- Explored the history and sociology of women in the Middle East with specific emphasis on Armenian women.

2002 - Summer Research
UC San Francisco, Summer Research Training Program, Laboratory of Dr. Synthia Mellon

- Conducted research in the molecular mechanisms of steroid synthesis with emphasis on gene regulation.

2000-2002 - Undergraduate Research,
UC Riverside, Division of Biomedical Sciences Laboratory of Dr. Michael Stemerman

- Carried out research in cardiovascular biology.

Leadership Experience:

Winter 2010 - Management Matters Small Group Facilitator, Stanford University

- Responsible for a small group of graduate during break out sessions of the program that is organized by the vice provost of graduate education at Stanford University.

2007-2008 - Vice President Internal, UCLA Graduate Students Association (GSA)

- Chaired GSA Forum, the legislating body of the UCLA graduate student government.
- Consulted with Academic Councils regarding budgets and expenditure.
- Managed an organizational budget of over $250,000.

2007-2009 Chair (Member 2005-2007), UCLA Graduate Student Resource Center (GSRC) Oversight Committee,

- Facilitated the strategic planning process for the GSRC. Reviewed and made recommendations for the center.
- Collaborated in the preparation of a report making recommendation to UCLA Student Affairs regarding improvements to graduate student mental health.

2005-2007 - Director of Discretionary Funding, UCLA Graduate Students Association

- Managed a budget of over $30,000.
- Allocated funding for various graduate student group programming.
- Streamlined the application process to ensure smoother processing of funding requests.
- Reached out to graduate student groups to inform them about available funding programs.
- Advised graduate student groups about financing their events and programs.

2003-2009 - Member, Armenian Graduate Students Association (AGSA) at UCLA

- Executive Officer 2004-2005, Financial Officer 2003-2004.
- Worked with UCLA graduate students and university officials to bring Armenian flavored programming to campus fulfilling the AGSA's mission of academic and career development, networking and mentorship.
- Served as Treasurer for the Graduate Student Colloquium in Armenian Studies Organizing Committee in 2004, 2006, and 2008 raising over $14,000 each year.

Teaching Experience:

Winter 2006 - Teaching Assistant
Life Sciences, UCLA
- Taught two introductory molecular biology sections twice a week to 20 undergraduate students.

Winter 2005 -Teaching Assistant
Dept of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology, UCLA
- Taught an upper division lab section twice a week to 20 advanced undergraduates.

2001- 2003 - Science Study Group Leader
The Learning Center, UC Riverside
- Taught chemistry study groups to 20 undergraduates.
- Prepared worksheets, taught study skills, and administered mock midterms to help undergraduates succeed in their first year of college.

Skills:

- Languages: Native fluency in Armenian and Arabic.
- Computer Skills: Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, ACCESS), GraphPad Prism, MacVector, dChip, EASE, NIH DAVID, Basic SQL programming, GeneGo Metacore, Biobase Knowledge Library (Proteome, Transfac, and EXPLAIN).

Honors and Awards:

- Stanford Lucile Packard Children Hospital-Heart Center Research Program Grant June 2010-June 2011.
- UCLA Graduate Students Association Jeffrey L. Hanson Distinguished Service Award , 2005-2006.
- T32 Training Grant, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, National Institute of Health, 2005 – 2008.
- Student Mini Grant, Office of Instructional Development, UC Riverside, Spring 2003.
- Senior Student Thesis Grant, Office of Instructional Development, UC Riverside, Winter & Spring 2002.
- Selected for American Heart Association Western Affiliate, Undergraduate Research Award, Summer 2002.

Presentations:

- Fariba Chalajour, Arpi J. Siyahian, Frank L. Hanley, R. Kirk Riemer, 2010. Flow induced remodeling of native pulmonary valve *in vitro*. Poster Presentation, 4th Biennial Heart Valve Biology and Tissue Engineering Meeting, Hilton Head Island, SC, USA.
- Arpi J. Siyahian, Clara E. Magyar, Tara L. Aghaloo, Sotirios Tetradis, 2008. Tachykinin 1 is induced by Parathyroid Hormone and Nuclear Orphan Receptor Nurr1, in Primary Mouse Osteoblasts. Poster Presentation, The Endocrine Society Meeting, San Francisco, CA, USA.
- Panel Chair, Ritual and Cultural Performance, 2008 Graduate Student Colloquium in Armenian Studies, UCLA.
- Panelist, Women in Science Panel, 2007 Gender and Science Conference, UCLA.

Publications:

- Arpi J. Siyahian, Clara E. Magyar, Tara L. Aghaloo, Sotirios Tetradis. Tachykinin 1 is a primary response gene induced by parathyroid hormone in primary mouse osteoblasts. (manuscript in preparation).
- Arpi J. Siyahian, Clara E. Magyar, Tara L. Aghaloo, Sotirios Tetradis. Fibrinogen Like-2 is a common target of parathyroid hormone and the orphan nuclear receptor, Nurr1 in primary mouse osteoblasts. (manuscript in preparation).
- Xiaoyuan Ma, Laura A. Barboza, Arpi Siyahian, V. Mohan Reddy, Frank L. Hanley, R. Kirk Riemer. Expression of the Transciriptional Regulator FHL-5 Differentiates MAPCAs from Contiguous Vessels. (Manuscript submitted).

Society Affiliations:

- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- The Endocrine Society
- The Society for Armenian Studies