

Current Undergrad Researchers Willing to Help You in Your Search for a Research Position

These students are available to share their experiences, as well as answer questions and give pointers on searching for a research opportunity on campus. Feel free to email them!!

Chris Torre '08

Email: cjt32@cornell.edu

Research Department: Clinical Sciences (Veterinary Medical Center)

Research Project: Studying the activation status of small GTPase proteins in response to treatment with IL-6, IL-8, and OP-1; Assist with care of research horses after receiving a surgically implanted MSC graph on an experimentally created osteoarthritic lesion in the stifle Joint

Nate Rathbun '07

Email: nar29@cornell.edu

Research Department: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Research Project: Flying birds through a flight tunnel to analyze their flying abilities and comparing flying abilities between different kinds of foraging types.

Felix Moser '07

Email: fm76@cornell.edu

Research Department Molecular Biology and Genetics

Research Project: Characterization of proteins E7 and E8 in the *Thermobifida fusca* extracellular cellulase enzyme system through purification and assay.

Eugene Plavskin '07

Email: yp58@cornell.edu

Research Department: Molecular Biology & Genetics

Research Project: My project is mapping a mutation involved in the development of the nematode *C. elegans*.

Fanrong Kong '07

Email: fk38@cornell.edu

Research Department: Molecular Biology and Genetics

Research Project: Effect of Polyunsaturated Lipids on the Phase Behaviors of DSPC/DOPC/Cholesterol Biomembrane Model

Katherine (Katy) Volmert '07

Email: kjv5@cornell.edu

Research Department: Comparative Orthopaedics, Vet School

Research Project: Involves the co-culture of equine mesenchymal stemcells (MSCs) with either cartilage explants or chondrocytes from juvenile equine joints. I study MSC chondrogenesis by testing whether factors expressed from normal cartilage or isolated cartilage cells could drive stem cell differentiation.

Kevin Ringelman '07

Email: kmr46@cornell.edu

Research Department: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Research Project: I worked this summer studying the behavior of Tree Swallows (*Tachycineta bicolor*). These birds fight over feathers (used for nest lining) in mid-air. I designed an experiment that imposed a resource stress on the birds (feather removal from the nest), and then carefully observed and quantified behavioral changes. I hope to develop an evolutionary explanation for this behavior.

Alex Barash '07

E-mail: ab382@cornell.edu

Research Department: Vet Biomedical Sciences

Research Project: I use genetics and bioinformatics to study a transcription factor which is active during meiosis. My model organism is the mouse, and I sometimes do fun things like mouse surgeries.

Alvin Tan '08

Email: mt288@cornell.edu

Research Department: Baker Institute for Animal Health

Research Project: My research project involves defining the transport of Canine Parvovirus capsids within cells using microinjection and live cell microscopy.

Raquel Furtado '08

Email: rmf33@cornell.edu

Research Department: Food Science

Research Project: The overriding theme in our lab is trying to understand what genetic elements contribute to the ability of a bacterium to cause disease. I study *Listeria Monocytogenes*, a foodborne pathogen, and my research focuses on further understanding how this bacterium attaches to a host cell and in turn, what genetic elements are responsible for making it invasive.

Gwen Owens '07

Email: geo3@cornell.edu

Research Department: Biomedical Engineering/Mechanical Engineering

Research Project: My project involves creating modified hydrogel scaffolds to improve characteristics of engineered cartilage tissue.

Siddhartha Bajracharya '08

Email: sb346@cornell.edu

Research Department: Vet School Microbiology and Immunology

Research Project: Regulation of the inflammatory response in the parasitic disease schistosomiasis

Helen Zhou '08

Email: hhz2@cornell.edu

Research Department: Molecular Biology and Genetics

Research Project: Function of Mcm10 in Heterochromatic Transcriptional Silencing in *Drosophila*.

Cassie Bigelow '07

Email: cab93@cornell.edu

Research Department: Biomedical Sciences (Vet School)

Research Project: I am trying to identify migratory myogenic signals in the head by transplanting quail limb mesoderm into the head mesoderm of chicken embryos. I then track the quail transplant with antibodies and look at the location of and cell types formed by the quail cells in the head environment.