

Kyle Nilson

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A dedicated, persistent research student in molecular and cellular biology. Strong backgrounds in teaching and computers complement five years of laboratory experience and a love for problem-solving. Skilled at learning procedures quickly, working well under pressure, and communicating ideas clearly and effectively.

– Education –

The University of Iowa – Ph.D. Student in Molecular and Cellular Biology, 2010–
Presidential Graduate Fellowship recipient. Studying HIV latency and transcription with Dr. David H. Price.

The University of Texas at Dallas – B.S. in Molecular Biology, 2006–2010
National Merit Scholarship recipient, Clark Research Fellowship recipient, and Collegium V Honors student.

– Experience –

Computing Support Center Technician – The University of Texas at Dallas, 2006–2010
Assisted users with technical questions and acted as first-tier tech support via person-to-person, email, phone, and screen-sharing sessions. Trained in the basics of network administration, data security, and email systems.

“Cortical Dimensionality Changes in Alzheimer’s Disease” – The UTD Center for BrainHealth, 2009
Assisted in the processing of brain MRIs using FreeSurfer and NeuroQuant software in an attempt to find ways to quantify Alzheimer’s disease under Dr. Richard D. King. Contributed to available brain image databases.

Laboratory Assistant – The Genome Center, Washington University St. Louis, 2008
Worked various roles and assisted individuals in a results-oriented, professional lab setting with strict safety standards. Familiarized with ABI, Illumina/Solexa, and 454 Life Sciences sequencers and other equipment.

T.A. for Introductory Biology Lab – The University of Texas at Dallas, 2008
Taught undergraduate students biology laboratory techniques and equipment operation for two semesters under Dr. Wen Ju Lin. Performed basic lab duties and operated equipment in preparation of experiments.

“Enzyme-Free Strand Displacement Cloning” – The University of Texas at Dallas, 2007
Assisted in the development and optimization of new molecular cloning techniques utilizing bacterial vectors without the use of enzymes or PCR under Dr. Dennis L. Miller. Performed various lab procedures independently.

“Characterization of the Mitochondrial DNA of Myxomycetes” – The University of Texas at Dallas, 2006
Isolated the mitochondrial DNA of *Physarum polycephalum* and *Fuligo septica* in an attempt to study reverse RNA editing under Dr. Denis L. Miller. Trained in the use of molecular biology research techniques.

“Graphical Clustering with Brightness and Edge Detection” – Washington University St. Louis, 2005
Helped develop algorithms to separate, compare, and catalog large amounts of images based on brightness, color, contrast, and edge detection for national security applications under Dr. R. Prescott Loui.