



BioScience
W r i t e r s



Preparing Your NIH Biosketch

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Purpose of Your NIH Biosketch

- Highlight your accomplishments
- Tell a complete story about your work and its impact
- Tell the reader why your work is significant and/or innovative
- Highlight your training and expertise
- Highlight why you are well-equipped to answer the questions in your grant proposal

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH—Pilot Format (To Be Used for Specific FOAs only)
Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME	POSITION TITLE		
eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login)			
EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing. Include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.)			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	MM/YY	FIELD OF STUDY

NOTE: The Biographical Sketch may not exceed five pages. Follow the formats and instructions below.

A. Personal Statement
Briefly describe why you are well-suited for your role in the project described in this application. The relevant factors may include aspects of your training; your previous experimental work on this specific topic or related topics; your technical expertise; your collaborators or scientific environment; and your past performance in this or related fields (you may mention specific contributions to science that are not included in Section C). Also, you may identify up to four peer reviewed publications that specifically highlight your experience and qualifications for this project. If you wish to explain impediments to your past productivity, you may include a description of factors such as family care responsibilities, illness, disability, and active duty military service.

B. Positions and Honors
List in chronological order previous positions, concluding with the present position. List any honors. Include present membership on any Federal Government public advisory committee.

C. Contributions to Science
Briefly describe up to five of your most significant contributions to science. For each contribution, indicate the historical background that frames the scientific problem; the central finding(s); the influence of the finding(s) on the progress of science or the application of those finding(s) to health or technology; and your specific role in the described work. For each of these contributions, reference up to four peer-reviewed publications that are relevant to that contribution. The description of each contribution should be no longer than one half page including figures and citations. Please also provide a URL to a full list of your published work as found in a publicly available digital database such as PubMed or My Bibliography, which are maintained by the US National Library of Medicine.

D. Research Support
List both selected ongoing and completed research projects for the past three years (Federal or non-Federally-supported). Begin with the projects that are most relevant to the research proposed in the application. Briefly indicate the overall goals of the projects and responsibilities of the key person identified on the Biographical Sketch. Do not include number of person months or direct costs.

3

APPLICANT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Use only for individual predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships, dissertation research grants (R36), and Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Admin Suppl). **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME OF APPLICANT: XXXXXXXXXX

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): ericaboe

POSITION TITLE: Graduate Student, Biology Graduate Group

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Most applicants will begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing. Include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. High school students should list their current institution and associated information. Add/delete rows as necessary.)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	START DATE MM/YYYY	END DATE (or expected end date) MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Delaware	B.S.	08/2008	05/2012	Cell and Molecular Biology and Genetics
University of Pennsylvania	Ph.D.	08/2012	03/2019	Biology

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Suggestions for Page Usage

Page Limit: 5 pages







- A. Personal Statement plus 4 publications: ½ - 1 page
- B. Positions: 1 page
- C. Contributions to Science: 1 - 2 pages, approximately ½ page per contribution
- D. Support: 1 page

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Part A: Personal Statement

-  Factors that make you perfect for THIS proposal, e.g., training and/or experience
-  Collaborators and environment for THIS proposal
-  Performance as a scientist as it related to THIS proposal
-  Highlight up to 4 peer-reviewed papers (with links) related to THIS proposal
-  Opportunity to address life issues affecting performance
-  Keep it **BRIEF**

6

Part A: Outline of Key Elements

- 🌈 Where you went to school (trainee awards)
- 🌈 What you are interested in, and why
- 🌈 How certain training improved/changed your work (trainee awards)
- 🌈 What you have accomplished
- 🌈 What you hope to accomplish
- 🌈 Think of your longterm goals and what drives your passion

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Example – Part A

I first became interested in Alzheimer's-associated neurodegeneration while doing my PhD studies in the lab of Dr. (Big Shot) at (State) University. My grandfather had recently been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, so I felt personally invested in the research. After graduation, I moved to a postdoctoral fellowship with (Dr. Fancy Pants) at (R1) University. There, I gained access to cutting-edge technology to accelerate my studies of neurodegeneration. Using this technology, I developed a new technique that revolutionized the field. This new technique earned me a first author publication in a (high-impact factor journal) and a nationally recognized (award for innovation). As a PI at (Excellent) Institution, I now want to apply this technique to drug screening so we can develop therapeutic interventions for Alzheimer's.

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A. Personal Statement




My current research focuses on understanding the function of the ATP-dependent chromatin remodeler Cockayne syndrome protein B (CSB) in the relief of oxidative stress. CSB has known roles in transcription regulation and transcription-coupled nucleotide excision repair. CSB is also suggested to function in response to oxidative stress, yet the role of CSB in this process is largely undefined. My goal is to elucidate the mechanisms by which this multi-functional protein participates in yet another critical process. Oxidative stress relief is critical for genome integrity maintenance, and the accumulation of oxidative damage is suggested to contribute to neurological disorders as well as aging. The significance of research conducted to understand CSB is emphasized by the severe premature aging disorder that results from mutations within this protein as well as a broader spectrum of developmental disorders and cancers that can result from deregulation of chromatin remodelers.

I began my research career as an undergraduate with a broad interest in genetics and molecular biology, which I explored through a strong coursework curriculum and an independent research project in the lab of Dr. Erica Selva. Through these experiences I established a strong foundation in research techniques upon which I am still building. Through coursework and personalized training as a graduate student I have honed these interests in my current training in the field of epigenetics. My rotation with Dr. Hua-Ying Fan truly solidified my desire to pursue research in epigenetics, specifically using human cell lines and the CSB model system to answer biological questions to further understand this complex disorder and the mechanisms that underlie the CSB functions. My rotation project resulted in a second author publication in *PLOS Genetics* and set the tone for my future in the lab. I have since built upon this knowledge to develop my current project exploring the role of CSB in oxidative stress. Under the supervision of Dr. Fan I will continue to develop critical skills and knowledge that will contribute to my success as an academic research scientist.

My previous research experience and the expertise and guidance of my sponsor Dr. Hua-Ying Fan and my co-sponsor Dr. Marisa Bartolomei will greatly contribute to my success as a graduate student and trainee under this fellowship. The extensive support system that I have from my mentors, the Biology Graduate Group, and the Epigenetics Program will directly affect the success of my project and the breadth of my training for a career as an academic scientist. The environment at the University of Pennsylvania is highly collaborative and translational, which will broaden my research knowledge as I apply innovative and relevant research techniques to answer specific biological questions. I believe my scientific background and the atmosphere in which I am conducting my graduate research make me a strong candidate for this fellowship. I will benefit immensely through the support of this fellowship as I work towards my goal of a successful career in academic research.

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Part B: Positions and Honors

-  List positions in chronological order with the most recent listed last
-  Include any honors you received in the same order
-  Include memberships to professional societies

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B. Positions and Honors					
ACTIVITY/ OCCUPATION	START DATE (mm/yy)	END DATE (mm/yy)	FIELD	INSTITUTION/ COMPANY	SUPERVISOR/ EMPLOYER
HHMI Summer Research Fellow (two appointments)	06/10	08/11	Cell and Molecular Biology and Genetics	University of Delaware	Dr. Erica Selva
Winter Research Scholar (two appointments)	01/11	02/12	Cell and Molecular Biology and Genetics	University of Delaware	Dr. Erica Selva
Summer Research Exchange Student	06/12	08/12	Life Sciences	Imperial College, London	Dr. Huw Williams
Teaching Assistant	08/13	12/13	Biology	University of Pennsylvania	Dr. Veronica Mormon, Dr. Michael Lampson, Dr. Mark Goulian, Dr. Dustin Brisson
Teaching Assistant*	01/14	05/14	Genetics	University of Pennsylvania	Dr. Gregory Guild, Dr. Kimberly Gallagher

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B. Academic and Professional Honors
<p>Graduate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIH Cell and Molecular Biology Training Grant, 5-T32-GM-007229-37 (July 2014-2015) • *Biology Department Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching (Spring 2014) • First Place Poster Presentation Award, "The Sequence-Specific Transcription Factor c-Jun Targets Cockayne Syndrome Protein B to Regulate Transcription and Chromatin Structure." Symposium on the Epigenetic Regulation of Organismal Function and Response to the Environment (2014) • NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention (April 2013) <p>Undergraduate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magna Cum Laude, University of Delaware (May 2012) • Sigma Xi Outstanding Senior Thesis Award (May 2012) • The University of Delaware Department of Biology Undergraduate Research Award (May 2012) • University of Delaware Dean's List (2008-2012) • University of Delaware Honors Program Student (2008-2012) • Beta Beta Beta (Biological Sciences Honor Society), Phi Kappa Phi (Academic Honor Society), and National Society of Collegiate Scholars Member • University of Delaware Undergraduate Research Scholars Program (June 2010-May 2012) • J.T. Koffenberger Memorial Scholarship Recipient (Fall 2011) • General Honors Award Recipient (December 2010) • Woman of Promise at the University of Delaware (October 2010) • 2nd Place at UMBC Undergraduate Research Symposium (November 2010) • 1st Place at UMBC Undergraduate Research Symposium (October 2011) • Travel Award Recipient and Poster Presentation, Experimental Biology 2012, San Diego, CA (April 2012)

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Part C: Contributions to Science

-  Briefly describe **up to five of your most important contributions to science**
 - Describe the problem
 - Describe why the field could not answer the problem
 - Describe how you solved the problem and what your specific role was
 - Describe the impact of your solution on the field
-  Can include up to four publications or non-published items for each contribution

Part C: Contribution to Science

-  Can highlight impact using non-traditional methods
 - News or magazine articles
 - Presentations
 - Patents
 - Citations
 - End users (software development)
-  Provide a URL to your publications
-  Describe how this contribution will help you successfully complete your proposed project

C. Contributions to Science

1. Loss of Cockayne syndrome protein B (CSB) results in Cockayne syndrome, a devastating premature aging disorder associated with extreme sun sensitivity and neurological and developmental defects. CSB loss-of-function is associated with changes in gene expression, which could account for some of the clinical features of this disorder. It was not clear, however, whether CSB directly regulates these genes. The Fan lab performed ChIP-seq, providing the first genome-wide map of CSB occupancy. This revealed CSB is enriched at promoters and enhancers as well as the binding motif for the sequence-specific transcription factor c-Jun/AP1. Through this work, we demonstrated CSB is targeted to specific regions of the genome by c-Jun. Importantly, I provided evidence that CSB participates directly in transcription regulation at these sites as well as demonstrated a requirement for CSB's remodeling activity in this process at several loci. Furthermore, we demonstrated for the first time that CSB repositions nucleosomes to regulate nearby gene expression (Lake et al., 2014).

Manuscripts:

a. Lake RJ, **Boetefuer EL**, Tsai PF, et al. The sequence-specific transcription factor c-Jun targets Cockayne syndrome protein B to regulate transcription and chromatin structure. *PLoS Genet.* 2014;10(4):e1004284.

Abstracts:

a. **Boetefuer EL**, Lake RJ, Tsai PF, et al. The sequence-specific transcription factor c-Jun targets Cockayne syndrome protein B to regulate transcription and chromatin structure. UPenn Symposium on the Epigenetic Regulation of Organismal Function and Response to the Environment. 2014. **Poster, first place award.**

b. Fan HY, Lake JR, and **Boetefuer EL**. The sequence-specific transcription factor c-Jun targets Cockayne syndrome protein B to regulate transcription and chromatin structure. Gordon Research Conference. 2014. **Poster.**

c. **Boetefuer EL**, Lake RJ, Tsai PF, et al. The sequence-specific transcription factor c-Jun targets Cockayne syndrome protein B to regulate transcription and chromatin structure. UPenn Annual Department of Biology Retreat, UPenn, 2014. **Poster.**

d. **Boetefuer EL**, Lake RJ, Tsai PF, et al. The sequence-specific transcription factor c-Jun targets Cockayne syndrome protein B to regulate transcription and chromatin structure. Dr. George W. Raizzis 31st Annual Retreat, UPenn Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics. 2014. **Poster.**

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Part C: Include up to 4 Publications to Support each Contribution

 If you are a **Young** Investigator pick papers that:

- Show progression as a scientist
- Indicate independence
- Feature your impact
- Highlight new technology
- Lead you into the next work

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Part C: Include up to 4 Publications to Support each Contribution

 If you are an **Established** Investigator list papers that:


- Have changed the field
- Show the continuity of your work
- Show the progress of your work
- Highlight key technology
- Lead you into the next work


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Part D. Scholastic Performance

 List undergraduate and graduate courses and grades

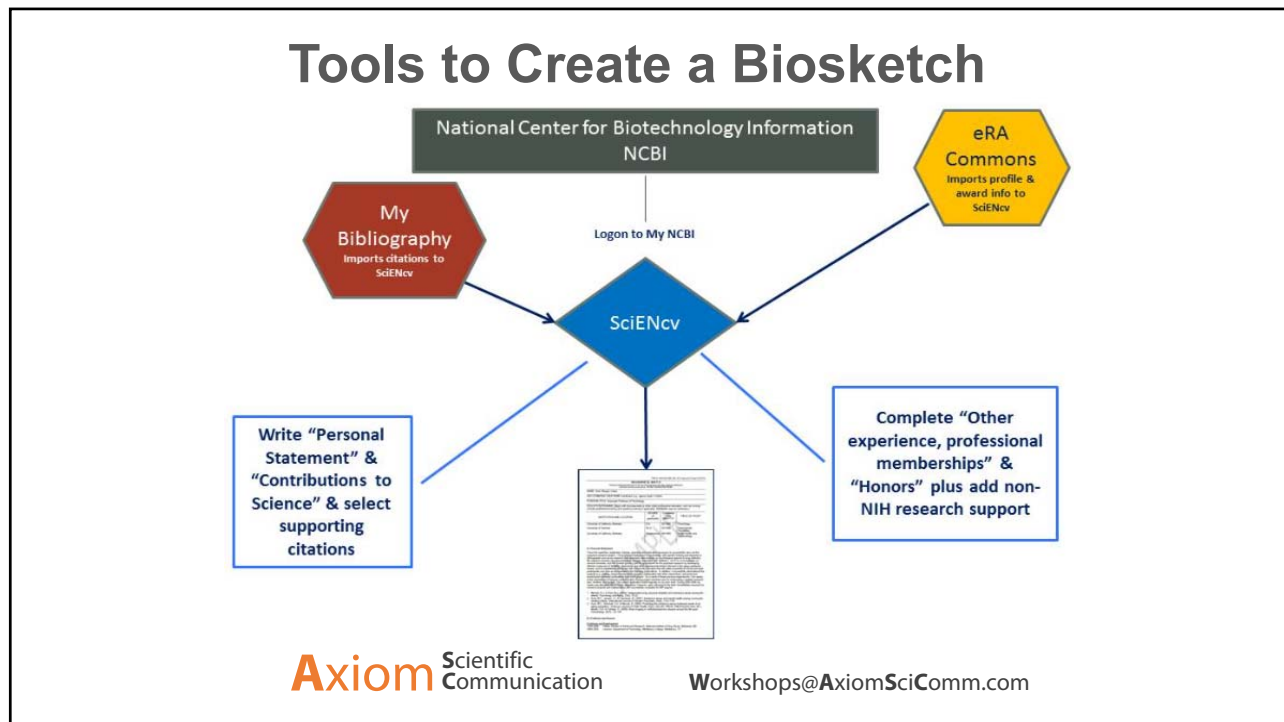
 Start with undergraduate and follow with graduate

YEAR	SCIENCE COURSE TITLE	GRADE	YEAR	OTHER COURSE TITLE	GRADE
Undergraduate			Undergraduate		
2008	Introductory Biology I (Honors)	A	2008	Disasters Colloquium (Honors)	A
2008	Freshman Biology Seminar (Honors)	P	2008	Marching Band	A
2008	General Chemistry I	A	2008	Spanish Reading & Composition	A
2009	Introductory Biology II (Honors)	A-	2009	Critical Reading & Writing (Honors)	A
2009	Biotechnology (Honors)	A-	2009	Marching Band	A
2009	General Chemistry II	B+	2009	Spanish Conversation	A
2009	Precalc for Scientists & Engineers	A	2010	Contemporary Latin America	A
2009	General Physiology (Honors)	B+	2010	Practical Oral/Written Expression	A
2009	General Physiology Disc. (Hon)	A	2010	Study Abroad Panama	P
2009	Organic Chemistry I	A	2010	General Psychology	A
2009	Analytical Geometry & Calculus A	B+	2010	Survey of Spanish Literature (Honors)	A
2010	Molecular Biology of the Cell	A-	2010	Marching Band	A
2010	Organic Chemistry II	A-	2010	Great Western Philosophers	A
2010	Forensic Science	A-	2010	18 th & 19 th Century Spanish Literature	A
2010	Genetic & Evolutionary Biology	A	2010	Genetic & Evolutionary Biology	A
2010	Research	A	2011	Adv. Spanish Comp. & Grammar II	A
2010	Introductory Physics I	A-	2011	Introduction to Short Story	A-
2011	Experimental Molecular Biology	A			
2011	Research	A			
2011	Introductory Biochemistry	A			
2011	Introductory Physics II	A			
2011	Cell Physiology	A			
2011	Computer Based Genetics Lab	A			
2011	Molecular Biology of Animal Cells	A			
2011	Senior Thesis (Honors)	A			
2012	Human Genetics	A			
2012	Basic Statistical Practice	A			
2012	Senior Thesis (Honors)	A			
Graduate					
2012	Epigenetics	A			
2012	Writing Skills for the Biologist	A-			
2012	Advanced Topics in Current Biology	A			
2012	Independent Study (Rotation, Bonini)	A-			
2012	Cell Biology	B			
2013	Molec. Mech. Infectious Diseases	A-			
2013	Genomics Human Disease and Evo.	B+			

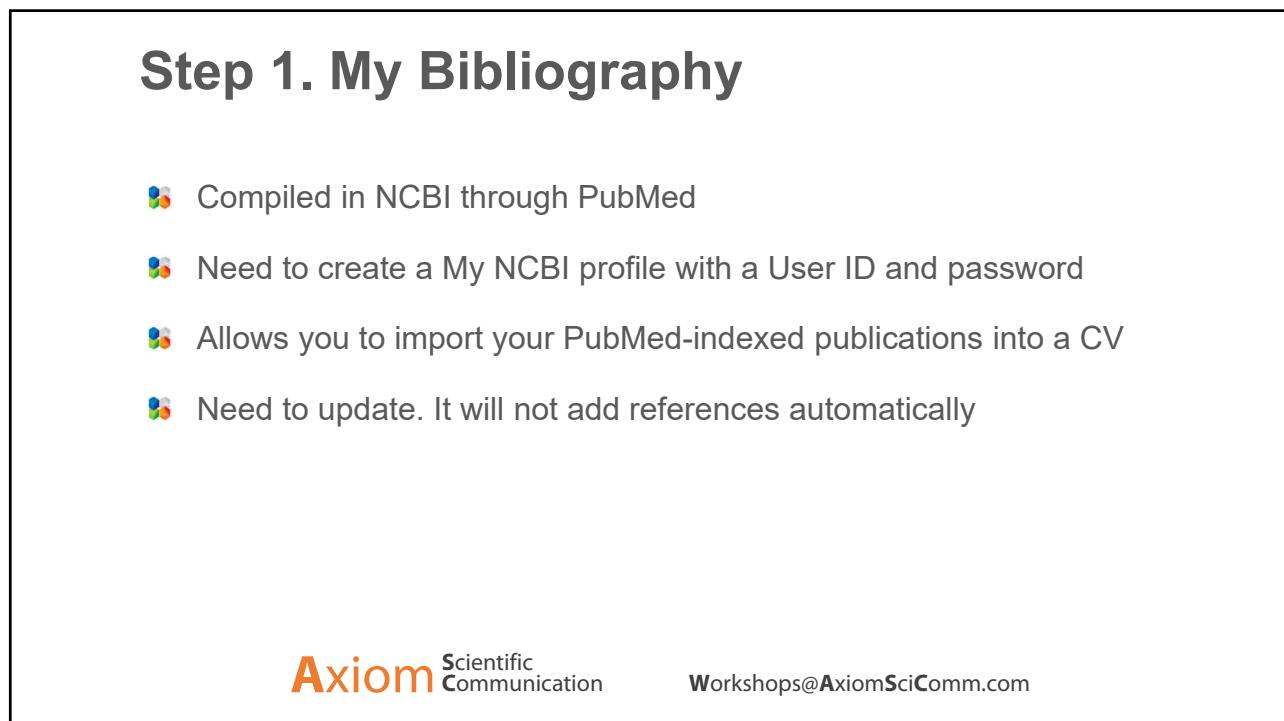
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✓ [Iron-dipole interactions and their functions in proteins.](#)

1. Sippel KH, Quioco FA.
Protein Sci. 2015 Jul;24(7):1040-6. doi: 10.1002/pro.2685. Epub 2015 May 1. PMID: 25866296
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✓ [Crystal structure of the human fatty acid synthase fatty-acyl carrier protein-reductase domain complexed with triclosan reveals allosteric protein-protein interface inhibition.](#)

2. Sippel KH, Vyas NK, Zhang W, Sankaran S, Quioco FA.
J Biol Chem. 2014 Nov 28;289(48):33287-95. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M114.608547. Epub 2014 Oct 9. PMID: 25301948 Free PMC Article
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✗ [Preliminary time-of-flight neutron diffraction studies of Escherichia coli ABC transport receptor phosphate-binding protein at the Protein Crystallography Station.](#)

3. Sippel KH, Bacik J, Quioco FA, Fisher SZ.
Acta Crystallogr F Struct Biol Commun. 2014 Jun;70(Pt 6):819-22. doi: 10.1107/S2053230X14009704. Epub 2014 May 25. PMID: 24915101 Free PMC Article
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✗ [Dynamins-SNARE interactions control trans-SNARE formation in intracellular membrane fusion.](#)

4. Alpadi K, Kulkarni A, Namjoshi S, Srinivasan S, Sippel KH, Ayscough K, Zieger M, Schmidt A, Mayer A, Evangelista M, Quioco FA, Peters C.
Nat Commun. 2013;4:1704. doi: 10.1038/ncomms2724. PMID: 23591871 Free PMC Article
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Improving the Residue Environment - Residue

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Immediate restoration implants placed into

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Step 2. Use SciENcv to Make Biosketch

-  Can reach via eRA commons or from My NCBI
-  You will be prompted to enter personal info
-  Add education and training
-  Include a personal statement
-  List work experience, memberships, and honors
-  List work locations
-  Add publications and research support
-  Can activate a public URL after saving as PDF

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Making a Biosketch in SciENcv

- Login to NCBI
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/account/>
- Go to SciENcv
- Create a New Biosketch
- You have the option to use an existing Biosketch as a framework or to import one from an external source

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- Enter your personal information
- Remember to include eRA COMMONS and ORCID IDs if available

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EDUCATION/TRAINING
(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.)
You have not listed any degree or training. Please [add one](#).

A. Personal Statement [[Edit statement](#)]
You have not yet provided a personal statement.
Optional: You may identify up to four peer reviewed publications that specifically highlight your experience and qualifications for this project.
[[Select citations](#)]
You have not listed any citations.

B. Positions and Honors

Positions and Employment
You have not listed any employment. Please [add one](#).

Other Experience and Professional Memberships
You have not listed any professional memberships. Please [add one](#).

Honors
You have not listed any honors. Please [add one](#).

C. Contribution to Science [[Edit section](#)]
This section is currently empty. Click on edit section to add your contributions.

D. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance [[Edit awards](#)]
There are no awards linked to this profile. Please edit the list to see available awards.

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A. Personal Statement

Narrative, Narrative, Narrative. Brevity is your friend.

[[Save citations](#)]

Optional: You may identify up to four peer reviewed publications that specifically highlight your experience and qualifications for this project.

[[Save citations](#)]

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Sort by: **Date** Select: **None** 3 item(s) selected [Add citations](#) [Go to My Bibliography](#) unchecked entries are hidden from display

- Sippel KH, Quioco FA. Ion-dipole interactions and their functions in proteins. Protein Sci. 2015 Jul;24(7):1040-6. PubMed PMID: 25866296; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4500305.
- Sippel KH, Vyas NK, Zhang W, Sankaran B, Quioco FA. Crystal structure of the human fatty acid synthase enoyl-acyl carrier protein-reductase domain complexed with triclosan reveals allosteric protein-protein interface inhibition. J Biol Chem. 2014 Nov 28;289(48):33287-95. PubMed PMID: 25301948; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4246086.
- Sippel KH, Back J, Quioco FA, Fisher SZ. Preliminary time-of-flight neutron diffraction studies of Escherichia coli ABC transport receptor phosphate-binding protein at the Protein Crystallography Station. Acta Crystallogr F Struct Biol Commun. 2014 Jun;70(Pt 6):819-22. PubMed PMID: 24915101; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4051545.
- Mikulski R, West D, Sippel KH, Avvaru BS, Aggarwal M, Tu C, McKenna R, Silverman DN. Water networks in fast proton transfer during catalysis by human carbonic anhydrase II. Biochemistry. 2013 Jan 8;52(1):125-31. PubMed PMID: 23215152; NIHMSID: NIHMS430355; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3540201.
- Alpadi K, Kulkarni A, Namjoshi S, Srinivasan S, Sippel KH, Ayscough K, Zieger M, Schmidt A, Mayer A, Evangelista M, Quioco FA, Peters C. Dynamin-SNARE interactions control trans-SNARE formation in intracellular membrane fusion. Nat Commun. 2013;4:1704. PubMed PMID: 23591871; NIHMSID: NIHMS454093; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3630463.

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C. Contribution to Science [Done]

You can add up to 5 contributions. Drag and drop tabs to rearrange.

[Add another contribution](#)

① Add a contribution

② Add the description

③ Select appropriate references

Description [Delete this contribution](#)

I did this awesome thing that advanced our knowledge of stuff

Citations [Save citations](#)

Please include up to four citations that are relevant to this contribution.

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- Sippel KH, Quioko FA. Ion-dipole interactions and their functions in proteins. Protein Sci. 2015 Jul;24(7):1040-6. PubMed PMID: 25866296; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4500305.
- Sippel KH, Vyas NK, Zhang W, Sankaran B, Quioko FA. Crystal structure of the human fatty acid synthase enoyl-acyl carrier protein-reductase domain complexed with triclosan reveals allosteric protein-protein interface inhibition. J Biol Chem. 2014 Nov 28;289(48):33287-95. PubMed PMID: 25301948; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4246086.
- Sippel KH, Back J, Quioko FA, Fisher SZ. Preliminary time-of-flight neutron diffraction studies of Escherichia coli ABC transport receptor phosphate-binding protein at the Protein Crystallography Station. Acta Crystallogr F. Struct Biol Commun. 2014 Jun;70(Pt 6):819-22. PubMed PMID: 24915101; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4051545.
- Mikulska R, West D, Sippel KH, Avvaru BS, Aggarwal M, Tu C, McKenna R, Silverman DN. Water networks in fast proton transfer during catalysis by human carbonic anhydrase II. Biochemistry. 2013 Jan 8;52(1):125-31. PubMed PMID: 23215152; NIHMSID: NIHMS430355; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3540201.

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C. Contribution to Science [Done]

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[Add another contribution](#)

Description [edit](#) [Delete this contribution](#)

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Citations [Select citations](#)

- a. Avvaru BS, Kim CU, Sippel KH, Gruner SM, Agbandje-McKenna M, Silverman DN, McKenna R. A short, strong hydrogen bond in the active site of human carbonic anhydrase II. Biochemistry. 2010 Jan 19;49(2):249-51. PubMed PMID: 20000378; NIHMSID: NIHMS166763; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC2810610.
- b. Sippel KH, Vyas NK, Zhang W, Sankaran B, Quioko FA. Crystal structure of the human fatty acid synthase enoyl-acyl carrier protein-reductase domain complexed with triclosan reveals allosteric protein-protein interface inhibition. J Biol Chem. 2014 Nov 28;289(48):33287-95. PubMed PMID: 25301948; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4246086.
- c. Sippel KH, Quioko FA. Ion-dipole interactions and their functions in proteins. Protein Sci. 2015 Jul;24(7):1040-6. PubMed PMID: 25866296; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4500305.




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Getting your Completed Form

-  When you have everything input, download the file
-  Everything will be placed in the Biosketch form automatically
-  If you want to make changes manually, download as a Word file and convert to PDF later



SciENcv is a Onetime Pain

-  Once you put in all the information, it's saved in My NCBI
-  You can easily add new information
-  Can also use the system to make Biosketches for other funding agencies or to make a CV
-  Will take 3–5 hours to complete the first time, depending on your history
-  Remember to **customize your personal statement and contributions** for each proposal

Take Home Message

- 🌈 Showcase your best work by telling an interesting story
- 🌈 The story you tell is based on your stage in your career
- 🌈 Narrative is the best way to highlight the **IMPACT** you have had in your career
- 🌈 New features include an increase to 5 pages, a revamped personal statement, and a focus on contributions to science
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