Kevin Axelrod

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Permanent Address: 1071 Tyler Drive, Newtown Square, PA 19073

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA — Expected May 2016
Candidate for Doctor of Philosophy in Biophysics, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA — May 2011
Master of Science in Physics, College of Arts and Sciences
GPA for M.S. coursework: 3.88/4.00

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA — May 2011
Bachelor of Arts in Physics, Biophysics, and Biochemistry, College of Arts and Sciences
Cumulative GPA: 3.88/4.00, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher — June 2012 – current
Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- Working with Jeff Gore to study critical slowing down of cellular protein levels as an early indicator of cell state switching

Research Assistant — May 2009 – May 2010, September 2010 – May 2011
Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Worked with Jay Kikkawa utilizing computationally designed peptides to selectively solubilize single-walled carbon nanotubes according to chirality vector

Summer Research Intern — Summer 2010
Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, UC San Francisco, San Francisco, California
- Worked with Geeta Narlikar exploring the effect of DNA sequence on nucleosome patterning *in vitro* and in *S. Cerevisiae*

Summer Research Intern — Summer 2008
Department of Synthetic Biology and Bioenergy, J. Craig Venter Institute, Rockville, Maryland
- Worked with Dan Gibson to isolate large quantities of a synthetic *Mycoplasma genitalium* genome for use in the creation of a synthetic microbial cell

PUBLICATIONS

- Grigoryan G, Kim YH, Acharya R, **Axelrod K**, Jain RM, Willis L, Drndic M, Kikkawa JM, DeGrado WF. Computational design of virus-like protein assemblies on carbon nanotube surfaces. *Science* May 2011.

- Gibson DG, Benders GA, **Axelrod KC**, Zaveri J, Algire MA, Moodie M, Montague MG, Venter JC, Smith HO, Hutchison CA 3rd. One-step assembly in yeast of 25 overlapping DNA fragments to form a complete synthetic Mycoplasma genitalium genome. *PNAS* December 2008.

AWARDS

*Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship winne*r — 2010 – 2011
A prestigious national scholarship awarded to outstanding undergraduates in math, science, and engineering

Vagelos Science Challenge Award winner 2009 – 2011

A two-year, full-tuition merit scholarship that challenges advanced science students to complete a M.S. in addition to a B.A. during four years of undergraduate study

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Executive Board Member General body member 2007 – 2011
University of Pennsylvania chapter of Operation Smile Board member 2008 – 2011

Helped with fundraising and awareness raising about cleft lips and cleft palates

Student Tutor 2007 – 2011
West Philadelphia Tutoring Project

Tutored a fifth grader named Danny at Locke Elementary School in math and reading

Organic Chemistry Workshop Coordinator Tutor 2009 – 2011
University of Pennsylvania Tutoring Center Coordinator 2010 – 2011

Held problem solving workshops to help Penn students succeed in organic chemistry
As coordinator, handled administrative duties and hired new tutors

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Languages: Spanish (intermediate)
Computers: Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, MATLAB, LabVIEW
Interests: tennis, surfing, skiing, Ultimate Frisbee, reading Harlan Coban and Lee Child novels