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About Me

- Researcher passionate about data and data visualization
- Cell and Systems Biology Masters Graduate from University of Toronto
- · Possesses strong analytic skill set in in R, SQL and Excel

Education

Masters of Cell and Systems Biology - University of Toronto- Toronto, ON

2021

 Thesis: Investigation of Chromodomain Proteins, CEC-3 and CEC-6, in Maintenance of Germline Immortality

Honors Bachelors of Science - University of Toronto- Toronto, ON

2018

 Double Major in Human Biology and Cell and Systems Biology with High Distinction

Experience

Research Assistant - University of Toronto- Toronto, ON

2021

- Studied the role of histone-methyl-binding proteins in C. elegans and their role in RNAi and chromatin pathways under Arneet Saltzman
- Developed experimental assays and analyzed results to test hypotheses
- Deseminated experimental methodology and conclusions in visual and written form

Private Tutor - Self-Employed-Toronto, ON

2021

- Developed curriculum and tutoring programs curated towards each client
- Managed variable timelines and academic goals of students
- · Advised students on written assignments and exams

Teaching Assistant - University of Toronto- Toronto, ON

2018-2020

- · Chaired supervision of laboratory courses in undergraduate biology
- · Summarized and taught textbook and laboratory biological concepts
- · Evaluated student learning and advocated for student well-being

Skills

Data Analysis - Experienced and knowledgable in data analysis tools R, SQL (experience with BigQuery) and Excel.

Research - Confident in my ability to review current literature and plan research projects from start to finish.

Scientific Writing - Strong written skills and knowledgable on producing publication ready reports.

Teaching - Comfortable in distilling complex topics in an easy to disgest way.

Vietnamese - Intermediate conversational level of proficiency in Vietnamese.

Awards

School of Graduate Studies Conference Travel Grant -	2020
University of Toronto Fellowship, Faculty of Arts and Science -	2019, 2018
Faculty of Arts and Science Master's Recruitment Award -	2018

Publications

1. Lao, V., & Saltzman, A. (2021). *Investigation of chromodomain proteins, CEC-3 and CEC-6, in maintenance of germline immortality* [Master's thesis, University of Torontol. https://hdl.handle.net/1807/106308

Conferences and Presentations

- 1. Lao, V., Li, L., Lee, T., Aram, R., & Saltzman, A. L. (2021). Chromo domain proteins maintain germline immortality and restrict transgenerational RNAi inheritance. *23rd Annual c. Elegans Conference (Online)*.
- 2. Lao, V., Yan, E., Aram, R., & Saltzman, A. L. (2020). Chromodomain proteins CEC-3 and CEC-6 affect chromatin and small RNA pathways and protect germline immortality. *The Allied Genetics Conference (Online)*. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.12150171.v1
- 3. Lao, V., Yan, E., Aram, R., & Saltzman, A. L. (2019). Chromodomain proteins CEC-3 and CEC-6 affect chromatin and small RNA pathways and protect germline immortality. *Toronto RNA Enthusiasts' Day*.