# R. KYLE BENNETT rkbenne@udel.edu · (302) 831-6168

Delaware Biotechnology Institute · 15 Innovation Way, Suite 288 · Newark, DE 19711

# **EDUCATION**

University of Delaware · Newark, DE	Spring 2018 (Expected)
Ph.D. candidate · Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	
Thesis advisor: Prof. Eleftherios T. Papoutsakis	
North Carolina State University · Raleigh, NC	2010 - 2013
B.S. · Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	
Summa cum laude · Biotechnology minor	
Catawba Valley Community College · Hickory, NC	2008 - 2010
A.S. · Chemistry	

# RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

#### **Graduate Research Assistant**

2013 - Present

University of Delaware · Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Thesis advisor: Prof. Eleftherios T. Papoutsakis

Thesis: "Engineering nonnative methanol metabolism in Escherichia coli"

- Performing genomic modifications (gene knockouts, knockins) and regulation of gene expression (RNA interference, metabolite responsive promoters)
- Applying molecular biology techniques for recombinant protein expression and characterization (plasmid construction, protein purification, enzymatic assays)
- Improving enzymatic function using protein engineering and high-throughput screening (library construction, fluorescence activated cell sorting, sequencing)
- Operating benchtop bioreactors for controlled *E. coli* fermentations (bioreactor sterilization, optimization of fermentation parameters, pH, DO monitoring)

#### **Undergraduate Research Assistant**

2012 - 2013

North Carolina State University · Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Advisor: Prof. Robert M. Kelly

- Performed recombinant enzyme purification and characterization (protein chromatography, immunoblot analysis, enzymatic assays)
- Cultured hyperthermophilic organisms for degradation of lignocellulosic biomass and production of fuels and chemicals

### **Special Metals Welding Products Company**

2011

A Precision Castparts Corporation Company · Newton, NC

- Full-time summer internship as a process engineer
- Contributed to the review and improvement of ultrasonic cleaning processes
- Performed tensile testing on wire specimens for process improvement

# TEACHING EXPERIENCE

#### **Graduate Teaching Assistant**

2015

University of Delaware · Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Instructor: Prof. Prasad Dhurjati

- Advised undergraduate seniors participating in Chemical Engineering Laboratory II, Fermentation and Bioseparation experiment
- Responsible for teaching bioreactor operation, microfiltration and ion-exchange chromatography to purify proteins upon complete fermentation