

Irina Zaslavskaya
Iowa City, IA
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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

My goal in the next stage of my career is to utilize my passion for helping others to enrich society — be it through research or through direct patient care. I am excited to learn and grow in a workplace environment that allows me to use my knowledge to advance medicine and/or the patient experience.

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago

Bachelor of Arts in Cognitive Science — GPA: 3.75/4.00

Chicago, IL

Graduated June 2024

Relevant Coursework: Introduction to Computer Science I/II, Statistical Methods and Applications, Undergraduate Computational Linguistics, Biotechnology in the 21st Century Data Visualization and Machine Learning, and Cognitive Modeling

Honors: National Merit Scholar, Dean's List 2024, Global Honors Recipient 2024

The University of Iowa

Pre-Medicine

Iowa City Iowa

August 2025 – Present

Relevant Coursework: Principles of Chemistry I, Foundations of Biology

WORK EXPERIENCE

Narayanan Laboratory

Research Assistant

Iowa City, IA

June 2024 – Present

- Bred and genotyped hundreds of animals in order to obtain double heterozygous animals for intersectional genetics
- My daily routine included training and motivating 10+ animals at a time, over several months, to learn complicated cognitive tasks
- Optogenetically inhibited, recorded neural activity, and measured dopamine levels in mice during cognitive tasks

University of Chicago Library

Digital Development Assistant

Chicago, IL

June 2021 – June 2024

- Participated in a major UChicago library long term project for converting live exhibitions into virtual collections
- Personalized various front and back-end custom features for a website running on a Wagtail CMS
- Revamped the Mail Aliases Page by interacting with JSON data and developed brand new front end features

Data for the Common Good

Software Development Intern

Chicago, IL

June 2023 – August 2023

- Customized the Table-One Pediatric Intake Data Summary Tool to improve the logic of the data representation
- Analyzed the remaining flaws with the tool and recommended additional updates

Rosalind Franklin University

Research Assistant

North Chicago, IL

June 2019 – August 2019

- Studied the feasibility of an aqueous formulation of Aspirin with High Performance Liquid Chromatography
- Presented my research at the Women in Physical Sciences Conference at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln

LEADERSHIP & ACTIVITIES

University of Iowa Hospital

Student Volunteer

Iowa City, IA

June 2025 – Present

- Restocked unused sutures and gathered hundreds of specific sutures into crates for upcoming surgeries in the CORE unit
- Conversed and walked with patients that wanted company and restocked supplies and linens that were low in the 6RC unit

University of Chicago Model United Nationals

Assistant Chair - Deputy Director of Outreach

Chicago, IL

October 2022 – June 2024

- Advised international high school delegates on the content and delivery of their public speaking
- Assisted in gathering contacts for the high schools of ~2500 international students, increasing the attendance of the conference by 35%

University of Chicago Uncommon Hacks

Technology Team Leader - Team Leader

Chicago, IL

September 2021 – June 2024

- Led a team in renovating and creating numerous website pages to ease hackathon registration
- Managed multiple separate sub-teams in achieving their respective goals in planning for Uncommon events

SKILLS

Technical: Experience Working with Databases, Object Oriented/Functional Programming, Github, SVN, Research, Data Analysis, Neural Networks, Machine Learning, Adobe Suite, Rodent Husbandry, Stereotaxic Surgery, Genotyping, Immunohistochemistry, Microscopy, Perfusion, Cryostat Sectioning, and Breeding

Professional: Strong Organizational and Analytical Skills, Goal Oriented, Team Player

Programming Languages: Proficient in Python, HTML, CSS, Java, Django, Javascript, SQL and JSON

Languages: English (Native), Russian (Native), Spanish (Fluent), French (Proficient)