CONTACT

Colin M. Rathbun

INFORMATION University of Colorado, Boulder

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**EDUCATION** 

# University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

Ph.D., Chemistry, September 2012 - May 11, 2018

- Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Jennifer Prescher
- 3.98 cumulative GPA

Hope College, Holland, MI, USA

B.S., Chemistry (A.C.S. Certified), Minor in Mathematics, May, 2012

- Thesis Advisor: Professor Jeffrey B. Johnson
- 3.99 cumulative GPA

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### University of Colorado, Boulder, Boulder, CO

Under Professor Amy E. Palmer

August 2018 - present

- A general, streamlined synthesis of peptide-based Riboglow probes (ongoing)
- Second-generation Riboglow probes for RNA imaging in living cells (ongoing)

## University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

Under Professor Jennifer A. Prescher

May 2014 - May 2018

- Building better bioluminescent reporters via ab initio calculations (2014)
- Orthogonal luciferase–luciferin pairs for bioluminescence imaging (February 2015 November 2016)
- Engineering mutually orthogonal enzyme-substrate pairs for bioluminescence imaging (November 2016 November 2017)
- Multicomponent bioluminescence imaging in vivo (November 2017 May 2018)

Under Professor Vy M. Dong

**December 2012 – May 2014** 

- Mechanistic study of a metal-catalyzed, regioselective carbohydrate acylation reaction (2013)
- Rhodium-catalyzed retrohydroformylation (January 2014 May 2014)

### Hope College, Holland, MI

Under Professor Jeffrey B. Johnson

2010 - 2012

- Kinetic investigation of C-C bond activation in quinolinyl ketones (2010)
- Observing the effects of ligand modification on C-C bond activation (2011)
- C-C bond activation promoted by an imine directing group (Summer 2012)

### University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Agentina

Under Professor Fabio Doctorovich

**Summer 2011** 

• Synthesis of an electron-poor, water-soluble porphyrin for the isolation of HNO

# SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

#### **National Institute of Health**

 Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Postdoctoral Fellowship (2019)

#### **National Science Foundation**

- Graduate Research Fellowship (2012)
- International Research Experience for Undergraduates (2011)

### Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship Foundation

• Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship (2011)

### University of California, Irvine

- Allergan Graduate Fellowship (2017 2018)
- Grad Slam Campus-Wide Finalist (2017)
- UCI NSF GRFP Symposium 3rd-Place Presentation (2017)
- AGS Symposium Judges' Winner (2016)

### **Hope College**

- Presidential Scholarship (2008)
- Chemistry Department Jacker Scholarship (2009)
- Chemistry Department John H. Kleinheksel Award (2009)
- Alcor Chapter Mortar Board (2011 2012)

# PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 10. Rathbun, C. M.; Ionkina, A.; Prescher, J. A. "Multicomponent bioluminescence imaging in vivo." *Manuscript in preparation*.
- 9. Liu, M. D.; Warner, E. A.; Morrissey, C. E.; Fick, C. W.; Wu, T. S.; Ornelas, M. Y.; Ochoa, G. V.; Zhang, B. S.; <u>Rathbun, C. M.</u>; Porterfield, W. B.; Prescher, J. A.; Leconte, A. M. "Statistical Coupling Analysis-Guided Library Design for the Discovery of Mutant Luciferases." *Biochemistry*, **2018**, *57*, 663.
- 8. Rathbun, C. M.\*; Porterfield, W. B.\*; Jones, K. A.\*; Sagoe, M. J.; Reyes, M. R.; Hua, C. T.; Prescher, J. A. "Parallel screening for rapid identification of orthogonal bioluminescent tools." *ACS Cent. Sci.*, **2017**, *3*, 1254.
- 7. Rathbun, C. M.; Prescher, J. A. "Bioluminescent Probes for Imaging Biology Beyond the Culture Dish." *Biochemistry*, **2017**, *56*, 5178. *Invited review*.
- 6. Rathbun, C. M.\*; Jones, K. A.\*; Porterfield, W. B.\*; McCutcheon, D. C.; Paley, M. A.; Prescher, J. A. "Orthogonal Luciferase-Luciferin Pairs for Bioluminescence Imaging." *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2017**, *139*, 2351.
- 5. Steinhardt, R. C.; <u>Rathbun, C. M.</u>; Krull, B. T.; Yu, J. M.; Yang Y.; Nguyen, B. D.; Kwon, J.; McCutcheon, D. C.; Jones, K. A.; Furche, F.; Prescher, J. A. "Brominated Luciferins are Versatile Bioluminescent Probes." *ChemBioChem*, **2016**, *18*, 96.
- Steinhardt, R. C.; O'Neill, J. M.; <u>Rathbun, C. M.</u>; McCutcheon, D. C.; Paley, M. A.; Prescher, J. A. "Design and Synthesis of an Alkynyl Luciferin Analogue for Bioluminescence Imaging." *Chem. Eur. J.*, **2016**, 22, 3671.

- 3. Chen, I. H.; Kou, K. G. M.; Le, D. N.; <u>Rathbun, C. M.</u>; Dong, V. M. "Recognition and Site-Selective Transformation of Monosaccharides by Using Copper(II) Catalysis." *Chem. Eur. J.*, **2014**, *20*, 5013.
- 2. Lutz, J. P.; <u>Rathbun, C. M.</u>; Stevenson, S. M.; Powell, B. M.; Boman, T. S.; Baxter, C. E.; Zona, J. M.; Johnson, J. B. "Rate-Limiting Step of the Rh-Catalyzed Carboacylation of Alkenes: C-C Bond Activation or Migratory Insertion?" *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2012**, *134*, 715.
- 1. Rathbun, C. M.; Johnson, J. B. "Rhodium-Catalyzed Acylation of Quinolinyl Ketones: Carbon-Carbon Single Bond Activation as the Turnover Limiting Step of Catalysis." *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2011**, *133*, 2031.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

Rathbun, C. M. *Chemical probes for single molecule RNA imaging in living cells*. Chemtools II Janelia Research Conference, Janelia, Ashburn, VA, April 28 – May 1, 2019. (poster and oral)

Rathbun, C. M. Engineered luciferase-luciferin pairs for multicomponent bioluminescence imaging. Janelia Protein Engineering Workshop, Janelia, Ashburn, VA, March 4–8, 2018. (poster and oral)

Rathbun, C. M. Engineered luciferase-luciferin pairs for multicomponent bioluminescence imaging. Gordon Research Conference: Bioorganic Chemistry, Andover, NH, June 11–16, 2017. (poster)

Rathbun, C. M. *Using the firefly to illuminate cancer*. Grad Slam Finals Competition (T.E.D.–style talk), U.C. Irvine, April 11, 2017. (oral)

Rathbun, C. M. Constructing new bioluminescent tools with minimally perturbed luciferins. Vertex Day, U.C. Irvine, March 11, 2016. (oral)

Rathbun, C. M. *Constructing new bioluminescent tools with minimally perturbed luciferins*. ACS National Meeting, San Diego, CA, March 14–17, 2016. (oral)

Rathbun, C. M. *Mechanistic study of a metal-catalyzed, regioselective carbohydrate acylation reaction.* ACS National Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, September 9–12, 2013. (poster)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

## University of Colorado, Boulder, Boulder, CO

Mentor to Undergraduate Researchers

July 2019 - present

 Mentored undergraduate Rita Kamenetskiy in the synthesis of a new, truncated probe for RNA imaging.

### Claremont McKenna, Pitzer, and Scripps Colleges, Claremont, CA

Guest Lecturer October 2, 2017

 Presented current research to a chemistry class with content tailored to topics currently being covered. Incorporated breakout discussions to keep students engaged with the material.

### University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

Mentor to Undergraduate Researchers

**January 2015 – August 2017** 

- Oversaw undergraduate Yuhang Yang in synthesis and cross-coupling of brominated luciferins.
- Mentored Yusef Ibreighith in screening a luciferase library for deep mutational scanning analysis.

Graduate Chemical Biology Teaching Assistant

January - March 2017

- Lead weekly workshops and helped draft problem sets and exams for a graduate-level chemical biology course lead by Jennifer Prescher.
- Participated in GetFIT program for prospective faculty, which included giving a lecture and soliciting feedback from a faculty mentor.

Organic Chemistry Teaching Assistant

**September 2012 - May 2013** 

 Oversaw undergraduates in general and organic chemistry labs. Lead workshops for organic chemistry lecture classes.

### Hope College, Holland, MI

Teaching Assistant

2009 - 2012

 Oversaw undergraduates in general and organic chemistry labs. Lead workshops for organic and physical chemistry lecture classes.

# PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

**Python**: Data mining and analysis with Numpy. Algorithms for parallel processing with supercomputing clusters. Unsupervised image analysis.

**HTML/CSS**: Developed static lab group website from the ground-up. Implemented liquid templating engine for easy future updates.

LATEX: Used for all major long-form documents.

Unix Shell: Basic scripting.

Java: Working knowledge.

Basic knowledge: JavaScript, Unix Shell, Ruby.

## Languages

**English** (native speaker)

**Spanish**: Conversational. Intermediate classes in college as well as 2011 summer research experience in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

# RECREATIONAL INTERESTS

- Enjoy cycling, rock climbing, and hiking.
- · Homebrewing and cooking.
- Keyboardist and vocalist.