Willow Ross Carretero Chavez



Education

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology Expected Graduation: May 2024 Cambridge, MA
 - Candidate for BS in Chemistry and Biology with Minor in Computer Science
 - Relevant Coursework: Fundamentals of Programming, Organic Chemistry I, Math for Computer Science, Principles of Chemical Science, Intro to Biology, Intro to Computer Science in Python
- Mater Dei Catholic High School Graduated: May 2019 Chula Vista, CA
 - GPA 4.63 Class Rank (10th-12th) 1st
 - AP Coursework (Score for all exams: 5) Environmental Science, Chemistry, Calculus AB & BC, Physics C: Mechanics, Biology, English Literature, US History, US Gov & Politics
 - SAT 1590 (800 Math/790 EBRW, 99+th Percentile) Math II: 800 Chemistry: 800
 - Awards National AP Scholar, California Mathematics Council Award, National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar, National Honor Society Member

Work Experience

Sinskey Lab @ Massachusetts Institute of Technology — Cambridge, MA UROP Student Intern: February 2021-Present

- Independently carried out cell culture maintenance on several HEK 293 human cell lines
- Performed cell counts and metabolite analysis from Erbi and miniBio bioreactors
- Carried out nanodrop, ddPCR, qPCR, and ELISA assays for DNA and protein quantification
- Mathnasium of Mission Gorge Santee, CA

Instructor: August 2019-Present

- Teaches students of all ages (2nd-12th grade) topics ranging from single-digit addition to single-variable calculus
- Effectively leverages online teaching platforms to perform engaging remote instruction
- Kufareva Lab @ UCSD Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences La Jolla, CA Staff Research Associate: October 2019-December 2020

Volunteer: July 2018-August 2018, February 2019-October 2019

- Analyzed protein structure using the MolSoft ICM protein modeling suite, implementing a new method of protein binding pocket similarity scoring in ICMScript
- Wrote toolkit to validate, process, and visualize Boolean models of cell signaling networks using Python and R; manuscript currently in preparation
- Performed normalization, analysis, and visualization of tandem-mass-tag MS² phosphoproteomic data using R
- Learned and performed tissue culture, PCR, and Gibson cloning methods

Interests and Skills

- Bilingual Native speaker of English and Spanish, elementary French knowledge
- Programming Languages HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript (Node.js), Python (NumPy), ICMScript, R
 - Able to quickly adapt to new languages through hands-on experience
- Familiar with *nix and bash environments (Arch, Ubuntu/Debian)
 - Multiple years of using Arch Linux as a daily driver
- Hobbies
 - Hiking and Backpacking The source of my appreciation for the natural world and its beauty
 - Travel Have visited countries all over the world and can't wait to see more!