

KATERINA NOVIC

412-722-3963 | katerinanovic@hotmail.com | 136 Springhill Drive Oakdale PA, 15071

EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State University

Eberly College of Science

Intended Bachelor of Science in Biology: Vertebrate Physiology Option

Intended Minor: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

University Park, PA

Anticipated May 2028

GPA: 4.00

Dean's List

University College Dublin

Organic Chemistry Summer School

Completed coursework in organic chemistry: Organic Chemistry I, II, and laboratory

Dublin, Ireland

June 12, 2025 – August 9, 2025

GPA: 4.00

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Davenport/Thomas Lab

Undergraduate Research Position

University Park, PA

August 2025 – Current

- Worked to answer the research question: How does the microbiome of *Drosophila melanogaster* affect physiological traits such as flight?
- Learned fly maintenance protocols and the procedures to make axenic and gnotobiotic flies

First Year Research Initiative

Undergraduate Research Position

University Park, PA

August 2024 – May 2025

- Developed lab skills including PCR, gel electrophoresis, DNA extraction and purification, and Sanger Sequencing analysis.
- Presented a molecular research project on hypodontia with a focus on mutations in *PAX9* and *MSX1* genes and a poster on research pertaining to CRISPR deletions of *SEOR1* and *SEOR2* genes in *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

LEADERSHIP

Learning Assistant for the First Year Research Initiative Lab

Instructional Team Member

University Park, PA

August 2025 – Present

- Assisted first year students in learning about genomics research and designing their own research projects.
- Attended weekly lab meetings, held two hours of office hours per week, and graded electronic lab notebooks.

HONORS

The President Walker Award

Award Recipient

University Park, PA

April 2025

- Earned a 4.0 GPA based on a minimum of 12 Penn State credits during first semester of admission

Representation in Science at Eberly for Undergraduate Pre-Health Students (RiSE UP)

Student Member

University Park, PA

August 2024 - Present

- Received DiMarcello Pre-health Summer Bridge Program Support Fund scholarship
- Participated in a health care immersion trip to CHOP, networking, learning strategy workshops, and received advisor support

CERTIFICATIONS

Stop the Bleed

- Organized by American College of Surgeons: Committee on Trauma

Philadelphia, PA

April 2025

ACTIVITIES

Pillar (Special Interest Organization benefitting THON)

Student Club Member

University Park, PA

August 2025 - Present

- Attended weekly meetings to review information pertaining to THON fundraising activities
- Attended club events like socials and excursions to meet with our two THON families

Mount Nittany Health

Volunteer

University Park, PA

January 2025 – Present

- Developed customer service skills by working in the Endoscopy unit transporting patients and checking in patients at the cardiovascular pavilion and surgical services desk