

Joseph A. Faski

1067 Walker Ave NW 49504 • 616-634-5167 • joseph.faski@vai.org

Education

Michigan State University, East Lansing MI

Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience December 2016

Grand Valley State University, Allendale MI

Master of Science in Biostatistics May 2021

Research / Laboratory Experience

Research Internship, Devos Cardiovascular Laboratory

Van Andel Research Institute, Grand Rapids, MI 5/2016-1/2017

- Cultured, maintained, and preserved melanoma and carcinoma human cell lines
- RNA isolation from cells and tissue
- Performed qPCR on cDNA transcribed from total RNA against cycling cardiomyocyte gene panel
- Maintained mouse colonies through PCR
- Cultured and extracted DNA from bacteria cultures (E. coli)
- Performed immunofluorescence on whole tissue mouse heart sections using 3 fluorescent channels per staining group
- Wrote scripts in RStudio to aid in data organization, data visualization

Research Technician, Devos Cardiovascular Laboratory

Van Andel Research Institute, Grand Rapids, MI 1/2017-present

- Cultured and maintained human induced pluripotent stem cell line (hiPSC)
 - Wildtype and mutant lines
- Collaborated with other labs to pursue grants and publications
- Lead of projects and gathered data for R01 grant submission
 - Differentiated hiPSCs into cardiomyocytes, then dedifferentiated through activation of the WNT pathway
 - Wrote and optimized protocol to isolate cells from sheep and human heart valve leaflets
- Isolated human PBMCs from whole blood and reprogrammed into hiPSCs using Sendai virus
- Traced and recorded ultrasound measurements of mouse hearts
- Prepared and stained proteins of various cell lines for fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS)
 - used up to 4 different fluorescent channels in hiPSC derived cardiomyocytes
- Experience with western blotting, PCR (quantitative and on the single cell level), immunofluorescence, DNA and RNA isolation and analysis, and bacteria culture.
- Fluent in Microsoft Excel for simple qPCR data analysis and mouse colony maintenance
- Experience writing scripts in SAS and RStudio for data analysis and visualization
- Presented data at laboratory meetings

Leadership Experience

Van Andel Research Institute, Grand Rapids, MI Summer 2017-Present

- Mentored high school and college interns for summer projects
- Trained assistant research technicians on genotyping of mouse colonies and various lab duties