

FUMINORI TANIZAWA

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EDUCATION

Harvey Mudd College

B.S. in Mathematical and Computational Biology
Humanity concentration in Environmental Analysis

Claremont, CA

Aug 2021 - May 2025 (expected)

GPA 3.92/4.00 (Major 3.96)

Selected Coursework: Molecular Genetics, Molecular Immunology, Biostatistics, Evolutionary Biology, Developmental Biology, Advanced Computational Biology, Data Structures, Program Development

PUBLICATIONS

- **Tanizawa F**, Takemoto H. Sleep contributes to preference for novel food odours in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Scientific Reports*. 2021 Apr 30;11(1):9395. doi: 10.1038/s41598-021-88967-1.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Tanizawa F**, So J., Beaver A., Singer L., Mugnier M. "Characterizing the Effect of the Extravascular Environment on *Trypanosoma brucei* Antigenic Diversity." *Johns Hopkins Career, Academic, and Research Experiences for Students Symposium*. Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, July 2024.
- **Tanizawa F**, Liu C.C., Perez P.A., Srinivasan S. "Genomic Regulators of Lipid Metabolism and Longevity in *C. elegans*." *The 2023 Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research*. California State University, Long Beach, CA, November 2023.
- **Tanizawa F**, Gowri V., Monteiro A. "Behavioral Effects of Odorant Injection on Larvae and Eggs of *Bicyclus anynana*." *2022 Amgen Scholars Asia Symposium*. National University of Singapore, Singapore, August 2022.
- **Tanizawa F**, Takemoto H. "Sleep Contributes to Preference for Novel Food Odours in *Drosophila melanogaster*." *The Animal Behavior Society Annual Meetings 2020*. The Animal Behavior Society, Virtual Conference, July 2020.

DOCTORATE SCHOLARSHIP

Full-ride Scholarship

Ezoe Memorial Recruit Foundation

Tokyo, Japan

Sep 2025 – Aug 2027

- Awarded up to **\$95,000/year** for tuition and **\$26,400/year** for living expenses for my PhD studies.
- **2 years** of funding, with **extension until the academic year 2028-2029**, subject to annual reviews.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Harvey Mudd College

Senior Thesis Student

Claremont, CA

Aug 2024 – Present

Mentored by Dr. Jae Hur, Department of Biology

Project: Mitochondrial Protein Degradation and Immune Response in *Drosophila melanogaster*

- Investigated the role of mitochondrial matrix protease *ClpXP* in modulating innate immune responses in *Drosophila melanogaster* using mild *ClpXP* overexpression models.
- Engineered a GAL4-UAS RNAi knockdown strain targeting *ClpXP* to assess its specific role in immune signaling pathways.
- Developed and optimized protocols for bacterial infection assays, qPCR to measure antimicrobial peptide expression, and bacterial load assays using antibiotic-resistant *Escherichia coli* for comprehensive immune response analysis.

Johns Hopkins University

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow

Baltimore, MD

May 2024 – Aug 2024

Mentored by Dr. Monica Mugnier, Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology

Project: Characterizing the Effect of the Extravascular Environment on *Trypanosoma brucei* Antigenic Diversity

- Investigated how the extravascular environment influences antigenic variation in *Trypanosoma brucei*, with a focus on its immune evasion strategies.

- Developed protocols for isolating extracellular fluid (EF) from key organs (heart, lungs, and gonadal fat) of *T. brucei*-infected mice, using IV injections, cardiac puncture, and perfusion, followed by SDS-PAGE.
- Conducted ELISA on EF samples, revealing significantly reduced IgG/M levels, suggesting that decreased immune pressure in extravascular spaces may drive antigenic variation in *T. brucei*.
- Presented these findings at the Johns Hopkins CARES Symposium, highlighting the implications for understanding immune evasion in parasitic infections.

Harvey Mudd College

Undergraduate Researcher

Mentored by Dr. Danae Schulz, Department of Biology

Project: Role of HAT Complex Protein EAF6 in Lifecycle Differentiation of *Trypanosoma brucei*

Claremont, CA

Sep 2023 – May 2024

- Engineered an RNAi plasmid targeting EAF6, a key component of the HAT complex, to investigate its regulatory role in *Trypanosoma brucei* lifecycle transitions between bloodstream and insect forms.
- Transformed *T. brucei* with an EP1-GFP reporter system to enable real-time monitoring of lifecycle differentiation under RNAi conditions.
- Utilized flow cytometry to quantify EP1-GFP expression, successfully troubleshooting RNAi system leakage and confirming EAF6's critical role in facilitating differentiation.

Scripps Research

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow

Mentored by Dr. Supriya Srinivasan, Department of Neuroscience

Project: Genomic Regulators of Lipid Metabolism and Longevity in *C. elegans*

La Jolla, CA

May 2023 – Aug 2023

- Designed five rescue constructs to investigate the role of the key metabolic regulator *hlh-11*, incorporating tissue-specific promoters (neuron, coelomocyte, glia, intestine, hypodermis), *hlh-11* cDNA, a fluorescent protein, and a UTR for precise functional analysis.
- Engineered a global *hlh-11* knockout using CRISPR/Cas9 technology, including the design of sgRNA and repair templates, and screened knockouts using the *dpy-10* phenotype as a co-CRISPR marker to ensure efficiency.
- Crossbred *hlh-11* knockout lines with GFP-tagged rescue constructs to monitor tissue-specific gene expression, successfully confirming recombination through PCR and fluorescence microscopy.

National University of Singapore

Amgen Asia Scholar

Mentored by Dr. Antonia Monteiro, Department of Biological Sciences

Project: Behavioral Effects of Odorant Injection on Larvae and Eggs of *Bicyclus anynana*

Singapore, Singapore

May 2022 – Aug 2022

- Conducted behavioral assays on the African butterfly *Bicyclus anynana* to investigate transgenerational inheritance of learned odor preferences, contributing to the understanding of epigenetic mechanisms.
- Designed and implemented experiments demonstrating that larvae can acquire and transmit novel host plant odor preferences, offering insights into the heritability of learned behaviors.
- Provided evidence for the transmission of learned preferences across generations, contributing to the understanding of ecological speciation and host plant adaptation.

Japan Science and Technology Agency

Visiting High-School Student

Mentored by Dr. Hiroyuki Takemoto, Research Institute of Green Science and Technology

Project: Sleep Contributes to Preference for Novel Food Odours in *Drosophila melanogaster*

Shizuoka, Japan

Jul 2018 – Apr 2021

- **First-author of a peer-reviewed publication in *Scientific Reports***, presenting research on the role of sleep in sensory-driven behaviors at the International Animal Behavior Society conference.
- Conducted comprehensive behavioral studies to examine how sleep influences olfactory food preferences in *Drosophila melanogaster*, validating findings through controlled experimental designs.
- Designed and built a custom sleep deprivation centrifuge and infrared activity monitoring system to investigate the link between sleep patterns and olfactory-driven behaviors.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Biology Department Writing Fellow

Harvey Mudd College

Writing Fellow

Sep 2024 – Present

- Mentored approximately 40 sophomore students in BIOL054 Experimental Biology Laboratory and BIOL154 Biostatistics, focusing on improving clarity, structure, and data presentation in lab reports.
- Provided tailored feedback in one-on-one mentoring sessions, helping students enhance their scientific argumentation, writing mechanics, and overall communication of complex biological concepts.

BIOL113 Molecular Genetics

Harvey Mudd College

Teaching Assistant and Grader

Sep 2023 – Present

- Led weekly discussion sessions on key genetic mechanisms, including DNA replication, transcription, and gene expression, for 25-30 sophomore and junior students.
- Provided hands-on support during laboratory exercises, guiding students through PCR techniques, gel electrophoresis, and molecular cloning, ensuring proper understanding and execution of protocols.

BIOL046 Introduction to Biology

Harvey Mudd College

Teaching Assistant and Grader

Jan 2023 – Present

- Led review sessions for 20-25 first-year students, covering foundational topics such as cell structure, genetics, and evolution, fostering deeper comprehension.
- Graded quizzes and written assignments for a class of 200, providing detailed feedback to correct misconceptions and support student learning.

MATH055 Discrete Mathematics

Harvey Mudd College

Teaching Assistant and Grader

Sep 2024 – Present

- Graded assignments on mathematical proofs, set theory, and combinatorics for 40-50 sophomore students, providing in-depth feedback to reinforce understanding.
- Held weekly office hours to support students with challenging concepts and problem-solving strategies in discrete mathematics.

CSCI060 Principles of Computer Science

Harvey Mudd College

Teaching Assistant

Sep 2024 – Present

- Led review sessions and office hours for 40-50 students, clarifying algorithms, data structures, and programming languages (Java, Racket) to enhance understanding of core concepts.
- Assisted with homework assignments and exam preparation, focusing on complexity analysis and theoretical aspects of computer science.

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Event Staff Coordinator, Harvey Mudd College

Jan 2022 – Dec 2023

Coordinated logistics and managed student event staff for on-campus social events, ensuring safe operations.

Residential Manager, Living Learning Community

Sep 2022 – Feb 2023

Managed community-focused activities to foster engagement and build a supportive living environment.

Volunteer, The Prison Education Project

Aug 2022 – Dec 2022

Assisted in creating educational materials and providing writing support for incarcerated learners.

Workshop Leader, Atelier Basi

May 2021 – Dec 2021

Led workshops for high school students preparing study abroad applications, focusing on essay writing.

Volunteer, Ministry of Education Cultural Exchange Program

Aug 2020 – Sep 2020

Participated in a cultural exchange program in Ghana and Japan, supporting educational activities.

HONORS & FELLOWSHIPS

Academics

Dean's List, Harvey Mudd College

2021 – Present

Research

Johns Hopkins University BSI-SIP Scholar	May 2024
National University of Singapore Amgen Scholar	May 2022
Grand Prize Winner, Japan Science and Technology Agency National Research Presentation	Nov 2020
Grand Prize Winner, Japan National High School Student Biology Summit	Aug 2020

Fellowships

Ezoe Memorial Recruit Foundation, Full-ride Scholarship (\$120k/year)	2025 – 2027
Tadashi Yanai Foundation, Full-ride Scholarship (\$115K/year)	2021 – 2025
Masason Foundation, Research Grants (\$35K)	2018 – 2025
Ben Huppe '14 Memorial Internships Fellowship, Summer Aid (\$7k)	2023
John and Miyoko Davey Foundation, Living-expense	2021-2023

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Programming & Bioinformatics Tools

- Proficient in: R, Python, MATLAB, BLAST, C++, Java, Git, HTML/CSS, and L^AT_EX

Molecular Techniques (5+ years lab experience)

- **Cloning:** Plasmid design, PCR, miniprep, gel extraction, bead cleanup, heat shock transformation, Gibson assembly
- **Gene Editing:** CRISPR-Cas9 (sgRNA & repair template design, gene knockout/knockdown), Tet-On/Tet-Off RNAi, UAS/GeneSwitch system
- **Molecular Analysis:** Flow cytometry, ELISA, RT-PCR, qPCR, immunoprecipitation, Western blot, SDS-PAGE, BCA assay
- **Microscopy Techniques:** Confocal microscopy, immunofluorescence imaging, live-cell imaging

Model Organism Techniques

- ***Trypanosoma brucei*:**
 - Routine culture maintenance, parasitemia quantification
 - Electroporation for plasmid transformation (e.g., RNAi constructs), RNA interference assays
- ***Drosophila melanogaster*:**
 - Routine fly maintenance, sex differentiation
 - Behavioral and physiological assays: climbing, lifespan, and mitochondrial function assays
 - Molecular techniques: RNA extraction, immunological assays (bacterial infection, peptide expression, bacterial load quantification)
- ***Caenorhabditis elegans*:**
 - Routine culture maintenance, picking, basic genotyping
 - Lifespan assays, immunofluorescent screening
- ***Mus musculus*:**
 - Handling, restraint, and general care
 - IV/IP injections, blood collection (submandibular, tail), cardiac puncture, perfusion, tissue extraction
 - Behavioral studies: anxiety and locomotion tests, learning/memory assays
- ***Bicyclus anynana*:**
 - Routine maintenance, sex differentiation
 - Behavioral assays, dissection, and neural tissue preparation

Languages

- English & Japanese (Bilingual)