

Maxwell Sheffield

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EDUCATION

Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA

Major: Biology, Minor: Computer Science

Graduated May 2018

SKILLS

General

Team building and group work
Create efficient systems
Leadership, setting achievable goals
Following and adapting SOPs
Organization and cleanliness

Biological

DNA / RNA Extraction
PCR and Gel Electrophoresis
Plasmid Transformation
Cell Culturing
Flow Cytometry

Technical

Proficient: C++, Python, Java
Comfortable: HTML, JavaScript, C, R
Test Design
Machine Learning
Excel VBA

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Production Associate I, Adaptive Biotechnologies

- Performed DNA extractions on various sample types in CLIA regulated laboratory
- Operated and maintained liquid handling robotics

Seattle, WA — 2018 – present

Exercise Physiology Teaching Assistant, Whitman College Biology Dept.

- Maintained, bred and cared for mouse colony
- Exercised mice daily for mitochondrial fitness study

Walla Walla, WA — Spring 2018

Lab Aide, Whitman College Biology Dept.

- Prepared labs for biology department classes
- Developed a new system in Excel for organizing thousands of biological slides by phylum

Walla Walla, WA — 2015 - 2018

Student Lab Tech, Texas A&M Microbial Pathogenesis and Immunology Dept.

- Supported Salmonella research in Dr. Helene Andrews-Polymenis Lab
- Used PCR to determine whether insertion mutations inactivating certain genes were in expected locations in the genome.
- Learned how to troubleshoot PCR assays and adjust conditions for individual sets of primers.
- Performed growth curve analysis and assisted in finding key genes important for growth in anaerobic conditions.

College Station, TX — Summer 2017

Research Assistant, Whitman College Biology Dept.

- Researched rose gall wasp development under Dr. Susanne Altermann
- Worked in ImageJ and Excel for statistical analysis of larval development over time

Walla Walla, WA — Summer 2016

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Animal Caretaker, Whitman College Biology Department

- Cared for several terrestrial and aquatic animals used in outreach programs to local elementary schools

Walla Walla, WA — 2017 – present

Summer Assistant, Eastside Preparatory School

- Experience doing building restoration, maintenance, painting, landscaping and construction

Kirkland, WA — Summers of 2014 & 2015

Official / Secretary, USA Cycling

- Worked up from being an assistant to licensed official and secretary for Pro-Am bicycle racing
- Learned teamwork, organization and efficient communication to take on key roles running cycling races.

Redmond, WA — 2003-2014

PROJECTS

Biological Slide Organization System

Created a system via Excel to allow professors to search through a catalog of slides by phylum and improved the ability to add to the collection without skewing the overall organization.

Summer 2016

Operator Training Tracker

Optimized and automated an excel spreadsheet using VBA to generate competency due dates for operator trainings and provide a much more hands-free UI for management.

Fall 2018

Clarity LIMS Revalidation

Volunteered to assist writing detailed requirements and complex tests with the software team and earned the company-wide All-Star Award for January 2019.

Fall 2018

VOLUNTEERING

Mentor, Whitman College Mentor Program

Mentored a local elementary school student, met weekly to help student with social skills

Fall 2015 – Spring 2016

Summer Teen Escort, University of Washington Medical Center

Completed the Summer Teen Program which involved greeting and interacting with visitors, transporting patients, delivery of specimens to labs and flowers/mail to patients along with other volunteer-level tasks.

Summer 2013