Namitchandra Chowdary Nallapaneni

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EDUCATION

College of William & Mary, Williamsburg VA - June 2026 - Current GPA: 3.7

Major: Bachelor of Science in Computational Applied Mathematics and Statistics: Mathematical Biology Minor: Biology

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Student Researcher

William and Mary iGEM Team (International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition) Jan 2024 – Nov 2024

- Investigated **phage satellites** for genetic circuit control in complex environments, tackling the challenge of synthetic biological systems functioning outside laboratory conditions.
- Engineered experimental workflows involving plasmid construct design, PCR, and Gibson assembly, ensuring robust experimental validation of computational predictions.
- **Designed, developed, and implemented SaPhARI** (Satellite Phage Algorithmic Recognition and Interpretation), a novel **bioinformatics tool** for detecting and classifying bacteriophage satellites in genomic and metagenomic data.
- Built SaPhARI as a modular, user-friendly software by integrating CLI bioinformatics tools, Python, shell scripting, Nextflow, and Docker.
- Published **open-access documentation** and resources to enhance accessibility and encourage community engagement via GitLab and project website.

Achievements

- Global Top 10 finalist and Gold Medal recipient, ranked #1 undergraduate team in the United States.
- Nominated for Best Foundational Advance Project and Best Software Tool.

Research Assistant

Joshua Puzey's Lab at William and Mary

Feb 2023 - Jan 2024

- Supported graduate-level research on the genetics and environmental adaptations of poke milkweed.
- Conducted image processing and analysis of stomata and trichomes to study morphological variations.
- Analyzed soil nutrient and microbiome differences among milkweed species using PCA and t-SNE for data visualization.

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Computational Support Intern

Office of Institutional Research at William and Mary Information Technology

Jun 2023 – Jan 2024

- Coordinated cross-departmental efforts to verify survey data and ensure database accuracy.
- Validated institutional data with external sources such as IPEDS and CDS.
- Developed tutorials utilizing Excel-based data visualization and maintained the Institutional Research website using Cascade CMS.

Code "Sensei"/Instructor

Code Ninjas Glen Allen

Aug 2020 – Aug 2022

- Taught foundational coding concepts to students (ages 6–14) using Scratch and JavaScript.
- Designed and led engaging week-long summer camps focused on creative computer science applications.
- Spearheaded marketing campaigns that increased student enrollment from 5 to 50+.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- Achieved Eagle Scout rank through the Boy Scouts of America, demonstrating strong leadership and organizational skills.
- Volunteered 120+ hours at the Hindu Center of Virginia within past 6 months, contributing to youth mentorship and community-building initiatives.

SKILLS

- Programming: Python, JavaScript, Shell scripting, HTML, Nextflow, Docker, GitLab
- Bioinformatics Tools: Prodigal, BLAST, Aragorn, tRNAscan-SE, Barrnap, Clustal
- Molecular Biology Techniques: Plasmid construct design, PCR, Gibson assembly
- Soft Skills: Analytical problem-solving, effective communication, teamwork