Niko McCarty

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EDUCATION

New York University, New York, NY **2020-present**
M.A. in Journalism (Science, Health & Environmental Reporting)

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA **2018-2020**
M.S. in Bioengineering

Imperial College London, London, UK **2017-2018**
MRes in Systems and Synthetic Biology, with *Distinction* (Fulbright Scholar)

University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA **2013-2017**
B.S. in Biochemistry, Honors (3.94/4.00), High Distinction, Phi Beta Kappa

WRITING EXPERIENCE

Contributing Writer, Scienceline (link) **2020-present**
Contribute reporting on science and technology for Scienceline.org, a digital publication run by NYU's SHERP program.

Synthetic Biology Newsletter (link) **2020-present**
I write a weekly newsletter with ~1000 subscribers covering synthetic biology research, on Substack.

Contributing Writer, SynBioBeta.com (link) **2019-2020**
Regular writer for SynBioBeta, the largest network for synthetic biology researchers and investors. My articles have also appeared in Forbes and GreenBiz.

Contributing Writer, PLoS SynBio (link) **2019**
Wrote a series of articles for the PLoS community, highlighting researchers and "behind-the-scenes" interviews of recent articles in synthetic biology.

Contributor, Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature (link) **2017**
Wrote a series of articles for the UNESCO City of Literature, featuring local writers and bookstore owners.

Science Contributor, Little Village Magazine (link) **2017**
Science writer for Little Village, an art and culture magazine in Iowa City (4 months).

National Writing Fellow, Phi Beta Kappa (link) **2016**
Fifteen students selected from a national pool to spend the summer at Phi Beta Kappa. I wrote five articles, focused on the intersection of science and art.

PRIOR RESEARCH

California Institute of Technology, Rob Phillips Lab (link) **2019-2020**
Single-molecule biophysics in *E. coli*.

Imperial College, Rodrigo Ledesma-Amaro & Tom Ellis Labs (link) **2017-2018**
CRISPR-based tools for metabolic engineering and flux control in yeast.

Co-Founder/Co-Leader, Iowa Synthetic Biology Laboratory (link) **2016-2017**
Co-founded the first synthetic biology laboratory in eastern Iowa, recruited 12 students, faculty mentors, raised $17k, and entered 2017 iGEM competition.

University of Iowa, E. Dale Abel Lab (link) **2013-2017**
I used immunoblotting, transgenic mice, and histology to dissect the molecular mechanisms linking impaired insulin signaling and heart failure.

ACADEMIC PAPERS

All of my published research can be found on Google Scholar, including peer-reviewed articles on CRISPR technologies, microbial communities, and cardiovascular medicine.

RELEVANT SKILLS

JavaScript (D3, Vega-Lite, ScrollTrigger), Python (Web Scraping, NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, Matplotlib/Seaborn), web development (HTML, Sass/CSS, JS), Adobe (Illustrator, Audition, basic Photoshop, basic After Effects). View my data visualization portfolio on Observable.

SELECTED HONORS

Rennie Taylor/Alton Blakeslee Fellowship, CASW (link) **2020**
Arthur Carter Fellowship, New York University **2020**
Centenary Prize for MRes Systems and Synthetic Biology (Top marks) **2018**
Matthew Barzun Prize for Youth Engagement (link) **2018**
US-UK Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar, Imperial College London (link) **2017**
Barry Goldwater Scholar (link) **2016**
Latham Fellow in Science Communication, University of Iowa (link) **2015**