

Taylor Saenz

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EDUCATION

The University of Texas, Austin, TX

Expected 05/2021

Bachelor of Science and Arts in Biology

Minor in Educational Psychology

GPA: 3.64

EXPERIENCE

Dr. Aprile Benner, Austin, TX

January 2020 – Present

Research Assistant

- Worked on Project LIBRA, which researches how everyday experiences of adolescents influence their mental and physical health
- Recruited, interviewed, and trained participants
- Analyzed data (positive and negative aspects of adolescents' daily lives)

Dr. Kayla Weaver, Port Isabel, TX

July 2018 – August 2019

Veterinary Intern (64 hours)

- Shadowed Dr. Weaver while she examined and treated patients
- Observed surgical procedures

Dr. Sherri Wooding, Brownsville, TX

May 2018 – August 2018

Veterinary Intern (106 hours)

- Assisted in preparing the animals for surgery (shaved surgical site, drew blood)
- Observed surgical procedures (spay, neuter, hematoma removal, tumor excision, enucleation, teeth extraction)
- Monitored the animals after surgery
- Administered vaccinations
- Consulted with owners (routine check-ups, emergency care)

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The University of Texas, Austin, TX

August 2017 – May 2018

TIP (Texas Interdisciplinary Plan) SCHOLAR

- Characterized by core values (Scholarship, Integrity, Enterprise, Community)
- Promoted academic excellence and intellectual investment

- Made the most of what a premier, large research university has to offer

The University of Texas, Austin, TX

August 2017 – December 2018

FRI (Freshman Research Initiative) – Virtual Drug Screening Stream

- Utilized computational resources to isolate compounds in a more efficient and effective way
- Applied virtual screening to discover potential inhibitor of enzymes
- Gained critical thinking, technical and problem-solving skills

RESEARCH PROJECTS

6 - Phosphoglucanate Dehydrogenase (Target Enzyme)

August 2018 – December 2018

- Performed PCR on the vector, pNIC-Bsa4 and the CDS of the sacB gene, to clone the gene into the expression vector
- Used the ligand program, GOLD, to dock prepped ligands and produce scores that allowed for the exploration of ligand flexibility and affinity for binding to the active site
 - Overall best ranking lists were compiled from a combination of four small and one large library
 - Top scoring ligand was a possible inhibitor for 6-Phosphogluconate Dehydrogenase

ACTIVITIES & LEADERSHIP

Camp Kesem, Austin, TX

January 2020 - Present

Counselor

- Conducted and led summer camp activities
- Created a safe space for campers to talk about their parent's cancer and how it impacts their lives

Texas Spirits, Austin, TX

January 2019 - Present

Member

- Honorary social, spirit, and service organization for students who identify as women
- Characterized by core values (Service, Friendship, Love, and Spirit)
- Participated in the Inclusion Committee
 - Focused on ensuring members felt included and comfortable
 - Scheduled speaker series about LGBTQ+ identities, heteronormativity, and socio-economic backgrounds

PLUS Biostatistics Facilitator, Austin, TX

January 2019 - May 2019

Group Study Facilitator

- Guided study groups, ensuring they are on task and productive for everyone
- Kept up with course material and met with professor weekly

The University of Texas, Austin, TX

August 2018 - Present

TIP Peer Mentor

- 6 hours per week

- Provided support through training on key concepts (academic & mental health resources, diversity & inclusion, time & stress management, and academic boundaries) for incoming Freshman
- Motivated students to overcome obstacles and to help transition from high school to university learning
- Introduced student to campus services, TIP social, and program events
- Remained in consistent contact with the students to encourage key concepts for their success

Sigma Alpha Lambda (SAL)

August 2018 - Present

Member

- A national leadership and honor organization recognizing service, achievement, and leadership
- Engaged university students in meaningful, relevant service initiatives and raised awareness for worthwhile causes
- Recognized academic achievement among members and encouraged continued academic excellence

University Democrats, Austin, TX

August 2018 - Present

Member

- Promoted candidates and ideals of the Democratic Party
- Increased political awareness on the University of Texas campus
- Hosted new speakers on a weekly basis

Pre-Veterinary Association, Austin, TX

September 2017 – December 2019

Member

- Instilled knowledge in future veterinarians through the use of study groups, speakers, group discussions, hands-on experience and social events
- Provided opportunities for volunteer experiences

SKILLS

Technical /Computer Skills:

- R Code using R Studio
- Protein assembly using PyMol
- Virtual Screening using GOLD

Language:

- Conversational Spanish Skills

HONORS AND AWARDS

Golden Key International Honour Society

November 2019 - Present

Member

- World's largest collegiate honor society who identified high achieving students solely based on academic achievements (Top 15% of class)
- Recognized for its diversity and global presence in the advancement of academics, leadership, and service

TIP Scholars, Austin, TX

Fall Semester 2017

- Award for Academic Achievement (GPA 3.5 or greater)

National Society of Collegiate Scholars

September 2017 - Present

Member

- Nonprofit honors organization that recognized and elevated high achieving students (Top 20% of class)
- Committed to academics, service, and leadership