

Microbac

4750 Nautilus Court South, Unit A
Boulder, CO

July 21, 2018

Dear Microbac representative,

Following a desire to assist in food and product safety and with the necessary interpersonal and scientific skills, I am applying for the position of Analyst in Microbiology at Microbac. After a B.Sc. in Biology and participation in the iGEM (international Genetically Engineered Machine) competition, I received a M.Sc. in Biology before working with the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Rome. Through various research projects I worked effectively both independently and as part of a team, gaining strong problem-solving skills, precise attention to detail and excellent communication skills. Furthermore, I have a proven ability to adapt to new challenges, to perform well under pressure and am experienced in using aseptic technique.

During my B.Sc. and my M.Sc. thesis I cultivated and processed algae and cyanobacteria (*Publication*) whereas in my current position I work with *E. coli* and viral vectors. These experiences have left me with excellent analytical and critical thinking skills and well-versed in performing standard microbiological analyses including PCR, serial dilutions and enumerating target microorganisms using sterile technique. Furthermore, I am able to accurately follow written and verbal instructions. A wide array of lectures and courses I took in plant sciences, translational biology and microbiology has left me with a solid foundation to quickly implement and trouble-shoot published procedures and protocols. For instance, during a reorganization of my current lab, I successfully established new protocols for the production and quantification of viral vector tools in mammalian cell culture using techniques that were new to both my supervisor and me. During this time, I also began working in a BSL2 environment where I stringently follow safety guidelines and use aseptic technique ~~also~~ for eucaryotic cell culture.

In addition to what I learned from my studies, iGEM gave me the chance to work within an interdisciplinary team of 20 students and to clearly communicate both within the team and to an international audience. iGEM also gave me a chance to hone my skills in organization and the daily upkeep of a lab, including ensuring the functionality of instruments, approaching companies and funding agencies for financial or material aid, media preparation and sterilization, cleaning and sterilizing equipment and using an internal wiki for accurate and reliable data storage. Although my specific focus during iGEM was protein purification, I also taught myself adobe illustrator in order to generate higher quality designs for our [website](#).

In addition to a strong proficiency in Microsoft office suite, I took the initiative to further develop and organize the facility's database (FileMaker) at my current position - leaving me with excellent organizational skills able to accurately document, record and review data. I have also attended a professional course on presenting with impact and project management for scientists and am able to apply these techniques to balance multiple projects in a fast paced environment while keeping a positive and strong work ethic. Finally, through a wide range of volunteering activities I have further honed my interpersonal, organizational and communication skills.

Working as an Analyst for Microbac is a natural continuation of my experience, skills and passions and I believe I could make valuable contributions to Microbac's mission. If you agree, I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the position and my skills in more detail. Thank you for your time and consideration, I look forward to hearing from you and will be following up next week.

Sincerely,

Rabea Jesser