

Kavita S. Oommen, Ph.D.

Department of Biology
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EDUCATION

- 2000-2007* **Doctor of Philosophy**
Program in Developmental Biology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
- 1996-1999* **Master of Science**
Department of Biology, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
- 1990-1994* **Bachelor of Science**
Department of Biology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA

INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2009-Present* **Senior Lecturer** (promoted in 2014)
- 2014-Present* **Associate Undergraduate Director**
- 2016-Present* **Interim Academic Professional**
Department of Biology, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
Courses Taught: Genetics (BIOL 3900), Molecular Cell Biology Laboratory with Critical Thinking Through Writing (BIOL 3810), Genetics Laboratory (BIOL 3910), Principles of Biology I (BIOL 2107K), Senior Seminar-CTW – Human Reproduction (BIOL 4980), Topics in Biology – Evolutionarily-Conserved Mechanisms of Development (BIOL 4930), Human Anatomy and Physiology II (BIOL 2120K).
- 2003* **Student Mentor**
Summer Summer Medical and Research Training (SMART) Program
Role: Supervise and guide the summer research projects of promising undergraduate students who are interested in careers in biomedical research; assist in developing presentation skills (talk & poster) for program symposium.
- 2003-2004* **Tutor**
The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
Role: Assist students experiencing difficulty with core graduate studies curriculum (specifically in Molecular and Cellular Biology and Genetics).
- 2001-2002* **Teaching Assistant for Graduate Students**
The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
Course: Developmental Biology

1997 & 1998 Coordinator & Instructor

Summers Bridge Program: Summer Research Internship with Fort Valley State University
Department of Biology, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
Role: Develop modules and guide minority undergraduate students through laboratory and molecular skills involved in identifying and characterizing antibiotic-resistant in water sources in the Atlanta area.

1997-1999 Teaching Assistant for Undergraduates

Department of Biology, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
Courses Taught: Introductory Biology II, Human Anatomy & Physiology I & II

DISTINCTIONS & AWARDS

- 2014 National Academies Education Fellow in the Life Sciences**
Regional Summer Institute on Undergraduate Education in Biology,
Athens, GA
- 2006 Best Oral Presentation Finalist**
Annual Research Conference
Verna and Marrs McLean Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
- 2005 Travel Award**
International *C. elegans* Meeting, Los Angeles CA
- 2003 V.C. Joshi Memorial Award for Best Oral Presentation**
Annual Research Conference
Verna and Marrs McLean Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
- 2002 8-stranded Beta-Barrel Jelly Roll Award, Best Overall Teaching Assistant**
The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
- 2000-2005 NIH Environmental Health Sciences Training Grant (T32 ES07332)**
Pre-doctoral funding
- 1997 Excellence in Research**
Department of Biology
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
- 1997-1998 Excellence in Teaching – Two-time Recipient**
Department of Biology
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

PUBLICATIONS

Oommen, K. S. and Newman, A. P. (2007) Co-regulation by Notch and Fos is required for cell fate specification of intermediate precursors during *C. elegans* uterine development. *Development* 134, 3999-4009.

Cinar, H. N., Richards, K. L., **Oommen, K. S.** and Newman, A. P. (2003) The EGL-13 SOX domain transcription factor affects the uterine pi lineages in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Genetics* 165, 1623-1628.

MAJOR MEETING ABSTRACTS

2005 International *C. elegans* Meeting, Los Angeles CA

oral presentation:

“Crosstalk between Notch and Fos/Jun during specification of a uterine cell fate.”

2003 International *C. elegans* Meeting, Los Angeles CA

poster:

“Transgenic studies of Notch-mediated uterine cell expression of the EGL-13 transcription factor during *C. elegans* gonadogenesis.”

2002 Midwest *C. elegans* Meeting, St. Louis MO

oral presentation:

“Transgenic animals containing multiple copy arrays of *egl-13* upstream regulatory sequences have developmental and egg-laying behavioral defects similar to those of *egl-13* mutants.”

1999 International *C. elegans* Meeting, Madison WI

poster:

“Behavioral, Structural and Genetic Analyses of *unc-jd19*: A Gene Affecting the Development of the DD Motoneurons.”

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

GENETICS: mutagenesis, construction and maintenance of multiple-mutant lines; transformation, selection, and maintenance of lines with transgenes & chromosomal rearrangements; transgene integration with γ -irradiation.

MOLECULAR: cloning; preparation of competent bacterial cells, purification and electrophoresis (DNA, RNA, and protein); PCR; site-directed mutagenesis.

CELL BIOLOGY: basic (dissection and compound) and advanced (immunofluorescence, confocal, and deconvolution) microscopy.

BIOCHEMISTRY: labeling with radioactivity, protein tags, and colorimetric tags; *in vitro* transcription and translation, protein interaction assays; DNA mobility shift assays.

COMPUTER: proficient in numerous image acquisition and processing software; bioinformatics and data mining; Adobe Suite; Microsoft Office.