

Myron Keith Gibert, Jr.

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Personal Profile

A current graduate student at the University of Virginia studying cancer biology and data science. My position involves the application of biological and computational methods to identify potential solutions to complex scientific problems. Outside of research, I have had opportunities to cultivate transferrable skills such as leadership, human relations, critical thinking, problem solving, written and oral communication, project management and organization, self-motivation, resiliency, and research and information management. I also identify as a Black Person of Color (BIPOC); I am fully committed to advocating for and cultivating diverse, equitable, and inclusive environments and communities.

Career Goals

- *to become a leading scientist in the fields of cancer biology, bioinformatics, and data science*
- *to cultivate the next generation of scientists, innovators, individuals, and free-thinkers*
- *to promote a workforce that is both inclusive and representative of the modern United States.*

Education

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	COMPLETION DATE	FIELD(S) OF STUDY	HIGHEST HONOR
Coursera, Virtual	Certificate(s)	Ongoing	Various*	Data Science Specialization
University of Virginia, Charlottesville VA	Ph.D.	Anticipated 2022	Microbiology, Immunology, and Cancer Biology	Raven Scholar
University of Virginia, Charlottesville VA	M.S.	12/2018	Biological and Physical Sciences	Cancer Training Grant Fellow HHMI Gilliam Finalist
Hampton University, Hampton VA	B.S.	05/2016	Cellular and Molecular Biology	MARC Scholar Leadership Studies Minor
Friendly High School, Fort Washington, MD	N/A	5/2011	N/A	Valedictorian Eagle Scout

*My Coursera portfolio includes specializations in Data Science, Academic English, Creative Writing, and Basic Spanish Vocabulary

Current Position

Position Details: **University of Virginia, Lab of Dr. Roger Abounader, 2017-Current**

Project Title: *Uncovering the role for transcribed ultra-conserved regions as long non-coding RNAs in gliomas*

Project Summary: Glioblastoma (GBM) is the most common and most deadly malignant brain tumor. Most GBM research has focused on protein-coding genes and much less on non-coding transcripts that make up 98% of cellular RNA. Transcribed Ultra-Conserved Regions (TUCRs) represent an understudied class of long non-coding RNAs (lncRNAs) that are found conserved across multiple species. These non-coding transcripts are highly resistant to variation and are commonly deregulated in cancer, suggesting regulatory and functional importance. We performed a first-time bioinformatic analysis of TUCR expression, deregulation, and function in gliomas. Successful completion of this project represents the first comprehensive analysis of TUCRs in GBM and generates new knowledge on the mechanisms of GBM malignancy.

Previous Positions

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	PROJECT TITLE (if applicable)	SUPERVISOR	DATES
University of Virginia, Charlottesville VA	<i>A novel software to normalize genome wide sequencing data</i>	Dr. Michael Guertin	2016
University of Virginia, Charlottesville VA	<i>Long Non-Coding RNAs in Various Cancers</i>	Dr. Anindya Dutta	2016
University of Virginia, Charlottesville VA	<i>Examining the Roles of FAK and Pyk2 on Monocyte Differentiation</i>	Dr. Amy Bouton Dr. Ryan Llewellyn	2015
Hampton University Cancer Research Center , Hampton VA	<i>Examining Allele Frequency Differences in Variants for DNA Repair Genes between Populations</i>	Dr. Luisel Ricks-Santi Dr. John McDonald	2014-2016
Lombardi Cancer Center at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.	<i>Role of Calcium Channels in Androgen Receptor Positive Triple Negative Breast Cancer</i>	Dr. Mary Beth Martin Dr. Brandy Huderson	2014-2015
<i>Newport News Public Schools 21st Century Tutoring, Newport News, VA</i>	<i>Teacher's Aide</i>	Doris Damron	2015-2016
<i>Hampton University Proton Therapy Institute, Hampton, VA</i>	<i>Intern</i>	Dr. Luisel Ricks-Santi	2013-2014

*My work experience also includes 3 unrelated positions during the 2009-2012 years.

Publications and Presentations

Publications

- Zhang, Y. et al. *The p53 pathway in glioblastoma*. *Cancers* (Basel). Vol 10: Issue 9. 2018
- Cruickshanks, N. et al. *Discovery and therapeutic exploitation of mechanisms of resistance to MET inhibitors in glioblastoma*. *Clinical Cancer Research*. 1-11. 2018
- Cruickshanks, N. et al. *Role and therapeutic targeting of the HGF/MET pathway in glioblastoma*. *Cancers* (Basel). Vol 9: Issue 7. 2017 <<http://www.mdpi.com/2072-6694/9/7/87>>
- Gibert Jr, Myron K. *Cancer metabolism*. *Journal of the Minority Science Apprentice*. Vol 8: Issue 1. March 2014 <http://docs.hamptonu.edu/student/5917-jmsa_online_2014_20140415154204.pdf>

Presentations

- 4 oral and poster presentations that predate the following:
 - 2016 Beta Kappa Chi Annual Meeting (Poster)
 - 2018-2020 UVA MIC Department Retreat (Poster)
 - 2018 23rd Annual Hampton University Research Symposium (Oral and Poster)
 - 2019 Cancer Biology Annual Retreat (CABTRAC) (Poster)
 - 2020 MIC Department Seminar Series (Oral)

Achievements

- **CEO of One Thousand Words, LLC** at onethousandwords.blog
- Boy Scouts of America, **Eagle Scout**, Troop 1551
- University of Virginia **Cancer Training Grant** Fellow
- NIH 165225-101-GB10470-40445 **Diversity Supplement** Awardee
- University of Virginia School of Medicine **Diversity Consortium member**

- University of Virginia **Raven Society Scholar**
- University of Virginia **Graduate Recruitment Initiative Team** President (2020-)
- William R. Harvey Leadership Institute (**WRHLI**) **Fellow** through Hampton University
- **Beta Kappa Chi (BKX) National Science Honor Society** Member
- Howard Hughes Medical Institute (**HHMI**) **Fellow** through Hampton University
- Member of the **Hampton University Undergraduate Cancer Research Program (HUUCRP)** in conjunction with the Hampton University Proton Therapy Institute

Transferrable Skills and Expertise

SKILL	EXAMPLES
Leadership, Interpersonal Skills, and Human Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate for and implement environments that are diverse, equitable, and inclusive - General empathy for individuals, regardless of background or ideology - Demonstrating honesty and integrity in all personal and professional endeavors - Lead and facilitate group/organization structure, dynamics, discussions, and meetings - Collaborate on projects - Effectively mentor and motivate subordinates and/or peers
Critical Thinking, Analysis, and Problem Solving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utilizing the scientific method to define problems and identify causes and/or solutions - Develop organizing principles to effectively evaluate large sets of data - Develop methods for automating tasks to increase efficiency - Form and defend independent conclusions
Written and Oral Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Native and Academic English speaker, some Spanish proficiency - Prepare concise and logically written materials and develop coherent methods for presentation of materials - Organize and communicate ideas effectively to small and large groups - Explaining complex or difficult concepts to a variety of audiences - Writing and editing complex documents and grants - Extensive documentation of analyses for reproducibility - Teach skills or concepts to peers of varying competencies
Project Management and Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Manage a project or projects from beginning to end - Prioritize tasks while anticipating potential problems - Maintain flexibility in the face of changing circumstances - Budget management and procurement - Accepting responsibility - Being punctual to meetings and events
Self-Motivation and Resiliency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comprehend new material and subject matter quickly - Work effectively with limited supervision - Maintain an even-keel due to a healthy relationship with both success and failure
Research and Information Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utilize computational skills to automate data acquisition and visualization - Research development and effective grant writing - Identify sources of information applicable to a given problem - Understand and synthesize large quantities of data

Specific Skills and Expertise

SCIENTIFIC	COMPUTATIONAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scientific background in Cell and Cancer Biology, Non-coding RNAs, and Glioblastoma - Standard Tissue culture techniques - RNA Isolation - cDNA Synthesis - Protein immunoblotting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scientific background in Data Science, Bioinformatics, and Computational Biology - Typing speed: 62 words per minute - Microsoft Office (Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cell Fractionation- Oligo transfection- Cancer malignancy parameter assays (Proliferation, Death, Invasion, Migration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- WordPress, Weebly, Wix, and the Open Scholar website interfaces- Adobe Photoshop- R and Unix programming languages- ImageJ analysis software- UCSC Genome Browser- Database for Annotation, Visualization, and Integrated Discovery (DAVID)- Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA)- dbGap, cbiportal, TCGA and GTex- Endnote X9- Sigmaplot 12.0
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