

Megan A. Sheridan

Doctoral Candidate

Department of Biochemistry, University of Missouri

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Education

University of Missouri-Columbia

In progress: Doctor of Philosophy, Biochemistry, August 2013-Present

Bachelors of Science in Biochemistry, August 2008-December 2012

Research Experience

University of Missouri-Columbia

- **January 2014-Present**
Graduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. R. M. Roberts
Thesis work: Placental development, stem cell culture, preeclampsia, and viral infection during pregnancy (Zika virus)
- October 2013-December 2013, Research Rotation, Advisor: Dr. Stefan Sarafianos
- August 2013-October 2013, Research Rotation, Advisor: Dr. Dennis Lubahn
- September 2012-December 2012, Undergraduate Research, Advisor: Dr. Shuqun Zhang
- January 2011-September 2011, Undergraduate Research, Advisor: Dr. Charles Caldwell

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant (Fall Semester 2014), University of Missouri-Columbia
Biochemistry II (undergraduate/non-major graduate course)

Magic of Chemistry

Volunteer scientist (August 2012-Present, event held twice annually)

Teaching 6th-8th graders basic chemistry concepts in a laboratory setting

Publications

Ying Yang, Katsuyuki Adachi, **Megan A. Sheridan**, Andrei P. Alexenko, Danny J. Schust, Laura C. Schulz, Toshihiko Ezashi, R. Michael Roberts. (2015) "Heightened potency of human pluripotent stem cell lines created by transient BMP4 exposure." *PNAS*. PMID: 25870291

Presentations

Invited Talks:

The Gilbert S. Greenwald Symposium on Reproduction and Regenerative Medicine (September 2016)

“Vulnerability of Primitive Human Placental Trophoblast to Zika Virus”

University of Missouri Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women’s Health Grand Rounds (August 2016)

“Susceptibility of Trophoblast Derived from Embryonic Stem Cells to Zika Virus (ZIKV): an Indication of Early Placental Vulnerability?”

Poster Presentations:

The Gilbert S. Greenwald Symposium on Reproduction and Regenerative Medicine (September 2016)

“Vulnerability of Primitive Human Placental Trophoblast to Zika Virus”

Society for the Study of Reproduction 49th Annual Meeting (July 2016)

“Cells transiently exposed to BMP4 exhibit enhanced differentiation into an invasive trophoblast lineage, closely resembling extravillous trophoblast.”

University of Missouri-Columbia, Life Sciences Week (April 2016)

“Cells transiently exposed to BMP4 exhibit enhanced differentiation into an invasive trophoblast lineage, closely resembling extravillous trophoblast.”

The Gilbert S. Greenwald Symposium on Reproduction and Regenerative Medicine (October 2015)

“Extravillous trophoblast cells derived from iPS cells from preeclamptic patients identify a potential invasion defect in preeclampsia.” *First co-author *Poster award finalist

University of Missouri-Columbia, Life Sciences Week (April 2015)

“Extravillous trophoblast cells derived from iPS cells from preeclamptic patients identify a potential invasion defect in preeclampsia.” *First co-author

The Gilbert S. Greenwald Symposium on Reproduction and Regenerative Medicine (November 2014)

“Cells with features of totipotency derived from human ESC and iPSC by transient BMP4 exposure.” *Corresponding author

Honors and Awards

People’s Choice Award: Three Minute Thesis Competition

University of Missouri, Columbia (October 2016)

Douglas D. Randall Young Scientists Development Fund, Travel Award
University of Missouri, Columbia (July 2016)

Graduate Professional Council Travel Award
University of Missouri, Columbia (July 2016)

Leadership and Service

PNAS Journal Club Panel member (June 2016-Present)
Main responsibility is to recommend recent journal articles to be featured on the PNAS Front Matter Journal Club blog

Reviewer in Scientific Journals (February 2016-Present)
PLOS ONE

Research mentoring

- Mentoring an MU Discovery Fellow, who works ~10 hrs/week (August 2015- Present)
- Mentoring an MU Prep Scholar, who works ~30 hrs/week (August 2015-July 2016)

Advocate for Biomedical Research in ASBMB's Capitol Hill Day (June 2015)
Met with Congress Members to discuss the importance of biomedical research funding

Biochemistry Graduate Student Organization (2014-Present)
Vice president (1 year term, 2014-2015)
Treasurer (2 year term- 2015-2017, in progress)

Professional Affiliations

Society for the Study of Reproduction (2015-Present)