



AMBER JONES-HACKATHORNE

Oregon Health & Science University Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Degrees:

B.A. and B.S. in Biology and Chemistry, The Evergreen State College

Scholar Award Donors:

Barbara Silver and Cornelia Stevens

About the Scholar:

Amber's research focuses on mapping interactions between two proteins, and refining methods to do so. She is calibrating fluorescence methods for describing the physical interactions between the dim-light visual receptor called rhodopsin and the proteins it interacts with in order to communicate the signal to the inside of the cell.

Benefits to Society:

The receptor Amber focuses on is a member of a large class of proteins that, taken together, are a major class of pharmaceutical targets. Other members of this family of receptors are involved in cancer, diabetes, heart health, and many other diseases and pathways. The study of rhodopsin has led to greater understanding of the other members of the family, and Amber's broader goal is to describe a general mechanism of interaction that holds true for other receptors in the family.

Awards and Honors:

NIH PMCB Training Grant
NSF-STEM Scholarship recipient