Samantha McDonough

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley | Berkeley, CA December 2023
Bachelor of Science in Microbial Biology GPA: 3.92

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of California, San Francisco - Dermatology| San Francisco, CA October 2026 - Present
Medical Assistant

- Interview patients, relay concerns to the providers and prepare medications and supplies for procedures
- Communicate with patients and providers through MyChart/Epic

University of California, San Francisco - GoHealth Urgent Care | San Francisco, CA September 2024 - August 2026
Advanced Clinical Associate

- Documented comprehensive 'History of Present Illness', took vitals, and presented to clinicians to ensure accurate relay of symptoms and underlying conditions at a high-volume urgent care
- Performed phlebotomy, administered injections, conducted ECGs, and performed wound care
- Proactively followed up via phone calls and emails to address concerns and ensure continuity of care
- Navigated complex administrative logistics by coordinating with pharmacies, third-party labs, and insurance providers to verify medication availability and diagnostic coding

Conboy Lab | Berkeley, CA January 2024 - August 2024
Research Assistant

- Investigated therapeutic impacts of a TGF-β inhibitor and oxytocin on musculoskeletal health of exercise-stressed mice using behavior tests and immunofluorescence staining
- Quantified differences in morphology, differentiation, and proliferation rates between human myoblast cell lines cultured at atmospheric versus physiological oxygen conditions
- Taught undergraduate students staining, microtoming and mouse testing procedures

Deciduous Therapeutics | San Francisco, CA Summer 2022
Research Intern

- Spearheaded a study quantifying the impact of small molecule drugs on Senescence Associated Secretory Phenotype (SASP) and proliferation biomarkers via qPCR on mouse adipose, liver, heart, and kidney tissues
- Created and presented a scientific poster to communicate findings to the entire company

Sponsored Program for Undergraduate Research (SPUR) | Berkeley, CA September 2021- August 2023
Undergraduate Researcher, Blonder Lab

- Processed and analyzed leaf samples from 122 species of plants contributing to a paper analyzing hydraulic efficiency and implosion safety by measuring conduit diameter and xylem wall thickness
- Presented and discussed scientific papers during weekly journal meetings

Plastic Tides | Remote January 2021 - August 2021
Team Coordinator

- Led monthly company-wide meetings and managed the recruitment, onboarding, and offboarding for the nonprofit

Outdoor Adventures | Davis, CA November 2019 - June 2021
Backpacking Guide / Rental Center Associate

- Led wilderness expeditions for groups of peers and community members, including management of group safety and logistics in remote environments

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Clinical: GCP Certification, RMA Certification, Phlebotomy, ECG, Injections, Wound Care, Vital Signs, EPIC APeX
Research: qPCR, Immunofluorescence, Sterile Technique, Cell Culture, Data Analysis, cDNA synthesis, ELISA

PUBLICATIONS

Cruz, J.M.C., Yeung, H., Alzalzalee, R., Yang, Q., Kabir, H., McDonough, S.A., Mei, X., Conboy, M.J. and Conboy, I.M. (2025). In old mice, exercise induces inflammation and fibrosis unless Alk5-inhibitor and oxytocin are used. Journal of Cellular Physiology, 240: e70054.

Matos, I.S., McDonough, S., Johnson, B.C., Kalantar, D., Rohde, J., Sahu, R., et al. (2024). Negative allometry of leaf xylem conduit diameter and double-wall thickness: implications for implosion safety. New Phytologist, 242(6), 2464–2478.

Matos, I.S., Boakye, M., Niewiadomski, I., Antonio, M., Carlos, S., Johnson, B.C., Chu, A., Echevarria, A., Fontao, A., Garcia, L., Kalantar, D., Madhavan, S., Mann, J., McDonough, S., et al. (2024). Leaf venation network architecture coordinates functional trade-offs across vein spatial scales: evidence for multiple alternative designs. New Phytologist, 244: 407–425.