

ZOE JUNE ASSAF

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 9/2010 – Present **PhD Student**, advised by Dr. Dmitri Petrov
Department of Genetics, Stanford University
Currently using both mathematical models and fruit fly experiments to investigate the role of deleterious mutations in adaptation
- 8/2008–8/2010 **Staff Research Associate** with Dr. Zac Cande
Department of Molecular & Cell Biology, University of California, Berkeley
Co-authored 3 papers, including characterization of the structure and function of the actin cytoskeleton in the parasite Giardia lamblia
- 6/2007–2/2008 **Research Assistant** with Dr. Abby Dernburg
Department of Molecular & Cell Biology, University of California, Berkeley
Co-authored 1 paper, which described the role of plk-2 in orchestrating chromosome dynamics during meiosis in the nematode C. elegans

EDUCATION

- Expected 2016 **PhD**, Stanford University
Department of Genetics
- December 2007 **B.A.** University of California, Berkeley
Department of Molecular & Cell Biology, Department of Integrative Biology

PUBLICATIONS

- Carpenter ML, Assaf ZJ, Gourguechon S, Cande WZ. 2012. *Nuclear inheritance and genetic exchange without meiosis in the binucleate parasite Giardia intestinalis*. Journal of Cell Science. 125(Pt 10):2523-32. PMID: 22366460
- Harper NC, Rillo R, Jover-Gil S, Assaf ZJ, Bhalla N, Dernburg AF. 2011. *Pairing centers recruit a Polo-like kinase to orchestrate meiotic chromosome dynamics in C. elegans*. Developmental Cell. 21(5):934-47. PMID: 22018922
- Paredes AR, Assaf ZJ, Sept D, Timofejeva L, Dawson SC, Wang CJ, Cande WZ. 2011. *An actin cytoskeleton with evolutionarily conserved functions in the absence of canonical actin-binding proteins*. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. 108(15):6151-6. PMID: 21444821
- Fritz-Laylin LK, Assaf ZJ, Chen S, Cande WZ. 2010. *Naegleria gruberi de novo basal body assembly occurs via stepwise incorporation of conserved proteins*. Eukaryotic Cell. 9(6):860-5. PMID: 20400468

AWARDS

- 2011 – Present NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
- 2013 Stanford Biosciences Office of Graduate Education Travel Grant
- 2013 Stanford Department of Biology Travel Grant
- 2010-2011 Stanford Genome Training Program Grant

TALKS AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- June 2013 Evolution 2013 (Talk)
- July 2013 SMBE 2013 (Poster)

October 2012

Biomedical Computation at Stanford Conference (Poster)

ACTIVITIES

1/2013 – present

Mentor for undergraduate research assistants

6/2012 – 1/2013

Teaching Assistant for Stanford at The Tech, an outreach program that brings science to the public and local highschools

11/2012

Volunteer teacher for the Bay Area Science Festival's Discovery Day

1/2011 – 4/2011

Volunteer teacher for NAMI's Family-to-Family program, a 12-week course for family caregivers of individuals with severe mental illnesses