

## Brianna Cervantes

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**Education:**     **Longwood University**  
Fall 2018-Present  
Expected Graduation: May 2022 with Bachelor of Science in Biology and minor in Chemistry with Honors and a LifeStem Scholar  
Overall GPA: 3.387; Biology GPA: 3.392  
Classes taken/to take:

**Briar Woods High School**  
Fall 2014 – Spring 2018  
GPA: 3.65  
Classes taken: Research and AP Biology

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**Skills:**         **Microbiology Techniques**  
*March 2019-October 2019*  
Research was done with magnetotactic bacteria to determine if adding a gene from *E. Coli* would change the shape of crystals that are secreted from the bacteria.

**Play the Trumpet**  
*From 2010-present*

**Can work in an on-call capacity**  
*Fall 2019-present*  
This skill comes from working as an RA within my institution and having to deal with different issues that can occur during a shift.

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**Experience:**    **Organic Chemistry Tutor**  
*Spring 2020*  
Knowledge of organic chemistry was used in order to help other students to help understand the topic and to be successful within the class.

**Microbiology Teacher Assistant**  
*Fall 2019*  
Preparation was conducted for the microbiology class at Longwood to help students learn through hands-on experience, and a knowledge of techniques that are commonly used in microbiology.

**The Eye Center**  
*Part Time*  
*June 2016 to present*

**Optometry Intern**

- Review and confirm the accuracy of patient insurance for files
- File online claims for patients
- Organize and price frames for the optician
- Communicate with patients when contacts are ready for pick up
- Organize and prepare patient rooms with all required materials for both the patient and the doctor
- Do testing on patient when the doctor needs more information
- Shadow the doctor to learn more about eyes but also to do/get whatever the doctor needs
- Take accurate medical history of patients before seeing the doctor

## **Organic Chemistry Research**

*Fall 2020*

This research consisted of testing different gallate esters and their effectiveness to kill different kinds of bacteria. The purpose was to define if gallate esters would be a good alternative for traditional parabens.

## **Resident Assistant**

*Fall 2019-Spring 2021*

- As a part of the job responsibilities
- Will participate in the selection/hiring process as assigned by a professional staff member
- Expected to enforce all University rules, policies, and regulations
- Will conduct myself in a professional manner
- I understand that the misuse of confidential information or security access equipment will result in disciplinary job actions and possible termination
- Understand that all documents to do with the job cannot be reproduced, transmitted, copied, or duplicated by any fashion or means, intentionally or unintentionally.

## **Head Resident Assistant**

*Fall 2021-Spring 2022*

- Serve as a role model for residents within the community
- Have appropriate communication with staff, both professional and other RAs
- Serve as the communities point of contact or liaison in the case that the professional staff member is absent
- May be expected to oversee the community's programming initiatives
- Will create a supportive environment through participation with residents and RA staff
- Will provide direct support for student staff members in the community as instructed
- Will be responsible for managing the duty schedule
- Will assist the professional staff member in facilitation of assigned building/community safety inspections and/or audits as assigned
- Will complete administrative tasks as assigned

## **Senior Thesis Research**

*Fall 2021-Spring 2021*

This research will happen this coming fall and will test the effect gallate esters have on T cell differentiation.

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### **Volunteer:    FACES**

The club soccer team at Longwood helped FACES to organize and sort food that would then be delivered to people within Farmville, VA that are food insecure.

### **Loudoun Soccer All-Star Program for Girls**

Assistant Coach

- Ability to run practices on my own when the Head Coach is unavailable
  - Assist in the organization of the team tryouts
  - Review and analyze the assessment of the players in order to recruit and select the best players for the team
  - Strive to be a role model for the player's
  - Assisting the Head Coach in planning for training sessions and games
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**Presentations: ISCI 120/121**

- **Concentration of Microplastics in the Chesapeake Bay**
  - o This oral presentation and paper were about microplastics in the Chesapeake Bay and how they affect the organisms in that area.
- **Age Related Eye Disease Study (AREDS)**
  - o This presentation was about the AREDS study and the results of that study.

**BIO 404 (Immunology)**

- Immunotherapy Project: Keratitis
  - o This presentation was on how to find an alternative way to fight off keratitis, caused by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. This alternative way would be to use Glutathione, a natural antioxidant within the body that helps with reducing the biofilm of the bacteria and preventing the toxin to be secreted as well.
- COVID-19: Comparison of Vaccines and Similarities to Spanish Flu (Honors Presentation)
  - o This presentation was on comparing the three major kinds of vaccines: Pfizer, Moderna, and J & J, and comparing the spanish flu pandemic to the COVID pandemic.
- The Characterization and Diagnosis of Bare Lymphocyte Syndrome II: A Case Study
  - This presentation was on how my group members and I diagnosed a baby with this disease, what the disease actually is, and different kinds of therapies that may be able to help her.

**Research**

- **Implantation of Gene from *E. Coli* Changes Shape of Magnetosomes from Magnetotactic Bacteria**
  - o This presentation was presented at both Longwood's college research day and the VAS conference in Virginia Beach about magnetotactic bacteria
- **Synthesis and Antimicrobial Evaluation of Gallate Esters**
  - o This presentation was presented at Longwood University's college research day.

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**Mentoring: Longwood Initiative for Future Excellence in STEM (LIFE STEM) Mentor**

- Ability to help new members of the program adjust to college life
  - Was there if new members needed help with anything
  - Helped get new members get attributed to where their class were going to be and Longwood's campus in general
  - Worked with freshman in the sciences to help them figure out college and be there for any questions that they may have
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