

Richard L Watkins, PhD
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Skill Set and Expertise derived from Education and Experiences

Project management • data management and analysis • debate • public speaking • research methodology • survey design and implementation • critical thinking • advocacy • grant proposal writing • innovative tool development and problem solving • microbiology • virology • immunology • psychology • sociology • experimental design and implementation • community outreach and organizing • leadership • management • development of human resources • legislation • program development • entrepreneurship

Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Chapel Hill, NC PhD Candidate: Microbiology and Immunology Advisor: Victor Garcia-Martinez Dissertation Title: Role of HIV-1 Nef and Vpu in viral replication and CD4 ⁺ T cell depletion.	2009-2014
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Fayetteville State University Fayetteville, NC BS: Psychology with a minor in sociology, cum laude	2003-2007
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Teaching Experience

Medical Microbiology Teacher's Assistant at the University of North Carolina	2011-2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectured on microbiology as it pertains to the medical setting Created Tests and Quizzes to evaluate student's progression Led groups consisting of approximately 20 undergraduate students and provided hands in guidance during laboratory exercises 	

Leadership Experience

Global Health Connections International (GHCI)	
Project Director	2014-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create pipelines to facilitate the matriculation of STEM students from primary to higher education. Create programs to engage parents of STE students in order to improve the outcomes of STEM students. Expose STEM students to STEM professionals. Engage STEM students in order to encourage them to pursue STEM careers. 	

Science Policy Action Network (SPAN)

President and Founder	2013-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide motivation for children (K-12) to get involved in STEM fields. Encourage scientists to participate in scientific outreach initiatives. Lobby on behalf of all science. Train and motivate scientists to effectively advocate. 	

Frank Porter Graham Graduate and Professional Student Honor Society

Executive Vice President	2013-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second in charge of the Frank Porter Graham Graduate and Professional Student Honor Society. Conduct business in president's absence. 	

Student Advocates for Graduate Education Coalition (SAGE)

Member University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Delegate	2013-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the issues that affect graduate and professional education in the United States of America. Advocate on the behalf of the graduate or professional student at the federal, state, university, and local level. 	

UNC-Science Policy Advocacy Group (SPAG)

Co-founder	
Executive President	2013-2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide resources to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in order to enrich the educational 	

experience of graduate and professional students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise University officials on issues regarding science policy. • First in charge of SPAG, sets goals and priorities for the group. 	
UNC Black Graduate and Professional Student Association (BGPSA)	
Board Social Chair	2012-2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create programming that creates an atmosphere that facilitates professional growth. 	
UNC Graduate and Professional Student Federation (GPSF)	
Legislative Senate Microbiology and Immunology Senate Representative	2012-2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent the department of Microbiology and Immunology on issues regarding institutional policies and institutional funds. 	
Executive Cabinet City Local Relations Chair Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership Board member	2011-2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent graduate and professional students at the local government level and to advocate on their behalf. • To create programming that improves the graduate or professional experience at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the surrounding community. 	
Judicial UNC Honor System Attorney General Staff	2011-2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uphold the moral standards of the University of North Carolina. • To serve as either investigative or defense council wherein by to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that a violation of the University honor code did or did not occur through reasoned and well researched debate. 	
Publications and Presentations	
Kuo LS, Baugh LL, Denial SJ, <u>Watkins RL</u> , Liu M, Garcia JV, Foster JL: Overlapping effector interfaces define the multiple functions of the HIV-1 Nef polyproline helix. Retrovirology. 2012 May 31;9:47. doi: 10.1186/1742-4690-9-47.	
Zou W, Denton PW, <u>Watkins RL</u> , Krisko JF, Nochi T, Foster JL, Garcia JV: Nef functions in BLT mice to enhance HIV-1 replication and deplete CD4+ CD8+ thymocytes. Retrovirology. 2012 May 28; 9:44. doi: 10.1186/1742-4690-9-44.	
Grove DE, Rosser MFN, <u>Watkins RL</u> , Cyr DM: Analysis of CFTR Folding in Transiently Transfected Cells. Methods in Molecular Biology 2011, 741:219-32	
<u>Watkins RL</u> , Zou W, Denton PW, Krisko JF, Foster JL, Garcia JV: In vivo Analysis of Highly Conserved Nef Activities in HIV-1 Replication and Pathogenesis. Retrovirology	
Gordon Research Conference: Science & Technology Policy Poster Presenter and Discussion Leader	2014
North Carolina A&T State University Department of Human Performance and Leisure Studies Awards Ceremony Keynote Speaker	2014
Keystone Symposia: HIV Vaccines and HIV Pathogenesis Poster Presenter	2014
2013 Quarterly Board Meeting of the Office of Science and Technology Invited Speaker	2013
2 nd Annual Collaboratory of AIDS Researchers for the Eradication (CARE) Meeting Poster Presenter	2013
International Workshop on Humanized Mice Poster Presenter	2012
Dr. Valeria Flemming Fall Professional Round up	2012
1 st Annual Valeria Flemming Professional Round up	2010
Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) Colloquium Poster Presenter	2007
Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) Poster Presenter	2006
Advocacy	
Science Policy, Academic & Research Consortium (SPARC)/SPAG Hill Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized and scheduled Hill Day federal congressional meetings 	2014
American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Catalyzing Advocacy for Science and Engineering (CASE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized and scheduled federal congressional meetings. • Advocated to federal congressional offices for increased federal spending on research 	2014

Student Advocates for Graduate Education (SAGE) Coalition Spring Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of the team that wrote the SAGE coalition white paper on federal funding for research 	2014
Student Advocates for Graduate Education (SAGE) Coalition Spring Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of the team that wrote the SAGE coalition white paper on federal funding for research Advocated to federal congressional offices for increased federal spending on research 	2013
Awards and Honors received	
Carl Storm Underrepresented Minority Fellowship Recipient	2014
Gordon Research Conference Travel Award Recipient	2014
Keystone Symposia Trainee Scholarship Recipient	2014
Sigma Xi The Scientific Research Society (International Scientific Research Society)	2013
Frank Porter Graham Graduate and Professional Student Honors Society (The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's only graduate and professional honors society)	2013
Beta Kappa Chi Scientific Honors Society (National Scientific Honor society)	2007
Mr. Beta Kappa Chi Award (award given to excellence in science)	2007
Lonnie E. Mitchell (LEM) Travel Award Recipient	2007
Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) Travel Award Recipient	2006
Mr. Psychology Club Award (award given to excellence in psychology)	2006
Psi Chi International Psychological Honor Society (International Psychological Honor Society)	2006
Grants received	
NIH Virology Training Grant 5T32A1007419	2010
Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity (IMSD) Training Grant	2009
References	
Dr. Jerome Baker, Dean of School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Phone: (229) 391-4793; Email: jbaker@abac.edu	
Dr. Ralph Baric, Professor of Epidemiology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Phone: 919-966-3895; Email: rbaric@email.unc.edu	
E. Rick Copeland, President CEO, Global Health Connections International, Phone: (919) 844-7329; Email: enrico@ghcinternational.org	
Dr. Maryann Feldman, Heninger Distinguished Professor of Public Policy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Phone: (919) 962-0674; Email: maryann.feldman@unc.edu	
Dr. Ashalla Freeman, Program Director, Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Phone: (919) 843-9597; Email: ashalla@unc.edu	
Dr. Victor Garcia-Martinez, Professor of Medicine, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Phone: (919) 843-9600; Email: victor_garcia@med.unc.edu	
Dr. John Hardin, Executive Director office of Science and Technology, Phone: (919) 715-0516; Email: jhardin@nccommerce.com	
Dr. David Margolis, Professor of Medicine, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Phone: (919) 966-6388; Email: dmargo@med.unc.edu	

Dr. Steven Matson, Professor, Dean of The Graduate School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill,
Phone: (919) 962-6311; Email: smatson@bio.unc.edu

Meg McGurk, Executive Director, Chapel Hill Down Town Partnership
Phone: (919) 967-9440; Email: meg@downtownchapelhill.com

Dr. Ronald Swanstrom, Charles P. Postelle, Jr. Distinguished Professorship in Biochemistry, Director of Center
for AIDS Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Phone: (919) 966-5710;
Email: risunc@med.unc.edu