

Melissa Collini

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Education

University of North Texas
PhD Student

Currently Enrolled

University of Texas at Dallas
Bachelor of Science in Chemistry

Graduation: May 2013

Employment

University of North Texas, Denton, TX
Teaching Assistant

August 2015-Present

Independently instructed chemistry for non-majors lab, organic chemistry lab, and aided in lecture settings. This required classroom management skills, ability to introduce students to basic topics in chemistry, laboratory equipment, and techniques.

DFW Metro Family of Churches, Fellowship of Christian University Students (FOCUS), Garland TX
Intern, Adjunct Staff

August 2013-August 2015

Headed a fundraising effort for \$45,000 to support internship, regularly gave presentations in public speaking forums, began a new ministry branch at Collin College, coordinated and planned events, prepared lesson plans, led student discussion groups and outreach events, and completed graduate-level coursework on relevant subject matter.

Red Lobster, Plano TX
Server

March 2011- March 2013

Took on shift leadership responsibilities while fostering a friendly and helpful environment for guests, quickly and accurately relaying information while working on a team with over twenty coworkers, and completing financial transactions.

Texas Roadhouse, Mansfield, Garland & McKinney, TX
Hourly Manager, Server, Quality Assurance Coordinator

March 2008 – March 2011

Fulfilled a management role, in addition to other responsibilities, which required handling guest-related issues while maintaining good communication with other team members, and multitasking in a fast-paced environment.

Publications

M. A. Collini, M. B. Thomas, V. Bandi, P. A. Karr, F. D'Souza "Directly Attached Bisdonor-BF₂ Chelated Azadipyrromethene-Fullerene Tetrads for Promoting Ground and Excited State Charge Transfer" *Chemistry- A European Journal* **2017**, 23 (18), 4450-4461

Presentations

- Graduate Student Seminar Day
- Undergraduate Research Award Poster Presentation
- NSF REU Departmental presentation

Awards

- First Place Graduate Research Presenter for Graduate Student Seminar Day
- RB Escue Chemistry Education Research Scholarship
- Mary D Walsh Endowed Scholarship
- Chemistry Centennial Celebration Student Endowment
- Center for Achievement and Lifelong Learning Award
- Marshall Education Award
- NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates
- Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Award

Research Experience

Francis D'Souza Lab

University of North Texas, Denton, TX

Synthetic Organic Chemistry

Synthesis of light harvesting molecules with suitable properties for alternative energy.

October 2015-Present

John Sibert Lab

University of Texas at Dallas, Dallas, TX

Synthetic Organic Chemistry

Synthesis of anion binder with specific selectivity.

January 2010- May 2013

Ron Kiene Lab

University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL

Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Dauphin Island, AL

Marine Biogeochemistry

Isolation of DMS precursors outside of widely recognized DMSP in dinoflagellates.

May 2011-August 2011

Volunteer Opportunities

Graduate Student Social Club

This involves work with other graduate students to coordinate bi-weekly meetings of graduate students to develop networking skills, time management, conflict resolution, and other skills to enhance the graduate school and post-graduate school experiences.

August 2016 - December 2017

FOCUS

This involves committing one year to one-on-one meetings with undergraduate students to develop their skills as leaders and help aid them in mentoring other students and leading discussion groups. In addition this involves attended bi-weekly leadership development meetings.

August 2016 - May 2017