

Giovanna Di Sauro

gdisauro@gmail.com | gdisauro.com

Profile

- Highly-reliable, productive and well-organized SFU Molecular Biology graduate
- Able to communicate in a clear and concise manner
- Adapts to organizational structure and policies
- Self-starter with strong leadership skills who enjoys working in a team-based environment

Software skills

Microsoft Word, Excel & PowerPoint
Windows and Mac OS
Adobe Dreamweaver, Photoshop & InDesign
FTP management and WordPress CMS

Certifications and languages

Fluent and literate in English and Italian
WHMIS and SFU lab safety certifications

Leadership & Community Experience

International Students' Group (ISG), Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC

President & Volunteer Coordinator // September 2004 – April 2005, September 2006 – April 2007

- Represented and acted as spokesperson for 1,000+ international students at SFU
- Co-established the ISG mission and vision statements through strategic planning sessions, which guided the formation of operating policies and procedure manuals for all ISG committees
- Researched and created a volunteer management system for the Group, including the creation of ISG volunteer training booklets
- Liaised with the SFU Administration to obtain financial support for the successful establishment of the International Lounge, now open to all SFU students
- Coordinated office duties, meetings, social events and Club Days tabling, helping provide a friendly environment and peer advising for international students

General volunteering // September 2003 – September 2006

- Helped organise two International Students' Orientations (August 04 and September 05) by liaising with SFU International
- Introduced more than 400 new students to life on campus through orientation workshops
- Improved, re-built and maintained the ISG website
- Prepared a grant proposal for a summer recruiting event

SFU Campus Student Orientation, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC

Orientation Leader // September 2004

- Successfully passed a selection for Orientation Leaders and participated in an official training program
- Led 20 students through the three-day orientation program and gave them a comprehensive campus tour, retaining them throughout the program

Italian Red Cross, Monfalcone, Italy

Ambulance Transportation Team Volunteer // September 2001 – April 2003

- Completed an eight-month training program for Red Cross transportation volunteers
- Volunteered with the Transportation team as a crew member since April 2002, helping move injured or elderly patients and safely take them to their destination in an ambulance

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Work & Research Experience

Dr. Donna Hogge's Molecular Oncology Lab, Terry Fox Laboratory, BC Cancer Research Centre, Vancouver, BC

Student Research Assistant // January 2006 – April 2007

- Collaborated with a principal investigator at the Genome Sciences Centre, organizing meetings and updating scientists on the progress of the project
- Obtained laboratory supplies and assets by liaising with external vendors and the PHSA Purchasing Department, while standing in for the senior technician for a month
- Presented results, and outlined experimental designs to laboratory members involved in other projects
- Analyzed results using bioinformatic and software tools quickly learned on the job
- Maintained and updated confidential patient sample databases using tact and discretion
- Followed standard safety procedures while processing 200+ leukemia bone marrow and blood samples
- Confirmed obtained results generated by sequencing of 300+ DNA samples

Dr. Michel Leroux's Lab, Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC

Individual Study Semester Student // May 2007 – August 2007

- Prepared a research outline and a research proposal within official deadlines
- Analyzed results using databases, peer-reviewed sources, Excel, Photoshop and microscopy software
- Reported on the progress of the project to the main supervisor, and collaborated daily with a laboratory supervisor
- Prepared a final thesis, which was successfully defended at the end of the research semester
- Carried out and troubleshooted behavioral, functional and fat accumulation assays

Education, Honors & Awards

Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC

Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, First Class Honors & Co-operative Education // September 2003 – June 2008

- Simon Fraser University W. Ronald Heath International Entrance Scholarship, including tuition and living allowance for eight semesters of full-time study at SFU
- SFU Leadership Society Inductee
- Eileen Purkiss Memorial Award for contributions made to the international students' community at SFU
- Golden Key International Honour Society Member, SFU Chapter

United World College of the Adriatic, Duino, Italy

International Baccalaureate Diploma // September 2001– May 2003

- UWC scholarship for the United World College of the Adriatic, including tuition and board for two years of study