

Kelsey Jill Solomon
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EDUCATION

- 2007 - 2011 **B.Sc., Biology and History**, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- GPA: 4.0/4.0, Summa Cum Laude

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2010 **Undergraduate researcher**, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- Worked as an undergraduate research volunteer for Dr. Hank Heath
 - Purified plasmid samples, ran restriction digestions, and performed polymerase chain reactions to aid in research
 - Gained familiarity with bacterial gene structure

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My ultimate goal is to be a research scientist and professor of ecology. I am interested in researching how human land use can be reconciled with the conservation of biodiversity. Specifically, I am concerned with maintenance of biodiversity in aquatic ecosystems, including streams and wetlands.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- July 2014 - Present **Biology Teacher**, Lighthouse College Preparatory Academy, Gary, IN
- Designs rigorous 9th grade biology curricula, resulting in an overall average of 84.4% mastery of Indiana state-level standards
 - Develops hands-on laboratory activities to foster development of students' critical thinking skills
 - Prepares and presents daily lectures and lessons
 - Grades daily assignments, assessments, projects, and laboratory activities
 - Sponsors and runs weekly meetings for the Key Club, a community-based service organization

- July 2013 - **Integrated Chemistry and Physics Teacher**, Lighthouse College
 July 2014 Preparatory Academy, Gary, IN
- Designed 8th grade chemistry and physics curricula, resulting in an overall average of 82.9% mastery of Indiana state-level standards
 - Develops hands-on laboratory activities to foster development of students' critical thinking skills
 - Analyzed data on student growth to inform individualized instruction for diverse learners
 - Collaborated with colleagues to create inter-disciplinary unit plans
- Aug 2011 - **Secondary Science Teacher and Corps Member**, Teach for America
 July 2013 – LEAD College Preparatory Charter School, Gary, IN
- Selected as one of 5,300 accepted candidates out of 45,000 applicants (12% acceptance rate) to serve in a national service corps committed to teaching in under-resourced communities and becoming life-long leaders to expand opportunities for all children
 - Designed science curricula for grades 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 (biology), resulting in an overall average of 79.8% mastery of Indiana state-level standards
 - Organized school's first and second-annual science fair, leading 120 students to create and perform individualized scientific experiments
 - Established and coached 15-member middle-school cheerleading squad

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2015 **Graduate Research Assistantship**
- Awarded by the Graduate School at the University of Georgia
- 2011 **Arts & Sciences Distinguished Undergraduate Scholar**
- Awarded in recognition of the highest undergraduate GPA in the College of Arts & Sciences by The University of Alabama
- 2011 **Charles Grayson Summersell Memorial Scholarship**
- Awarded in recognition of academic merit to a junior or senior majoring in history by the History Department at the University of Alabama
- 2010 **William Ray Moore Physical Science Scholarship**
- Awarded in recognition of academic merit to student majoring in the physical sciences by the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of Alabama

2007 **Capstone Scholarship**

2007 **Col. Joe and Claire Shephard Endowed Scholarship**

MEMBERSHIPS

2010 Member, Phi Beta Kappa

2008 Member, TriBeta Biological Honor Society

ACADEMIC COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

2011-2015 **Tutor**, Gary, IN

- Tutors students in 5th – 9th grade in fields of sciences and mathematics

2008-2010 **Student Leader**, Honors College Mentoring Program, Tuscaloosa, AL

- Led 5-6 students and their college mentors as classroom teacher to improve students' math and reading performances
- Developed weekly after-school math lesson plans used by 7 student leaders, reaching 30 students
- Volunteered in local elementary school's after-school program for three to six hours weekly