

Edita Klimyte
204 Norway Street
Lexington, KY 40503
(630) 362-0221
Edita.Klimyte@uky.edu

Education

University of Kentucky College of Medicine	2010-current
Doctor of Medicine, anticipated graduation in 2018	
Doctor of Philosophy, Department of Molecular & Cellular Biochemistry	2012-2016
Graduate Certificate in Clinical and Translational Science	2014-2016
Michigan State University	2006-2010
Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, with honors	
Bachelor of Art in Spanish Language & Literature, with honors	

Research experience

Graduate student, University of Kentucky, MD/PhD Program	2012-2016
Mentor: Dr. Rebecca Dutch	
Trained in the entry mechanisms, the role of the fusion protein, and the development of antiviral compounds in infection models of human metapneumovirus in cell culture and human airway epithelium; trained undergraduate and rotation graduate students.	
Research Assistant, Michigan State University	2007- 2010
Supervisor: Dr. Barry L. Williams	
Constructed site-specific mutant yeast strains to reconstruct alternative evolutionary genotypes.	
Professorial Assistant, Michigan State University	2007-2008
Mentor: Dr. Barry L. Williams	
Generated a phylogeny for the butterfly genus <i>Speyeria</i> .	

Teaching experience

Instructor for ExamCrackers	2012-2015
Taught MCAT preparation classes to pre-med students; topics taught included verbal reasoning, biological sciences, and physical science	
Teaching Assistant	2012
Provided one-on-one tutoring to undergraduate students, and created and taught lecture materials in Biochemistry 401G at the University of Kentucky.	
Anatomy Mentor	2011-2012
Provided guidance, mentorship, and tutoring to a group of first year medical students.	
Teaching Assistant for "Grandparents' University"	2008
Assisted in two-day microbiology lab course for children and their grandparents at Michigan State University.	
Tutoring	2006-2010
Tutored peers in introductory biology, organic chemistry, biochemistry, Spanish, and computer science.	
Professorial Assistant	2006-2007

Mentors: Dr. Elizabeth Simmons and Dr. R. Sekhar Chivukula.
 Created teaching material, such as handouts and posters, for an outreach program in the physics department encouraging young girls to get involved in science.

Honors and Awards

3-Minute Thesis Competition, 3 rd Place Winner, University of Kentucky	2015
American Society for Virology, Travel Award	2015
Association for Clinical and Translation Science, Burroughs-Wellcome Fund Award	2015
American Physician Scientist Association, Institutional Travel Award	2014
Infectious Diseases Society of America/National Institutes of Health Infectious Diseases Research Career Development Meeting, Travel Award	2014
Saha Cardiovascular Research Award	2013
Biochemistry Annual Retreat, Best Poster Presentation by a Pre-Doctoral Scholar	2013
American Society for Virology, Travel award	2013
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Travel award	2013
Department of Family Medicine, Community Service Recognition Award	2011
Professional Student Mentored Research Fellowship, University of Kentucky	2011
Commencement Speaker, College of Natural Science, Michigan State University	2010
MPI Research Inc. Undergraduate Research Grant	2009
Larry D. Fowler Undergraduate Research Award	2009
MPI Research Inc. Undergraduate Research Grant	2008
College of Natural Science Undergraduate Research Support Award	2008

Publications

Klimytc EM, Smith SE, Oreste P, Lembo D, Dutch RE. Inhibition of Human Metapneumovirus Binding to Heparan Sulfate Blocks Infection in Human Lung Cells and Airway Tissues. *J Virol.* 2016 Sep 29;90(20):9237-50. doi: 10.1128/JVI.01362-16. PMID: 27489270

Funding

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award, F30 Mechanism Individual Predoctoral MD/PhD Fellowship funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	2015-current
Center for Clinical and Translation Science, TL1 Predoctoral Fellowship Provided tuition, salary, and reagent funding for predoctoral research.	2014-2015

Presentations

Center for Clinical and Translational Science Regional Meeting, Poster "Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells"	03/2017
<i>Alpha Omega Alpha</i> Groves Memorial Research Day, University of Kentucky, Poster "Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells"	02/2017
American Physician Scientist Association, Annual Meeting, Poster "Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells"	04/2016
Center for Clinical and Translational Science Regional Meeting, Poster	03/2016

“Disruption of human metapneumovirus interaction with heparan sulfate inhibits infection in human lung cells and airway tissues”

- Alpha Omega Alpha* Groves Memorial Research Day, Poster 02/2016
“Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells”
- Infectious Diseases Research Day, University of Kentucky, Poster 10/2015
“Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells”
- American Society for Virology, Annual Meeting, Oral Presentation 07/2015
“Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells”
- Gordon Conference: Viruses & Cells, Girona, Spain, Poster 06/2015
“Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells”
- American Physician Scientist Association, Annual Meeting, Poster 04/2015
“Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells”
- Association for Clinical and Translation Science Meeting, Poster 04/2015
“Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells”
- Center for Clinical and Translational Science Regional Meeting, Poster 03/2015
“Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells”
- Alpha Omega Alpha* Groves Memorial Research Day, Oral Presentation 02/2015
“Blocking viral access to heparan sulfate reduces HMPV infection in human lung cells”
- IDSA/NIH Infectious Diseases Research Career Development Meeting, Poster 05/2014
“Human metapneumovirus F protein histidine 434 linked to a hyperfusogenic phenotype”
- American Physician Scientist Association, Annual Meeting, Poster 04/2014
“Human metapneumovirus hyperfusogenic F protein phenotype linked to Histidine 434”
- Alpha Omega Alpha* Groves Memorial Research Day, Poster 02/2014
“Human metapneumovirus F protein histidine 434 linked to a hyperfusogenic phenotype”
- American Society for Virology, Annual Meeting, Poster 07/2013
“Variability in fusogenic activity of human metapneumovirus fusion proteins from different strains”
- American Physician Scientist Association, Annual Meeting, Poster 04/2013
“Variability in fusogenic activity of human metapneumovirus fusion proteins from different strains”
- American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Annual Meeting, Poster 04/2013
“Variability in fusogenic activity of human metapneumovirus fusion proteins from different strains”
- Center for Clinical and Translational Science, Monthly Meeting, Oral Presentation 11/1012
“Studies of HMPV fusion and entry”
- South Central Regional MD/PhD Conference, University of Louisville, Poster 09/2012
“Human metapneumovirus uses cellular heparan sulfate as an attachment factor for cell entry”

- Alpha Omega Alpha* Groves Memorial Research Day, Poster 02/2012
 “Epistasis, dominance, and environmental contingency explain putative compensatory tRNA evolution in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*”
- American Academy of Family Physicians Global Health Workshop, Poster 10/2011
 “Health advocacy across the health professions: How our student-led effort to improve patient access and outcomes evolved into an interprofessional leadership development opportunity.
- Alpha Omega Alpha* Groves Memorial Research Day, Poster 02/2011
 “Epistasis, dominance, and environmental contingency explain putative compensatory tRNA evolution in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*”
- Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution, Annual Meeting, Poster 07/2010
 “Epistasis, dominance, and environmental contingency explain putative compensatory tRNA evolution in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*”

Society Memberships

American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
 American Society for Virology
 American Physician Scientist Association, planning committee member in 2014-2015
 American Medical Association
 American Medical Student Association
 Association for Clinical and Translation Science

Leadership Involvement

- MD/PhD Internal Advisory Committee for Admissions 2014-2015
 Organized interview events for candidates, coordinated program feedback, and participated in evaluation of candidates
- Physician Scientist Student Organization, President 2011-2012
 Scheduled meetings, recruited speakers for monthly meetings, and organized resources for research opportunities for medical students
- Conmigo, Vice President 2011-2012
 Interprofessional student advocacy group for vulnerable populations; responsibilities included scheduling monthly meetings, recruiting speakers for monthly meetings, and participating in the planning of the Annual Hispanic Health Fair in Lexington in 2011 and 2012

Personal

Fluent in Lithuanian and Spanish. Special interests include traveling, ethnic cooking, and hiking with the dog.

Last updated: 08/27/2017