

Katherine Timms interview with Landon Short (BCMB Alumnus)

Katie: Give me a brief summary of your research

Landon: In Dr. Sarah Gray's lab, our research is primarily focused in biomedical research on energy homeostasis in the context of diabetes and obesity. In my role as a research manager, I assist other lab members with their projects in addition to my personal research, which is mostly molecular biology based (genetics work, protein, etc.). We also have a transgenic mouse colony that I help manage.

Katie: How did you first get involved in research?

Landon: I first got involved with research in Dr. Andrea Gorrell's lab in the summer before the final year of my degree. I was then able to use what I had learned over that summer to make a smooth transition into an undergraduate thesis course.

Katie: What is the best thing you have gained from doing research?

Landon: I've found that research has been rewarding for me because in the lab I finally get to apply many of the things that I had learned in my courses. Research in a professional setting also allows me to engage in a different learning process, which is more independent than a traditional classroom setting, so I feel that I've grown a lot in my time since becoming involved in research.

Katie: How has research impacted your life/career?

Landon: I was fortunate because the experience I had gained over my time as a member of Dr. Gorrell's lab allowed me to apply for a full-time position in Dr. Gray's lab. So without the opportunity to gain undergraduate research experience, I wouldn't have the job I have now.

Katie: What would your advice to other students looking for research experience be?

Landon: There is so much interesting research being conducted at UNBC and the best way to start is by asking your professors what their research is. If you are interested in their research, ask them if it's possible to get some research experience with their lab.

