

Jason Kahn



Graduate Institution: Cornell University

Location: Ithaca, NY

Graduate Discipline: Bioengineering; Minor: Materials Science

Hometown: Port Jefferson, NY

Research Interests:

I have always had a broad array of interests, but the concept of creating and exploring new systems at the interface of biology and materials science has always been my main focus. However, most of my work currently falls within the bioengineering realm, and I am presently exploring the evolution of synergistic enzyme systems using enhanced cell-free protein production. Such systems can be applied to the more efficient breakdown of cellulose for biofuel production. On the other end, I am extremely interested in materials and methods aimed towards creating novel and cheaper solar power solutions.

About me:

Currently, I am pursuing an MS/PhD at Cornell University in the field of bioengineering with a minor in materials science. However, I have had the opportunity to conduct a portion of my research at the Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology in Singapore (which was focused on DNA-based drug delivery systems, and with whom I still collaborate). Though I do collaborate on medical-based research, my main interests lie in designing and manipulating biological systems and/or biomolecules in the realm of energy production and storage. Ever since I was child, I have always wanted to be a teacher or, at the very least, dedicate at least of portion my time to helping others learn about what I find so interesting. To this end, I try to maintain connections to the communities I live in, and am currently a tutor at an after school program as well as a contributor to an organization that designs mini-courses for public school children in upstate New York. At this point, I am striving to become a university professor managing a lab that aims to make meaningful contributions to my field.

On a lighter note, though my hobbies don't necessarily including the most death-defying activities, I do try to make the most of my free time by usually playing some music or trying to get outside by any means possible. I am a certified tennis instructor and headed the Cornell Club Tennis Team, and though I play less often than I used to, I try to play when I can and organize lab lessons for some needed de-stressing.



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