Taylor Johnson

Resume
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I design, optimize, scale, and execute diverse experimental and operational workflows from sample acquisition to data analysis to answer complex biological questions, with emphasis on rigorous documentation and clear communication of results.

Technical Core Competencies

- Molecular biology & genomic assay development
- Experiment and operational workflow design
- Cross-disciplinary collaborations
- Contextualized problem-solving

Employment History

Staff Research Associate III at the University of California | San Francisco, CA. **2018 – present**

- **Wet lab**: Lab Manager working with Dr. Jennifer Yokoyama at the UCSF Fein Memory and Aging Center (MAC)
  - Lead protocol and experimental design for genomic and molecular biology research studies from pilot to global scales.
    - **Technological expertise**: Next-Generation Sequencing, droplet digital PCR, qPCR, flow cytometry, cryostat tissue sectioning, cell culture, clinical sample processing, nucleic acid and protein preparation/purification, QA/QC
  - Built and operationalized a neurogenetics lab supporting multi-project genomic studies, established sample acquisition pipelines (brain tissue, CSF, plasma), developed cross-lab collaborations and strategies supporting evolving priorities.
  - Managerial and administrative lead: hiring, training, BUA authorship, logistical and operational lead.
  - Manuscript authorship and publication, data analysis, and presentation.
- **Dry lab**: Analysis of datasets to support ongoing projects: single cell RNA sequencing, proteomic, demographic datasets
  - Revived a retrospective cohort study leading to publication and adjunct data sharing effort.
  - Computational proficiencies: R, bash, GitHub
  - Design, development, and maintenance of the Yokoyama Lab biorepository database (FreezerWorks LIMS)

Research Associate at California Polytechnic State University | San Luis Obispo, CA. **2017 – 2018**

- Research Associate working with Dr. Marie Yeung
  - Probing Human Epithelial Cell Responses to Commercial Probiotic Bacterial Strains
    - Presented at the 2018 CSUPERB Biotechnology Research Symposium
  - Enhancing Recoverability of Lyophilized Lactic Acid Bacteria
    - Presented at the 2017 College of Science and Mathematics Student Research Conference

Environmental Efforts & Field Research Experience

Phytoplankton Monitoring Program volunteer | California Department of Public Health **2025 – Present**

- Conduct biweekly monitoring of domoic acid-producing phytoplankton at the Pacifica Municipal Pier, contributing to a statewide longitudinal dataset used to track seasonal and interannual harmful algal bloom dynamics, inform public health updates along the California coast, and assess climate-driven ecological change.

2026 UCSF Office of Sustainability Awardee at the University of California | San Francisco, CA. **April 2026**

- Earned Gold-Level Sustainability Certification through proactive leadership, enhancing material procurement practices and establishing sustainable waste streams aligned with public health and environmental stewardship goals.

Education

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo **2015 – 2018**

- Bachelor of Science in Wine and Viticulture; concentration: Enology (GPA 3.65; Honors: Cum Laude)
- Minor: Microbiology
- Recipient of faculty awarded, Academic Scholar Grant (2018)

Santa Barbara City College **2011 – 2014**

- Associate of the Arts in Science and Math (GPA 3.52; graduation with Honors)

Selected Publications & Presentation

Johnson, Taylor P., and Jennifer S. Yokoyama. "Dried Plasma Spot Biomarker Test for Alzheimer's Disease Population Screening Using qPCR Systems." Taudia, 10 Mar. 2026.

Johnson, Taylor P., et al. Reduced Levels of Angiogenesis Biomarkers Predict Increased Symptom Severity in Chinese Americans with Alzheimer's Disease with Demographic-Specific Effect, 9 Feb. 2025, doi.org/10.1080/13554794.2025.2455759.