

# Phillip A. Lujan

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**Objective** To obtain a career in the Plant Pathology / Biology research field

## Lab/Work

### Experience **May 2014 – Current**

Agricultural Research Assistant, Sr. – New Mexico State University

- Lab manager for mycology and plant pathology lab
- Designs and develops research experiments
- Orders and maintains lab chemicals and materials
- Aids lab members in research experiments
- Designs and implements experiments on farmers' fields
- Collects data and interprets findings
- Keeps lab budget
- Runs higher level experiments including molecular work

### **September 2010 – May 2014**

Research Technician III/ Graduate Student - New Mexico State University

- Maintained and transferred fungal cultures
- DNA extraction and gel electrophoresis
- PCR, rtPCR and sequencing reactions
- Maintained plants for research use
- Collected data and interpreted results
- Made amended media for research use

### **August 2009 – May 2010**

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Post-bac Intern

- Cell culture (HT1080, 293T, BHK and FAB cells)
- Western Blots
- Immuno-fluorescent assays & staining
- Co-immuno precipitations
- DNA and RNA extractions
- Maintained viral stocks
- Infections / Transfections using virus stock
- Worked in a team/lab friendly environment

### **September 2007 – May 2009**

Howard Hughes Undergraduate Research Scholar

- Prepared various medium plates for fungal culture
- Used melanin inhibiting compounds to create mutant fungi
- Measured and collected data for honors thesis research
- Collaborated with different lab members on research projects
- Transferred fungal specimens using aseptic technique
- Extracted DNA from mycelium
- Completed undergraduate honors thesis

**August 2005 – May 2009**

Work Study Research Assistant (Remote Sensing)

- Data Entry (integrate and analyze)
- Field work, remote sensing
- Collection of data for numerous water studies
- Effectively communicate over telephone and in person
- Make and design posters for professors, staff and students

**Education August 2012 – May 2014**

Master of Science

Agricultural Biology Major / Molecular Biology Minor

New Mexico State University

Las Cruces, New Mexico

GPA: 3.65/4.0

**August 2005 – May 2009**

Bachelor of Science in Agriculture

Agricultural Biology Major / Applied Biology Option

New Mexico State University

Las Cruces, New Mexico

GPA: 3.30/4.0

**Publications**

Yu SF, **Lujan P**, Jackson DL, Emerman M, Linial ML, 2011 The DEAD-box RNA Helicase DDX6 is Required for Efficient Encapsidation of a Retroviral Genome. PLoS Pathog 7(10): e1002303. doi:10.1371/journal.ppat.1002303

Sanogo S, **Lujan P**, Daucom D, 2015 First Report of Sclerotinia sclerotiorum on Cabbage in New Mexico. Plant Disease (Disease Notes) <http://dx.doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-12-14-1328-PDN>

**Lujan P**, Sanogo S, Puppala, N, Randall J, 2016 Factors Affecting Mycelium Pigmentation and Pathogenicity of Sclerotinia sclerotiorum on Valencia Peanut. Canadian Journal of Plant Science 96(3)

## Special Skills

- Ability to work under stressful situations / environments
- Microsoft Office
- Able to multi-task and self motivated
- Effectively communicate with diverse people and work well with others
- Adapt with the ever changing environments in the workplace
- Experience in both plant and human biology labs

## Affiliations/Honors

- Crimson Scholar
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars
- Howard Hughes Research Undergraduate Scholar
- North American Scholar Consortium Honor Society (member w/ honor)
- Deans Award of Excellence for Undergraduate Students
- Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Post-baccalaureate internship
- Deans Award of Excellence for Graduate Students
- American Phytopathological Society

## References

- Dr. Soum Sanogo, Professor, New Mexico State University  
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- Dr. Jennifer Randall, Research Associate Professor, New Mexico State University  
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Email: [jrandall@nmsu.edu](mailto:jrandall@nmsu.edu)
- Dr. Champa Gopalan, New Mexico State University  
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- Dr. Naveen Puppala, Associate Professor, New Mexico State University  
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