



Gentry Cork, MS - Research Embryologist

Gentry Cork double-majored in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology/Biotechnology at Washburn University in Topeka, KS. Prior to achieving her two Bachelors of Science degrees, she served as an intern in Dr. Chad Slawson's laboratory at the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC), which turned into a full-time research assistant position after graduation in 2018. For the 1.5 years she worked at KUMC, she studied a post-translational modification called O-linked N-Acetylglucosamine (O-GlcNAc, for short) as a nutrient sensor for the hexosamine biosynthetic pathway and its potential relationship to Extracellularly Regulated Kinase (ERK) signaling in the context of cancer pathology. Gentry went on to attend graduate school at Colorado State University in 2019, where she eventually studied archaeal DNA repair in Dr. Thomas Santangelo's lab for 1 year before achieving her Master of Science in Biochemistry in 2022. Shortly after, she joined CCRM as a research embryologist. She has not yet established a main focus but is quite interested in evaluating nutrient-sensing as a regulator of cell-signaling during both oocyte maturation and early embryonic development.