MEGAN DENNIS

Oxford Scholar 2004

Degree:
Michigan State University: B.S., Biochemical Engineering, 2004

Research Area: Neurogenetics

Megan Dennis graduated from Michigan State University as the top student in her class with a B.S. in Biochemical Engineering. Megan received numerous academic honors as an undergraduate including her presence on the College of Engineering Dean's List all four years, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honors Society, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Michigan State University Honors College, Society of Women Engineers outstanding senior, and the Barry M. Goldwater Scholar Award. During her undergraduate career Megan worked in the laboratory of Dr. James Tiedje where she isolated and identified nitrobenzene-degrading bacteria from uncontaminated soil as well as gene expression analysis of dechlorinating bacteria. In 2003, she was awarded a summer internship in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Stanford University where she investigated the diversity of nitrogen fixation genes in human subgingival plaque. She presented this research at the American Society of Microbiology (ASM) national conference in New Orleans in spring 2004. Megan then carried out research on several projects focusing on PCB degradation coupled with micro array technology. She was the President of the MSU chapter of the International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineers and a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. In the NIH-Oxford program, she is pursuing work with Eric Green and Anthony Monaco on the genetics of dyslexia. Her main objective in life is being "dedicated to making things happen in this world and making a significant impact in benefiting society".