

MORGAN LEE MANDIGO

NIH-Oxford Scholar 2005

Degree: Harvard University: B.A., Biology, 2004

Research Interests: Virology/ Vaccine Development

Infectious Diseases other than Virology, Gene Therapy & Genetic Diseases



Morgan Mandigo graduated Magna Cum Laude with High Honors in Biology from Harvard University in 2004. She has been on the Dean's List every semester at Harvard and is a Harvard College and Elizabeth Cary Agassiz Scholar. She also won the Thomas Hunt Morgan fellowship by Johns Hopkins University. Morgan began research during her sophomore year with Professor Matthew Meselson at Harvard to investigate why asexual reproduction is linked to early extinction. During the three years she spent in the lab, she discovered a unique genomic organization of the histone genes and also identified variants of the histone H2a gene that have never before been described. Her research has been presented at the 10th Congress of the European Society for Evolutionary Biology and at the European Science Foundation/Linnnean Society Parthogenesis Network meeting. Outside her busy academic schedule, Morgan has been actively involved in volunteer work in the community. She has volunteered at a local hospital and coordinated several HIV outreach programs through the Red Cross and Harvard. Morgan is a vocalist and was a soprano in the Radcliffe Choral Society and the Harvard LowKeys a cappella group, as well as the lead singer in the "After Hours Blues Band." She also played clarinet in the Harvard band and rowed with the Radcliffe lightweight crew team. For her future, Morgan wants to carry out research in "infectious diseases, particularly those that affect developing nations, and to pursue efforts to ensure that any vaccines and therapies that arise from the research are accessible to people in endemic regions."