

LEOPOLD KONG

NIH-Oxford Scholar 2006

Degrees: Yale University, B.S., Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology, 2006

Research Interests: Glycobiology, Virology, Structure, Cell Biology, Chemistry



Leopold Kong graduated from Yale University with a Bachelor of Science in Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology in 2006. As an undergraduate, Leo received the Barber-Ingersoll Scholarship from Yale University and was a 2002 National Merit Scholar. During the summers of 2000 and 2001, Leo won an NIH Intramural Research Training Award at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. In addition to these academic achievements, Leo shadowed a rehabilitation doctor at the Philadelphia Veterans Medical Center, volunteered at the Magee Rehabilitation Hospital in Philadelphia, and participated in the Yale Society of Physics Students, the Yale Epicurean Society and the Liberal Club at Yale. During his time in the lab of Dr. John Hammer at NHLBI, Leo researched the role of Myosin Va, Rab27a and melanophillin in melanosome transport in pigment cells. In the Vector Program of the Medical Genetics Branch at the University of Pennsylvania, Leo worked under Dr. Gao-Guang on the identification of novel adeno-associated viruses (AAV) in human and non-human primate for gene therapy purposes. While in the lab of Dr. Sigrid Veasey, Leo served as an assistant research technician at the Center for Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology exploring the biochemical aspects of obstructive sleep apnea. This work resulted in a publication in the *American Journal of Respiratory Critical Care Medicine*. Most recently, Leo worked in the lab of Dr. Russell Matthews at the Department of Neurobiology of Yale University School of Medicine studying the impact of glycoproteins in the brain's extracellular matrix (ECM) on development, learning, injury, degeneration, and neoplasticity. Leo will continue to study glycobiology in hopes that the interdisciplinary nature of the field will facilitate bridging the gap between clinical and basic research.