

Ashley Aurand-Cravens
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Personal Profile

- Earned my Master's in Justice Administration at the University of Louisville
- B.S. in Forensic Science with a focus on Chemistry; Post-baccalaureate in Criminal Justice; also have minors in Anthropology and Physics with an extra class in Genetics.
- Taken classes involving UV-visible, infrared, X-ray fluorescence techniques as well as thin-layer, gas, and liquid chromatographic separation techniques for Chemistry.
- Taken classes involving General Microbiology, Water Testing for EPA/State of KY, Salmonella, B. anthracis, Y. pestis, and General PCR.

Education

Eastern Kentucky University – Richmond, KY Dec. 2007
Bachelors of Science: Forensic Science (Chemistry)
Minors: Physics, Anthropology

Eastern Kentucky University – Richmond, KY July 2011
Post-bachelor's Major: Criminal Justice

University of Louisville -- Louisville, KY May 2015
Masters of Science: Administration of Justice

Professional Experience

KY Division of Laboratory Services: Environmental Microbiology

Public Health Laboratory Scientist Supervisor: September 2020-Present

- Plan activities and supervise the Environmental Microbiology Section
- Serve as the section's primary safety officer and ensure quality assurance and improvement updates are implemented
- Provide guidance to the Quality Assurance Manual
- Oversees the compliance and accreditation requirements of the section
- Provides consultations as needed
- Create, review, and update Standard Operating Procedures and evaluate methods for updates and streamlining
- Participates in budget development for the branch and assists with applications for, management of, and tracking of grant opportunities
- Understands the responsibilities for the Laboratory Evaluation Officer and dairy testing
- Interpret results on food, water, milk and other environmental sample testing
- Assists staff to prevent increased turn-around time
- Serves as an active member of the Federal Select Agent Program and participates in FERN activities
- Maintains certifications for EPA and FDA requirements for testing and performs/reviews proficiency testing and yearly competencies
- Performs and adheres to QA/QC monitors and procedures and compiles monthly reports

Laboratory Scientist II: November 2017-September 2020: 37.5/hrs/week

- Performs biological and chemical testing procedures in Environmental section (Food, Milk, & Water)
- Competent in use of BAX, 7500 FastDX PCR, and Cepheid PCR; trained on MALDI-TOF
- Operates and maintains laboratory instruments and equipment
- Interpret, record results and compile monthly reports and other reports as needed
- Performs proficiency testing
- Implements quality control and quality assurance monitors
- Assist with maintaining laboratory's certifications
- Participates in internal ISO 17025 audits
- Performs detection of Staphylococcal enterotoxins with VIDAS SET2 procedures
- Training in WGS for positive cases
- Calibration of pipettes with Artel system for multiple areas of the lab
- Presenter for EPI classes throughout Kentucky
- Help update and maintain documents in Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

Gibson Bioscience

Microbial Laboratory Technician: April 2012-October 2017

- In charge of growing and harvesting organisms for Trivalent Swabs
- Trained for growing and harvesting microorganisms in specific conditions based on DMR
- Trained for internal audits (ISO 9001 & 13485)
- Help produce proficiency tests for CAP, API, AAB and other organizations
- Produce cell matrices and stock organisms for AdvanDx Quick Fish slides
- Produce cell matrices for AdvanDx mecA slides
- Competent in use of Cepheid PCR
- Freeze Dry and harvest organisms
- Dispense microorganisms for fulfilling orders for international customers
- Prepare chemical reaction test kits (including IDAE, India Ink, ID-MCAT and others)
- Prepare media recipe for use with microorganisms
- Packaging and labeling of all microorganism product lines according to the appropriate Company Device Master Record (DMR), policies and procedure
- Perform room maintenance per appropriate Room Maintenance Schedules
- Perform and document that specified production, labeling, packaging and storage functions and activities are recorded in each Device History Record (DHR) and comply with the provisions contained within the DMR, policies and procedures

Eastern Kentucky University/Kentucky Innocence Project

Student Investigator:

September 2010-May 2011

- Identify, investigate, and secure the release of inmates who have been wrongfully convicted.
- Apply investigation and analysis techniques to actual cases, which may result in the discovery of previously overlooked evidence. The discovery of this evidence could lead to the exoneration of a wrongfully convicted individual.
- Conduct interviews with police officers, attorneys, judges, witnesses, and others involved in the original prosecution.
- Collect legal documents and records, apply screening devices, establish personal and case histories, and perform comprehensive case evaluations

Eastern Kentucky University

Computational Researcher: Feb. 05 - May 07

- Assisted professor with her computational biochemistry project by analyzing reactions with certain compounds.
- Worked with docking compounds and amino acids, analyzed results to compile data, traveled to represent data at multiple research conventions including Lake Barkley UTOURNL-KBRIN Bioinformatics Summit, University of Memphis, and University of Louisville as well as for the EKU Undergraduate Presentations.

Maryland State Police Forensic Science Division

Intern: June 07 – July 07

- Intern: Assisted with casework to further learn about different aspects of a forensics career in the trace department including arson, hairs/fibers, mixing solutions, piecing evidence together, documenting results.

Other Experience

Meijer

Lead Grocery Pricing Associate: April 2010-April 2012

- Grocery Pricing: Responsible for sale signs and shelf price changes including clearance for entire grocery section.
- Coordinate pricing for all General Merchandise, Health and Beauty, and Fashions areas, including designating tasks for other team members as well as stocking and re-planogramming shelves as needed.

PetSmart

Support Manager: July 06-Aug. 09

- Support Manager: Responsible for associate's daily task, customer service, counting down the cash office, stocking, hole counts, and fill in for any department when necessary. Supervised the cashiers on a daily basis. Supervised grooming, pet care, and stockers when opening and closing the store.
- Petcare Lead: Responsible for cleaning and care of all animals sold, assisting in leading fellow Petcare associates with their daily tasks, and helping the Petcare manager with department paperwork.
- Petcare associate: responsible for cleaning and care of all animals sold and water quality testing

Specialized Training

- Participate in internal ISO 9001, 13485, and 17025 audits
- Participate in internal EPA and FDA audits
- Participated in FERN Training for Salmonella
- Participated in Training for being an EPI Foodborne Outbreak presenter for Kentucky (Train the Trainer)
- Participated in FERN/FDA Training for PCR (ABI7500)
- Participated in FERN/FDA Training for B. anthracis/Y. pestis in food
- Presented my Validation Study of SET Toxins with VIDAS & Ridascreen methods at IAFP 2019
- Participated in Management Training at PetSmart Training store Cincinnati, OH

Presentations

- Aurand-Cravens, Ashley; Johnson, Beth; Arora, Vaneet MD MPhD (ABMM); Rule, Patricia; Bailey, Dr. Stan. "A Comparison Study of bioMerieux VIDAS SET II and the R-biopharm Ridascreen SET Total to detect the Presence of Staphylococcal Enterotoxins using Matrix Dependent Extractions from a Variety of Foods." International Association of Food Protection (IAFP). Louisville, KY, 21-24 July 2019.
- Aurand, Ashley and Bautista, Debra L. "Computational Studies of Phentolamine and Tolazoline with Alpha 1 Adrenergic Receptors." Undergraduate Showcase (UP). Eastern Kentucky University, 14 April 2006.
- Aurand, Ashley and Bautista, Debra L. "Computational Studies of Phentolamine and Tolazoline with Alpha 1 Adrenergic Receptors." The Kentuckiana Undergraduate Research Symposium (KURS). Department of Chemistry, University of Louisville, 8 April. 2006.
- Aurand, Ashley and Bautista, Debra L. "Computational Studies of Phentolamine and Tolazoline with Alpha 1 Adrenergic Receptors." UT-ORNL-KBRIN Bioinformatics Summit, Lake Barkley, 1-3 April 2006.
- Aurand, Ashley and Bautista, Debra L. "Computational Studies of Phentolamine and Tolazoline with Alpha 1 Adrenergic Receptors." 26th Annual Undergraduate Research Conference. Department of Chemistry, University of Memphis, 25 Feb. 2006.
- Aurand, Ashley and Bautista, Debra L. "In Silico Docking of the Yohimbine ligand with the Alpha 1 and Alpha 2 Adrenergic Receptor Homology Models." Kentucky Academy of Science. Eastern Kentucky University, 11 Nov. 2005.
- Aurand, Ashley and Bautista, Debra L. "Computational Studies of Phenylephrine with Alpha 1 Adrenergic Receptors." Undergraduate Presentation (UP) Showcase. Eastern Kentucky University, 15 Apr. 2005.