

ABDALLA M. ALDRAS

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Education:

1991 **Doctorate of Science (Sc.D.)** in Immunology Parasitology, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, LA.
1987 **Master of Science and Public Health (M.S.P.H.)**, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, LA.
1981 **Bachelor of Science (B.S.)** in Biology/Biological Analysis, Jordan University, Amman, Jordan.

Professional and Work Experience:

2001-Present **Associate Professor**, Biology Dept. ESU
1996-2001 **Assistant Professor**, Biology Dept. ESU
1993-1995 **Instructor**, Medical and Molecular Parasitology Dept. NYU Med
1991-1993 **Post-doctoral Research Associate**, Microbiology Dept. Tulane Primate Research Center.
1987-1991 **Teaching Assistant**, Department of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology, Tulane University

Professional Activities:

Director of Biotechnology program. Developed the program in 2002
Director of Medical Technology Program
Advisor for Laboratory Medicine concentration
Organizer and Instructor for Annual Biotech Workshop for high schools in the Pocono area
Member of the Editorial Board of Journal of Biotech Research since 2009 -2017
Member of Biology Graduate Program Committee
Senator in the ESU University Senate since 2009
Mentor and coordinators for Biotechnology and Medical Technology student's internal and External internships:

Research Program:

- Host-parasite interactions, immunological assessments of host immune responses to pathogens.
- Immunological Characterization of *Borrelia burgdorferi* Antigens in Lyme disease. Cross-reactivity between *Borrelia burgdorferi* Antigens and human antigens
- Evaluation of the Immune Responses in mice immunized with West Nile Virus Proteins.
- *Toxoplasma* in cats, the prevalence of *Toxoplasma gondii* in black Bear in Northeast PA and NJ. Immunological Characterization of *Toxoplasma gondii* Antigens using Western Blot and IFA techniques.
- The Effect of Alternative Sugars on the Intestinal Flora and the immune responses of Mouse model

Reviewer:

External reviewer for The Biotechnology Program at University of Maryland University College.
Reviewed Applied Associate Degree of Biotechnology Program (A.A.S) at Lehigh Carbon Community College
Reviewer for manuscripts for Experimental Parasitology, Parasitology, Journal of Clinical Microbiology, and Biotech Research.

Courses Taught Most Recently:

Immunology, Immunology Laboratory, Forensic Biotechnology, Parasitology, Research in Biotechnology, Mechanisms of Disease I Mechanisms of Disease II, Mechanisms of Disease Lab., Human Anatomy &Physiology lab I, and Human Anatomy &Physiology lab II

Selected Professional Publications & Presentations:

Aldras, A., Didier, E.S., Orenstein, J.M., and J.A. Shaddock. 1994. Detection of *microsporidia* by an indirect immunofluorescence antibody test, using monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies. J. Clin. Microbiol. 32(3):608-612.

Didier, E.S., Orenstein, J.M., **Aldras, A.M.**, Bertucci, D., Rogers, L.B., Janney, F.A. 1995. Comparison of three staining methods for detecting *Microsporidia* in fluids J. Clin. Microbiology. 33(12):3138-3145.

Aldras, A., Clavijo, P., Pologe, L, Calvo-calle, J.M., and Nardin. 1994. Comparison of monoclonal antibodies directed against the repeat region of *Plasmodium yoelii* SSP2 and CS proteins. Amer.J.Trop.med.hyg

Bitto, A., and **Aldras, A.M.** 2009.Prevalence of *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium* in Muskrats in Northeast Pennsylvania and New Jersey. J. Environmental Health. 71(8):20-24

”**Immunology of Influenza A Virus**” by **Abdalla Aldras, M.S.P.H., Sc.D.** 2011. Pandemic H5N1, H1N1 and other Influenza viruses: Science, Surveillance and Public Health. A publication Of Pennsylvania Academy of Sciences.

Catherine M. Flanley, and **A. Aldras**, 2013. Prevalence of *Toxoplasma Gondii* in New Jersey Black Bears (*Ursus americanus*) Pennsylvania Academy of Science 89th Annual Meeting, University of Pittsburg-Bradford, PA

N. Ruano, K. Hoffman, and **A. Aldras** (2015). The Effect of Alternative Sugars on the Intestinal Flora of Mouse model. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania University Biologists (CPUB). 46th Annual Meeting, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Lukow, Devon*, Megan Santiago, and **Abdalla Aldras** (2015). Seroprevalence of *Toxoplasma gondii* in Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) From Eastern United States. Pennsylvania Academy of Science.91st Annual Meeting, Lebanon Valley College, PA

Catherine M. Flanley, Jane E. Huffman, and **Abdalla Aldras** 2015. Seroprevalence of *Toxoplasma gondii* and *Trichinella spiralis* in Suburban New Jersey Black Bears. Animal Behavior Society Abstract.

92nd Annual Meeting of the **Pennsylvania Academy of Science, Delaware Valley University, April 2016. Lollis, Eric ***, **Danielle Prestifilippo, Abdalla Aldras.** In vitro study of the effects of Vitamin B-12 on *Propionibacterium acnes* and its Production of Porphyrin Leading to Acne.

93rd Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science at King's College,2017. **Bischer, Andrew***, and **Abdalla Aldras.** *The effects of artificial sweeteners and probiotics on the gut microbiome and immune system.*

93rd Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science at King's College,2017. **Chern, Kacie***, **Jane Huffman, and Abdalla Aldras.** *Local prevalence and strain diversity of Borrelia burgdorferi in Peromyscus. leucopus and Ixodes scapularis*

Where are our student’s work and where they do their Ph.D.?

90 % of our undergraduates go working for Biotechnology/Pharmaceutical companies in PA, NJ, and NY. Some students pursue a career in scientific research in universities, research centers, and hospitals. 10% of our undergraduates go for Ph.D. programs in prominent universities.

Undergraduate students (B.S) did or doing Ph.D. :

Allatah Mekile, John Hopkins University, School of Medicine’s Biochemistry, cell and Molecular Biology Prog.

Kyle Hoffman, Microbiology and Immunology Program. University of Missouri-Columbia\

Gregory Kardos, Genetics, Penn state University College of medicine, Principal Scientist at N-of-One, Inc

Amna Chaudari, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT BUFFALO

Susan Baker,Molecular Biology, Lehigh University, professor at PennState University

Graduate students (MS) did or doing Ph.D.

Catherine Flanley, Notre Dame

James Alaro, Drexel University, PA

Bagirath Gangadharan, Universite Pierre et Marie CURIE, Paris, France.

Andrew Bischer, Northeastern University-Graduate School

Sample of companies where our students are working

Glaxo Smith Kline, Sanofi, Johnson & Johnson. Dendreon Corporation (Cancer Vaccine), Children Hospital in Philadelphia, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, SAIC-Frederick, Merck, DSM Nutritional Products, Pont Chemicals. BioSpectra, Stroudsburg PA. Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories Inc. Sharp Pharmaceutical Products. Hematology/Oncology Lab at Memorial Sloan -Kettering Cancer Center in NYC.