

## Zeina Nasr Curriculum Vitae

**1. Address and Contact Info.:** Department of Biology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, University of Balamand, P.O.B. 100, Tripoli, Lebanon, +961 6 930250 # 3716

**2. email:** zeina.nasr@balamand.edu.lb

**3. Date of Birth:** 05/18/1984

**4. Present Family Status:** Married

**5. Current Academic Rank:** Assistant Professor

**6. Degrees/Education:**

PhD in Biochemistry                      McGill University, Canada                      2013  
*Advisor: Jerry Pelletier, PhD*  
*Thesis Title: Role of translation deregulation in tumor development and progression*

Masters in Sciences                      Universite de Montreal, Canada                      2007  
*Advisor: Hargurdeep Saini, PhD*  
*Thesis title: Identification and Isolation of plant promoters induced by Thiocyanate*

Bachelors in Sciences                      University of Balamand, Lebanon                      2005

Baccalaureate in Life Sciences      Balamand High School, Lebanon                      2002

**7. Academic Experience:**

Head of Division	University of Balamand	Jan2020-To date
Biology and Environmental Sciences		
Assistant Professor	University of Balamand	Feb2014-To date
Lecturer	University of Balamand	Sep2013-Feb2014
Lecturer	Lebanese American University	Sep2013-Feb2014
Lecturer	Lebanese University	Sep2013-Feb2014

**8. Teaching Experience to Date:**

i). Undergraduate Courses

- BIOL101                      Introduction to Biology I
- BIOL203                      General Biology 2
- BIOL214                      Cell Biology Laboratory
- BIOL225                      Animal Physiology
- BIOL227                      Neurophysiology
- BIOL231                      Developmental Biology
- BIOL292                      Seminars in Biology (Molecular Biology of Cancer)
- Phytotherapy of Plants

ii). Graduate Courses

- BIOL308                      Techniques in Biological Research

## 9. Research Experience:

- Mouse Work: Colony Maintenance, Treatment, Xenografts...
- Immunohistochemistry Staining
- Microarray
- Flow Cytometry
- Microscopy
- Plasmid Construction and Cloning
- Cell Culture: DNA/siRNA Transfection, Viral Infection, Drug Screening, Chamber Assay...
- DNA and RNA Extraction
- Western/ Northern Blotting
- PCR/ RT-qPCR Amplification
- In vitro Protein Labeling
- Differential Display Technique

## 10. COMPUTER SOFTWARE SKILLS

Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, PowerPoint

Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, GraphPad Prism, SigmaPlot Graphing Software

## 11. Publications and Presentations:

### 11.1. Publications

#### i). Refereed Journal Articles

- Al Alam E, Maaliki L, **Nasr Z**: RPS3 selectively affects colon cancer growth by modulating the levels of p53 and lactate dehydrogenase. *Molecular Biology Reports* 47 6083–6090, 2020
- Merheb B, Al Homsy R, Chaddad A, **Nasr Z**: Genetic screening of *Apis mellifera* subspecies in Lebanon using mitochondrial DNA test. *Journal of Apicultural Research* 59 (4) 658-662, 2020
- Zaatiti H, Abdallah J, **Nasr Z**, Khazen J, Sandler A and Abou-Antoun T: Tumorigenic proteins upregulated in the MYCN-amplified IMR-32 human neuroblastoma cells promote proliferation and migration. *International Journal of Oncology* 52 787-803, 2018
- Rached J, **Nasr Z**, Abdallah J and Abou-Antoun T: L1-CAM knockdown radiosensitizes neuroblastoma IMR-32 cells by simultaneously decreasing MycN, but increasing PTEN protein expression. *Journal of Oncology* 49, 2016
- Dow LE, **Nasr Z**, Saborowski M, Ebbesen SH, Manchado E, Tasdemir N, Lee T, Pelletier J and Lowe SW: Conditional reverse transactivator mouse strains for the efficient induction of TRE-regulated transgenes in mice. *PLoS One* 9, 2014
- **Nasr Z**, Dow LE, Paquet M, Chu J, Ravindar K, Somaiah R, Deslongchamps P, Porco JA Jr, Lowe SW and Pelletier J: Suppression of eukaryotic initiation factor 4E prevents chemotherapy-induced alopecia. *BMC Pharmacol Toxicol* 14, 2013

- **Nasr Z**, Robert F, Porco JA Jr., Muller WJ and Pelletier J: eIF4F suppression in breast cancer affects maintenance and progression. *Oncogene* 32: 861-871, 2013.
- Lin CJ \*, **Nasr Z** \*, Premssirut PK, Porco JA, Jr., Hippo Y, Lowe SW and Pelletier J: Targeting Synthetic Lethal Interactions between Myc and the eIF4F Complex Impedes Tumorigenesis. *Cell Rep* 1: 325-333, 2012. (\*: authors contributed equally to this work)
- **Nasr Z** and Pelletier J: Tumor Progression and Metastasis: Role of Translational Deregulation. *Anticancer Research* 32: 3077-3084, 2012

## 11.2 Presentations

### i) Conference Presentations

- Elie Al Alam and **Zeina Nasr**. “Ribosomal Protein S3 affects colon cancer Caco-2 cell growth by modulating the levels of p53 and lactate dehydrogenase”. 24<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Conference of the Lebanese Association for the Advancement of Science: University of Balamand, Lebanon. April 25-26, 2018.
- Hayat Zaatiti, Jad Abdallah, **Zeina Nasr**, Tamara Abou Antoun. “Identification of new upregulated proteins involved in the invasiveness of the IMR32 Myc-N-amplified neuroblastoma cell line”. 23<sup>rd</sup> International Scientific Conference of the Lebanese Association for the Advancement of Science: Lebanese University, Lebanon. April 6-7, 2017.
- Lama Maaliki and **Zeina Nasr**. “Ribosomal Protein S3 Affects Colon Cancer Growth and Progression”. 22<sup>nd</sup> International Scientific Conference of the Lebanese Association for the Advancement of Science: USEK, Lebanon. April 14-15, 2016.
- Bashar Merheb and **Zeina Nasr**. “Identifying *A. mellifera* strains in Akkar district (North Lebanon) using mitochondrial DNA, a step in preserving the local strain *A. m. syriaca*”. 22<sup>nd</sup> International Scientific Conference of the Lebanese Association for the Advancement of Science: USEK, Lebanon. April 14-15, 2016.

### ii) Invited Presentations at Conferences/Symposia

- **2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Enzymology and Molecular Biology (Conference Series)**: Rome, Italy. March 20-21, 2017.
  - Invited speaker for an oral presentation entitled “Knockdown of RPS3, a DNA Repair Endonuclease, Impedes Colon Cancer Growth and Progression by Decreasing Lactate Dehydrogenase Activity”

- Invited speaker for an oral presentation of a special session entitled “The Extraribosomal Function of Ribosomal Proteins”.

- **Current Trends in Cancer Research Workshop:** Beirut Arab University, Debbieh, Lebanon. Invited speaker for an oral presentation entitled “Targeting Ribosomal Protein S3 by siRNA Impedes Colon Cancer Growth and Invasion *in vitro*”. November 8, 2016

### iii) Posters and Exhibitions

- Elie Al Alam, Lama Maaliki, **Zeina Nasr**: “RPS3 selectively affects colon cancer growth by modulating the levels of p53 and lactate dehydrogenase”. EMBL Conference: Cancer Genomics: Heidelberg, Germany. Nov 4-6, 2019
- Riyad Homsy and **Zeina Nasr**. “Genetic characterization of honeybee populations in North Lebanon”. 24<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Conference of the Lebanese Association for the Advancement of Science: University of Balamand, Lebanon. April 25-26, 2018.
- Maroun Abi Younes, Zeina Nasr, Jad Abdallah, Anthony Sandler and Tamara Abou Antoun. “Identification of new upregulated proteins involved in the invasiveness of the IMR32 Myc-N-amplified neuroblastoma cell line”. 24<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Conference of the Lebanese Association for the Advancement of Science: University of Balamand, Lebanon. April 25-26, 2018.
- Tamara Abou-Antoun, Jad Abdallah, George Khazen, **Zeina Nasr** and Anthony Sandler. “Tumorigenic proteins up-regulated in pediatric neuroblastoma MYCN-amplified tumorspheres confer radio-therapy resistance”. AACR Pediatric Cancer Research: From Basic Science to the Clinic. Atlanta, GA, USA. Dec 3-6, 2017
- **Zeina Nasr** and Jerry Pelletier. “A conditional RNA interference platform for studying gene function *in vivo*”. KAUST/McGill Research Workshop: KAUST University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. June 8-11, 2013
- **Zeina Nasr**, Chen-Ju Lin, Prem K. Premsrirut, Scott W. Lowem and Jerry Pelletier. “Targeting synthetic lethal interactions between MYC and eIF4F impedes tumorigenesis”. Research Awareness Day and Graduate Symposium: McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada. Sep 22, 2012
- **Zeina Nasr**, Chen-Ju Lin, Prem K. Premsrirut, Scott W. Lowem and Jerry Pelletier. “Targeting synthetic lethal interactions between MYC and eIF4F impedes tumorigenesis”. Translational Control

Meeting: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, USA. Sep 4-8, 2012

- Attended Plant Canada Meeting: University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. July 2007

iv) Seminars and Workshops

- 1<sup>st</sup> Professional Development Day for University of Balamand Faculty: Moodle beyond the repository workshop facilitated by Father Antoine Melki, Instructional Technology Unit. University of Balamand, Lebanon, Feb 2, 2018.
- Graduate Teaching Workshop: certificate from T-Pulse (Tomlison project university-level science education). McGill University, Canada, Sep 11-13, 2012
- “Learning to Teach” Professional Development Workshop, organized by Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies and Teaching and Learning Services. McGill University, Canada, Mar 23, 2013

**12. Grants and Funded Projects:**

- UOB research grant: “The effect of RPS3 knockdown on cytokine production in colorectal cancer”. Awaiting approval
- UOB research grant: “The role of RPS13 in colon cancer growth and progression”. Awaiting approval
- CNRS-LAU funded research project entitled “Combined targeting of Prohibitin, RAB and HSP in the malignant MYCN-amplified human neuroblastoma stem cells and therapeutic implications”. March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- Balamand Internal Research Grants Program funded research project entitled “DNA Analysis of the Subspecies of Honeybees *Apis mellifera* Found in Akkar – Lebanon”. March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- CNRS Funded research project entitled “The Role of Ribosomal protein S3 in Cancer Development and Progression”. Sep 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to Sep 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015
- CNRS funded research project entitled “The tumorigenic role of key pathways up-regulated in MYC-amplified Neuroblastoma cells after radiotherapy “.Sep 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to Sep 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**13. Ongoing Research:**

- The tumorigenic role of key pathways up-regulated in MYC-amplified Neuroblastoma cells after radiotherapy
- The Role of Ribosomal protein S3 in immunity and Cancer Development and Progression
- The Role of Ribosomal protein S13 in Cancer Development and Progression

**14. Other Duties (Special Tasks, Community-Linked, Co-curricular and extra-Curricular Activities):**

- Masters Theses supervising for graduate students working on the projects mentioned in Section 13 “Ongoing Research”.

- Session chair and moderator for the “1st Student Innovation and Research Conference for Arab Universities and Schools (SIRCAUS – BAU)”, BAU, Debbieh, Lebanon. March 27-28, 2018.

**15. References:**

Upon request.