

# BEREKET LULSEGED ZEKARIAS

PHONE: 251966274637 E-MAIL: bereket.lulseged@gmail.com

## EDUCATION

**Columbia University, New York, NY-Projected end date-May, 2025**

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry

**University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI- December 2018**

Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Brown University, Providence, RI - May 2015**

Honors graduate Sc.B. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

**Armand Hammer United World College Montezuma, NM -May 2011**

International Baccalaureate Diploma

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Research assistant at CDT-Africa 2019**

- Write a research proposal and grant for the synthesis of Propoxur in Ethiopia.
- Write a systemic review of medicinal plants for Scabies treatment.
- Design research plan for identifying traditional plants in Ethiopia for Scabies treatment.

**Research work in the laboratory of Dr. Jennifer E. Golden 2016-18**

- Small molecule development for anti-cancer therapeutics.
- Facile synthetic methodology to make guanidine.

**Research work in the laboratory of Dr. Jason K. Sello 2013-15**

- Designed a bioassay to detect the production of enopeptin, natural derivative of the antibiotic ADEP, in *Streptomyces Hawaiiensis*.
- Determined the biosynthetic gene cluster of Enopeptin using bioinformatics.
- Investigated the resistant determinant signal peptidase gene to Arylomycin, a signal peptidase inhibitor, in *Streptomyces coelicolor M145*.

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- “Improving Physicochemical Properties of CHOP Activators.” **Zekarias, B.**; Nerurkar, A.; Yan, G.; Fribley, A.; Golden, J.E. Pharmaceuticals Graduate Student Research Meeting (PGSRM), University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, June 7-9, 2018. (poster, ZEKARIAS - presented).
- “Improving Physicochemical Properties of CHOP Activators.” **Zekarias, B.**; Nerurkar, A.; Yan, G.; Fribley, A.; Golden, J.E. Pharmaceutical Sciences Graduate Student Retreat, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, USA, May 18, 2018. (poster, ZEKARIAS - presented).
- “Improving Activity and Microsomal Stability of Selective CHOP Activators.” **Zekarias, B.**; Nerurkar, A.; Yan, G.; Fribley, A.; Golden, J.E. Medicinal Chemistry Meeting-in-Miniature (MIKI), University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA, April 6-8, 2018. (poster, ZEKARIAS - presented).
- “Elucidating the Role of Multiple Signal Peptidase Genes in *Streptomyces coelicolor*.” **Zekarias, B.**; Compton, C.; Sello, J. Brown’s Summer Research Symposium, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA, August 7, 2014. (poster, ZEKARIAS - presented).

## PUBLICATIONS

- Yan, G; **Zekarias, B.**; Li, X; Jaffett, V, Golden, J. Divergent 2-Chloroquinazolin-4(3H)-one Rearrangement: Twisted-Cyclic Guanidine Formation or Ring-Fused N-Acylguanidines via a Domino Process. *Chem.: Eur. J.*, Publication Under Review.

# BEREKET LULSEGED ZEKARIAS

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## **AWARDS**

- Karen T. Romer Undergraduate Teaching and Research Award (UTRA)
- Armand Hammer United World College Davis Scholar
- Sigma Xi Associate Member of the Honor Society for Scientists
- John & Jane Roudebush Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship in Pharmaceutical Sciences

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Chemistry Instructor at Lebawi Academy**

*Chemistry*

**A.A., Ethiopia, 2019**

### **Teaching Assistant**

*Medicinal Chemistry I*

**Madison, WI spring 2018**

### **Teaching Assistant**

*Survey of Pharmacology*

**Madison, WI Fall 2016-18**

### **Africa Medical College**

*Biochemistry Lecturer*

**A.A., Ethiopia, 2015-16**

### **General Tutor at Brown University**

*Tutor for Organic chemistry, introductory chemistry, Calculus*

**Providence, RI, 2014-15**

### **Teaching Assistant**

*Cell and Molecular Biology*

**Providence, RI, 2013-15**

## **OUTREACH/MENTORING**

Project Care

A.A, Ethiopia, 2015-17

Habeshawi Initiative

Providence, RI, 2013-15

African Student Association

Providence, RI, 2012-15

Brown Science Prep (BSP)

Providence, RI, 2012- 2013

Woman in Science & Engineering

Providence, RI, 2013-14

Brown Refugee Youth Tutoring and Empowerment

Providence, RI, 2012