

RACHA AL-KHOURY, M.Sc.

Nationality: Canadian
Date of birth: 02/01/1984
Marital status: Married
Languages: English, Arabic, French.
Mobile: +971 50 795 5879
Email: ralkhoury@sharjah.ac.ae

EDUCATION:

2006- 2009 Masters Degree (M. Sc) in Biochemistry at Montreal University, Montreal, Canada.
2001-2006 Bachelor of Science (Specialization in Biochemistry) McGill University, Montreal, Canada.
2000-2001 High School Diploma, Al-Mawakeb School, Dubai. UAE.

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE:

Sept. 2010-Present:

- Lecturer at **University of Sharjah**, College of Sciences, Department of Applied Biology. Coordinator of the General Biology Lab, Molecular Genetics Lab, Molecular Biology Lab, Biochemistry Lab, Plant Biotechnology Lab, Protein Biochemistry & Engineering Lab.
- Senior Research Expert directing senior students in their research projects.

2006-2008:

- Attended IRCM (**Institute de Recherches Cliniques de Montréal**) as a graduate student to obtain a Masters degree in biochemistry, in the Gene Transcription and Proteomics Laboratory.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Currently working as a **lecturer** at University of Sharjah. As the **Coordinator** of the General Biology, Molecular genetics, Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Plant Biotechnology, as well as the Protein Biochemistry and Biotechnology laboratory courses, my responsibilities include preparing lectures and experiments for the labs, exams as well as preparing Course reports.
- **Senior Research Expert**, my responsibilities include co-supervising and directing, together with the main supervisor, the progress of the graduating students' project, whether through discussing ideas or techniques.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Andree-Anne Lacombe, Diane Forget, Philippe Cloutier, **Racha Al-Khoury**, Annie Bouchard, Mathieu Lavallee-Adam, Celia Jeronimo, Jacques Archambault, Mathieu Blanchette, Benoit Coulombe. Nuclear import of RNA polymerase II requires the conserved GPN-loop GTPase XAB1/GPN1. ***FASEB J.* April 2010; 24.**
2. Diane Forget, Andree-Anne Lacombe, Philippe Cloutier, **Racha Al-Khoury**, Annie Bouchard, Mathieu Lavallee-Adam, Denis Faubert, Celia Jeronimo, Mathieu Blanchette, Benoit Coulombe. The Protein Interaction Network of the Human Transcription Machinery Reveals a Role for the Conserved GTPase RPAP4/GPN1 and Microtubule Assembly in Nuclear Import and Biogenesis of RNA Polymerase II. ***Mol Cell Proteomics* 2010 9: 2827-2839.**
3. **Racha Al-Khoury**, Benoit Coulombe. **Defining protein interactions which regulate disease progression. *Expert Opinion on Therapeutic Targets*; 13(1): 13-17 (2009).**
4. Philippe Cloutier, **Racha Al-Khoury**, Mathieu Lavallée-Adam, Denis Faubert, Heng Jiang, Christian Poitras, Annie Bouchard, Diane Forget, Mathieu Blanchette, Benoit Coulombe. High- Resolution Mapping of the Protein Interaction Network for the Human Transcription Machinery and Affinity Purification of RNA polymerase II- Associated Complexes. ***Methods*; 48(4): 381-386 (2009).**
5. **Benoit Coulombe, Philippe Cloutier, Célia Jeronimo, Racha Al-Khoury, Mathieu Lavallée-Adam, Mathieu Blanchette and Diane Forget.** High-precision mapping of the protein interaction network for the human transcription machinery reveals a novel class of cellular regulatory factors. *The FASEB Journal.* 2008;22:795.1.

Awards and Recognitions:

- Certificate of Gratitude & Appreciation for the significant contribution to the organization of the 4th Biotechnology Students' Exhibition. (2013)
- Certificate and letter of Gratitude & Appreciation for the significant contribution to the High School Students Scientific projects competition in the 3rd Sharjah Science Festival . (2014)
- Certificate and letter of Gratitude & Appreciation for being a judge of the High School Students Scientific projects competition in the 3rd Sharjah Science Festival. (2014)
- Certificate and letter of Gratitude & Appreciation for the significant contribution to the Posters competition in the 3rd Sharjah Science Festival. (2014)

- Appreciation Certificate for the significant effort and contribution to the success of the Fifth International Conference and Khalifa Date Palm Awards 2014.
- College of Sciences Distinguished Faculty Award, University of Sharjah, Sharjah, UAE, 2012-2013.

SKILLS:

Management/Administrative and Communication:

- Effective planning, multi-tasking and organizational skills.
- Supervised students' research projects.
- Budgeting and purchasing.
- High-level written and presentational skills.
- Strong knowledge of a range of Microsoft applications, including Word, Access, Excel, PowerPoint, and Photoshop, Blackboard and WebCT.

Laboratory Techniques: Include Biochemistry, Cell Culturing, Molecular Biology, Protein Biotechnology and Plant Biotechnology techniques.

- Protein purification (TAP-tagging - SDS-PAGE - WESTERN blot analysis)
- Protein Expression
- Enzyme Kinetics / Spectrophotometry
- Radioisotopes / Scintillation
- Animal cell culturing
- Plasmids and Viruses - Bacteriophage growth
- Selection of Recombinants
- Cloning
- Polymerase Chain Reaction including primer design and gel electrophoresis)
- Cell fractionation
- Lipid purification (Thin-layer Chromatography)
- Preparation and properties of DNA
- Beta-galactosidase Induction
- DNA sequencing
- Bioinformatics
- DNA & RNA extraction
- Plant Tissue culturing (Media preparation, Seed germination, Sterilization techniques, Organogenesis, Response to growth hormones, Agrobacterium Transformation..)