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**Education**

2009 Colorado State University, PhD, Microbiology, Immunology &  
Pathology

2003 Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, B.A., Genetics and  
Microbiology, Comparative Literature

**Employment**

2009 – Present	Curator in the Department of Health Sciences Denver Museum of Nature & Science
2009 – Present	Consultant/Investment Services Coordinator <i>CSU Management Corporation</i>
2008 – 2009	Graduate Legislative Mentorship <i>Kathleen “Kiki” Traylor</i>
2008 – 2009	Consultant-/Technology Transfer <i>Colorado State University Research Foundation</i>
2007 – 2009	Co-Founder <i>Alexandra’s Baggage, LLC</i>
2003 – 2004	In-Field Marketing Specialist <i>Pierce Promotions</i>
2000 – 2001	Research Scientist <i>PTC Therapeutics, Inc</i>

## Research Goals

I'm a geneticist who is interested in the way a person's DNA affects their ability to taste and therefore their food choices and overall health. The data from this research will help us to understand more about how evolution has helped us adapt as a species in order to survive, and also explain the effects of this taste evolution on the health of modern day man.

## Current Research Projects

Every human being is 99.9% genetically similar. It is that small 0.1% that makes each of us unique, in ways we can see and in ways we can't. Our *Genetics of Taste: A Flavor for Health* research study broadly examines how some of these small changes in a person's DNA can affect their ability to taste, and how these differences in taste perception may be playing a role in the complex and ongoing process of human health.

This health-focused project is completed in a community-based and participatory laboratory, and was designed and funded exclusively for the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. From conception through execution, we involve our Museum community in the study, making this project unique. The research questions were decided by the greater Museum community here in Denver, the lab space is part of the permanent exhibit Expedition Health and is open for viewing to all visitors, the lab is run by a team of 50 volunteers, and finally, it is the only molecular laboratory where on any given day a person can choose to actively participate and engage in the research by enrolling into the study during their visit to the Museum. This benefits both the community and the research; the enrollment rate and diversity of visitors allows for us to obtain more accurate population data, and science communication of authentic research is successfully reached on many levels.

## Five most recent scientific publications:

Sokoloski KJ., A.M. Dickson, E.L. Chaskey, **N.L. Garneau**, C.J. Wilusz and J. Wilusz. Sindbis Virus Usurps the Cellular HuR Protein to Stabilize Its Transcripts and Promote Productive Infections in Mammalian and Mosquito Cells. *Cell Host & Microbe*. 2010 (in press)

**Garneau, N.L.**, C.J. Wilusz and J. Wilusz. In Vivo Analysis of the Decay of Transcripts Generated by Cytoplasmic RNA Viruses. *Methods in Enzymology*. 2008;449:97-123.

**Garneau, N.L.**, C.J. Wilusz and J. Wilusz. In Vivo Analysis of the Decay of Transcripts Generated by Cytoplasmic RNA Viruses. *Methods in Enzymology*. 2008;449:97-123.

**Garneau, N.L.**, K.J. Sokoloski, M. Opyrchal, C.P. Neff, C.J. Wilusz and J. Wilusz. The 3' Untranslated Region of Sindbis Virus Represses the Deadenylation of Viral Transcripts in Mosquito and Mammalian Cells. *Journal of Virology*. 2008 Jan;82(2):880-92.

**Garneau, N.L.**, J. Wilusz and C.J. Wilusz. The highways and byways of mRNA decay. *Nature Reviews: Molecular Cell Biology*. 2007 Feb;8(2):113-26.