

Karen Zito, Ph.D.

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Education

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY - Berkeley, California
Ph.D. - Molecular and Cell Biology (1998)
Thesis advisors: **Dr. Corey Goodman and Dr. Ehud Isacoff**

INDIANA UNIVERSITY - Bloomington, Indiana
B.S. - Biology with Highest Honors (1991)
Thesis advisor: **Dr. Norman Pace**
Minor: Mathematics

Professional Experience

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York (2000-present)
Postdoctoral Fellow with **Dr. Karel Svoboda**

Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA (summer 1999)
Grass Fellow, independent research

University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA (1998-1999, 6 months)
Postdoctoral Fellow with **Dr. Corey Goodman**

Grants and Fellowships

Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Award in the Biomedical Sciences (2003-present)

Helen Hay Whitney Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, Merck Fellow (2000-2003)

Grass Foundation Fellowship, Marine Biological Lab, Woods Hole, MA (1999)

Howard Hughes Medical Institute Pre-doctoral Fellowship (1992-1997)

Indiana University Honors Division Scholarship (1986-1990)

National Merit Corporate-Sponsored Scholarship (1986-1990)

Professional Associations and Committees

Postdoc Working Group, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (2000-2002)
 member Society for Neuroscience (1997-present)
 MCB Neuroscience Division Search Committee, UC Berkeley (1995)
 Neuroscience Retreat Committee, UC Berkeley (1993-1995)
 co-chair Howard Hughes Undergraduate Research Symposium, Indiana University (1991)

Honors

Invited Speaker, "Life and Death of the Brain", Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland (1999)
 Invited Lecturer, "Developmental Neurobiology", TATA Institute, Bangalore, India (1998)
 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor (1993)
 Phi Beta Kappa (1989)

Publications

Zito K, Knott G, Shepherd GMG, Shenolikar S & Svoboda K (2004) Induction of spine growth and synapse formation by regulation of the spine actin cytoskeleton. *Neuron* 44: 321-334.

Henry GL, Zito K & Dubnau J (2003) Chipping away at brain function: mining for insights with microarrays. *Current Opinion Neurobiology* 13: 570-576.

Zito K (2003) The flip side of synapse elimination. *Neuron* 37: 1-2.

Zito K & Svoboda K (2002) Activity-dependent synaptogenesis in the adult mammalian cortex. *Neuron* 35: 1015-1017.

Koh IYY, Lindquist WB, Zito K, Nimchinsky EA & Svoboda, K. (2002) An Image Analysis Algorithm for Dendritic Spines. *Neural Computation* 14: 1283-310.

Zito K & Murthy VN (2001) Dendritic spines. *Current Biology* 12: R5.

Zito K, Parnas D, Fetter R, Isacoff EY, and Goodman CS (1999) Watching a Synapse Grow: Noninvasive Confocal Imaging of Synaptic Growth in Drosophila. *Neuron* 22: 719-729.

Zito K, Fetter RD, Goodman CS & Isacoff EY (1997) Synaptic clustering of Fasciclin II and Shaker: Essential targeting sequences and role of Dlg. *Neuron* 19: 1007-1016.

Goodman CS, Davis GW & Zito K (1997) The Many Faces of Fasciclin II: Genetic Analysis Reveals Multiple Roles During Axon Guidance, Synapse Formation, and Synaptic Growth and Plasticity. *Cold Spring Harbor Symp. Quant. Biol.* 62: 479-491.

Zito K, Huttenhofer A & Pace NR (1993) Lead-catalyzed cleavage of ribonuclease P RNA as a probe for integrity of tertiary structure. *Nucleic Acids Research* 21: 5916-5920.

Darr SC, Zito K & Pace NR (1992) Contributions of phylogenetically variable structural elements to the function of the ribozyme ribonuclease P. *Biochemistry* 31: 328-333.

Extracurricular activities

- Post-graduate: CSHL Climbing Club (2000-present)
 travel to Mexico, Peru, Chilean Patagonia (1999-2000, 5 months)
 travel to India, Nepal, Thailand (1998-1999, 5 months)
- Graduate: UC Chamber Wind Ensemble (1998)
 San Francisco Marathon (1995)
- Undergraduate: Latin American Music Ensemble (1990)
 IU Jazz Ensemble (1986-1989)

References

Karel Svoboda – **postdoctoral advisor**

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Corey Goodman – **graduate thesis advisor**

President and CEO
 Renovis, Inc.
 Two Corporate Drive
 South San Francisco, CA 94080

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Ehud Isacoff – **graduate thesis advisor**

Department of Molecular and Cell Biology
 University of California, Berkeley
 Berkeley, CA 94720

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 e-mail: eisacoff@socrates.berkeley.edu

David Bodznick – **Grass Fellow director**

Department of Biology
 Wesleyan University
 Middletown, CT 06459

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 e-mail: dbodznick@wesleyan.edu